

e-Safety Newsletter 2018-2019



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Parent Guides

A reminder that on our school website we have parent guides to help keep your child safe on the following social media sites;

- Instgram
- Facebook
- YouTube
- Omeagle
- Kiki
- Yellow
- Snapchat
- Whatapp

Contact Us

If you'd like us to include something in our next newsletter or would like to discuss any of the content in this issue please contact;

Miss Mackenzie mackenzieb@dps.swecet.org

Reporting

If you have an e-safety concern. You canreport it directly by using the CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) report button that is on our website.



Happy New Year

With the new term well underway, we thought it was timely to update you all on e-safety issues that could be affecting your children. We feel that it is vital for us to share internet safety information with you, so that you're more informed in order to keep your children safe, when they are online.

As always, we'd warmly welcome any information or requests from parent/carers to include in our next issue.

Have you heard of Granny?



We are not talking about lovely, warm, friendly grannies. We are talking about the horror based game available on Android and IOS. This game is becoming one of the most talked about games within our school. Children as young as reception are disclosing that they are playing this game at home or watching YouTube videos of the game being played. Many children have divulged that they have had nightmares from playing this game.

It is a survival horror game revolving around stealth gameplay. The game is dubbed one of the scariest available on the App Store. The premise is simple; you have five chances to achieve your objective of getting out of the house, alive. Sound is a big deal, with creaking floorboards, spooky music and Granny's unsettling voice (and cackles).

We think it is important to inform you that the age rating to play this game is aged 12+. Remember age ratings are there for a reason and should be considered carefully.

Safer Internet Day

We will be celebrating Safer Internet Day 2019 on Tuesday 5th February 2019. The day provides a fantastic opportunity to engage with children and find out about their digital lives. To help you talk to your children about having a positive and safe time online, the UK Safer Internet Centre has created a pack for parents and carers, including conversation starters, a factsheet, family pledge card and lots more. We will send the link out to all parents and carers on the day.

Dates for you Diary

Walk Online Roadshow

Years 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to talk part in Thurrock's Walk Online Roadshow on the 6th or 7th of March. There will be a contribution cost of £3.50 per child. More details on this will follow shortly.

Next Issue:

In our next issue we will be ready to launch our school's e-Cadets. Final selection processes are currently taking place.



Digital Wellbeing

We will be looking at how technology can be used in a safe way and how it can have a postitive and negative impact on children's wellbeing. We will be pointing you in the right direction for guidance to ensure you get the balance, just right.



TikTok



TikTok, which used to be called Musical.ly, is a social networking app that young people can use to generate and share their own short videos and lip sync to popular audio clips. The app allows users to create and upload videos, remix existing videos using in-built editing tools, and also to view and comment on videos created by other users. On TikTok there is the ability to livestream, users can directly interact with online audiences through chat and live video.

Profiles on TikTok are automatically set to public, so that any content posted can be seen by anyone within the app. To sign up for TikTok, young people must be at least 13 years of age. The UK Safer Internet Centre has published guidance which outlines aspects of the app to be aware of and gives advice on making a report, using the privacy settings and parental controls that can be used: SaferInternetTikTok

Kik Messenger

The National Crime Agency and CEOP has been made aware of reports suggesting that unsolicited suggestive or sexualised images have been shared via the Kik Messenger app and as a result has produced a guide for parents, explaining what the app is and how best to keep your children safe if they use it. This can be accessed here:



bit.ly/ParentInfoKikMessenger

The minimum age for accessing this app according to Kik is 13 but with parental permission. However, iTunes and Google Play rate this app as adult 17+. Kik is an instant messaging app. It lets users create their own username and message others without having a mobile number to register. For younger children without a mobile phone they can access the app on their mobile device such as a tablet through Wi-Fi. It allows 1-1 chats but also has facility to access large public chat groups. Kik Messenger has an inbuilt browser so that users can search for new apps and chat rooms.

We advise all parent/carers to monitor all internet usage carefully. Check your parental controls!