



Woodlands Primary School Online Safety Newsletter Term 5

April 2017

What's Happening in the World of Online Safety?

Welcome to our
next Online Safety
Newsletter!

Inside this issue:

- Family travel and electronic devices
- BBC iPlayer for kids
- Social media age limits
- New ThinkYouKnow
- New mobile phone?
- Younow.com
- Games devices settings

A new term and a new change in terminology to the newsletter. To be in line with current government advice, our newsletters are now Online Safety rather than E-safety. This is to incorporate ALL safety matters and issues online.

We all thoroughly enjoyed our Online Safety Week last term and I hope that the children came home full of useful information about keeping themselves safe online.



Family Travel and Electronic Devices



There are many apps that can entertain younger children during long stays in airport lounges or car journeys and these can be seen at the CommonSense Media site here:

www.commonsensemedia.org/lists/best-road-trip-appsv

With older children why not use Google Earth or Waze to help plan the journey or to use Google Maps when they are at the destination to plan trips. Older children might like to document their journey with Facebook, Twitter or Instagram although you might like to consider other scrapbook, photo and video apps to ensure that your whereabouts are not made public. Make sure that every posting is safe and does not tell people where you are going to be but reports on where you have been.

BBC iPlayer for Kids

The BBC have launched an app for children to create their own profile to set up their CBBC favourites and other appropriate shows to watch and re-watch. The BBC iPlayer Kids app is available to download via the Apple, Amazon and Google Play app stores for mobile phones and tablet devices. This app could be used as a way to guide children's view and to contribute to parents' understanding of what is age appropriate content online.



Social Media Age Limits

Take a look at an infographic from the Australian Children's e-safety Commissioner. A copy can be found on the Kent e-safety blog here: <https://kentesafety.wordpress.com/2016/06/01/is-there-an-age-limit-for-kids-on-social-media-infographic-from-the-australian-childrens-esafety-commissioner/>

New ThinkYouKnow campaign for parents and carers

CEOP have launched a new public awareness campaign to get parents and carers thinking and talking about the importance of discussing sex, relationships and the internet with their children. Their first new resource is a retelling of Romeo and Juliet showing what the story could look like should they have social media available to them- "The world changes. Children don't" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNSXxf-luKM>

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-to-technology/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

Younow.com



There has been a recent spate of children across the country, particularly girls being incited to expose themselves over the web cam on younow.com to gain 'bars' & popularity. The participants believe they have control of videos, in that they can decide IF and for how long, videos are available on the website. However, there are any number of software packages which can record, edit and save 'what is happening on the screen' including video feeds. A recent on-going case has shown that paedophiles are increasingly collecting sharing and swapping 'screen recordings'. In-decent 'younow' videos have featured particularly heavily.

There is an 'online currency' which is worthless in the real world but enables users to 'buy' virtual gifts and possessing more 'bars' lifts the broadcaster in the list making them easier to find, effectively making the more popular. Further information about this and other concerns is available from: <http://parentinfo.org/article/a-parents-guide-to-younow> www.parentinfo.org

Games devices settings

Gaming devices provide a variety of interesting activities and ways for young people to engage with their friends and families. However, it is important to be aware of what these devices can do and how you can talk with your child to help them to use this technology in safe and positive way. All modern gaming devices offer parental controls to help you manage how your child uses their device, but these do need to be set up in order for them to be operational.

This link will help you adjust the settings for the most common gaming machines.

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology/gamingdevices>

Posting videos on YouTube and other online platforms



In the last term, we have become aware of more children, especially younger children posting videos of themselves on YouTube. Many children watch YouTube celebrities such as Zoella, Stampy, DanTDM or Joe Sugg. With the technology available now on mobile phones, it is very easy to create a video and many children and young people will then want to share that video in the same way as the celebrities they follow.

So what are the issues with young people sharing these types of videos? Well, they will depend to a certain extent on the age of the child and the content of the video but the following issues might need to be considered if your child is asking to put videos of themselves up online.

1. Once the video is in a public forum like YouTube, it is not possible to guarantee being able to remove every copy of it if any of the people in the video are later embarrassed, upset or angry about its content.
2. Does the video really need to be in a public forum? If there are some friends or family who would like to view it, can the forum be made private to those people - this can be done on YouTube and some other forums.
3. How will your child cope if some viewers make negative comments? Does the platform allow the comments to be hidden?
4. Does the video, the username or biographic information contain anything that could put the child at risk? We have seen videos clearly showing the front of a child's house or identifiable landmarks, videos taken in school uniform or videos showing children's bedrooms.
5. Does the video contain any inappropriate content, for example rude comments, swearing, criticisms of their school? Your child's friends may watch the video and show their parents - is there anything that anyone might take offence to? Does it breach any of the sites' terms and conditions?
6. Are your child's expectations realistic? Some children can get very disappointed if they do not receive a lot of likes/subscriptions etc.

Remember that YouTube and many other platforms have a minimum age limit of 13 and accounts can be deleted if they are thought to belong to someone younger.

Safe sites for younger children to explore.

Generally young children need supervising when they are using websites and apps that connect across the internet. However, there are some sites that are relatively safe and do not have direct interactions.



CBeebies has lots of activities and games suitable for young children up to the age of 6.

YouTube have launched their Kids app on Android and Apple. It includes famous children's brands like Morph, Teletubbies, Wallace & Gromit and The Magic Roundabout. The app is free to download but does contain family friendly adverts.

For further ideas try the CommonSenseMedia website which rates and describes app - search for kids apps.



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