Woodlands Primary School Online Safety Newsletter Term 3

January 2018

What's Happening in the World of Online Safety?

Welcome to our next Online Safety Newsletter!

Happy New Year!
We hope that you all had exciting and fun-filled holidays.
I am sure that Santa was incredibly busy and gifted many new digital devices to your homes over the holidays. This newsletter will hopefully provide you with some good discussion points and helpful websites to browse to help inform you (and your children) about some areas of current online safety.

Inside this issue:

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- If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the content in this newsletter please email

  admin@woodlands.wilts.sch.uk

  and please put Online Safety in the subject line.

Instagram—New privacy app released

Instagram have announced three tools which give users more control over their profiles. These tools allow users to control comments on their posts, edit follower lists on private accounts and anonymously report when they think their friends need help. Check this out at www.Childnet.com

Instagram Live

Livestreaming is one of the biggest online trends right now. Facebook Live, Periscope, Livestream, Live.Me, Live.ly – the apps just keep coming, enabling you to share video from your mobile phone to an audience of friends, followers or the whole world. Instagram Live is now rolling out to users across Europe. There is a significant difference between Instagram Live and Facebook Live, however – Instagram videos are designed to 'disappear' after broadcast, and comments can be disabled. This may give users an illusion of privacy and safety, but it's essential to remember just how easy it is to permanently capture live video – e.g. by using another device's camera to record the livestream. The cautionary tales around livestreaming continue – just last month, primary pupils in Leeds using Live.ly on their phones at home reported that a man entered their group chat and performed an indecent act. Terms and conditions on these sites are clear, but users report how easy it is for strangers to join chats as friends of friends.

Parent Info

Parent Info provides a summary of how to ensure privacy settings are in place for a variety of social media apps. This is also a useful reminder of the age expectations. http://parentinfo.org/article/setting-safety-and-privacy-settings-for-social-mediaapps The NSPCC have published **A Parent's Guide to Being Shareaware** which could be particularly useful to share for you. https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/share-aware.pdf

New Mobile Phones?

Have you just given your child a new mobile phone? Use this advice taken from the UK Safer Internet site @ http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-andresources/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-totechnology/smartphones/how-to-stay-safe

Talk with your child about safe and responsible smartphone use and agree a set of family rules. Perhaps you could agree rules with your child about not meeting up with people they have only met online, how much they are allowed to spend on apps, what websites it's okay and not okay to visit, and whether their phone should be switched off at night. See the Family Agreement for more ideas. Remember that smartphones connect to the internet, so use the same advice and rules for keeping safe online apply.
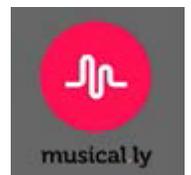
Their family Agreement can be found here: www.digizen.org/digicentral/family-agreement.aspx

Playing games online — useful information

The NSPCC have put together a useful guide to gaming online – when, where and how should children be playing? How do you choose a game for your child? How can you set up parental controls? https://goo.gl/RCp1zs You could also visit the Family Gamer YouTube channel, where there are lots of two-minute videos for parents about popular games https://goo.gl/R1T1QW

Musical.ly

Musical.ly is an app that allows users (or Musers as they are known) to post 15- second videos of themselves lip syncing and dancing to music or other audio tracks and interacting with other Musers. Some of the songs contain sexual lyrics or swearing which may not be appropriate for younger children and there does not currently seem to be a way to switch this off. Some of the dance moves that the children are doing on camera can be inappropriate for this age group. There is also a MyCity feature that gives you a feed from local Musers. You are also encouraged to share videos via your other social media. You have a choice to post videos publically or privately, but if you go onto the app you can see quite young children posting public videos of themselves; the app also allows users to duet and to livestream. Musical.ly has over 80 million users, most of them teens. Users are often looking for hearts which are similar to Facebook Likes. Those Musers at the top of the leaderboard have millions of fans and get correspondingly millions of hearts. We have had a few enquiries about the safety of this app. It is generally quite fun but we would not recommend young children posting videos publically. Musers also risk getting friendship requests from people they don't know, which can be inappropriate and they can be put under pressure to accept requests or speak to people they don't know. This app may be of particular interest to children who love performing. If you want to look at the other features then have a look at this step-by-step article http://uk.businessinsider.com/how-to-use-musically-2016-6/?r=US&IR=T#23when-you-open-the-musically-app-it-defaults-to-a-feed-of-featured-videos-1

This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.