Safer Internet Day

Every year in school we participate in Safer Internet Day, which this year will be on **Tuesday 7th February**. Safer Internet Day 2023 will be celebrated across the UK with the theme **'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.'** The campaign this year aims to put the voices of children and young people at the heart of the day, encouraging them to shape the online safety support they receive.

As children have access to the Internet in a variety of places other than school it is important that we educate them in how to behave appropriately online, and to understand the importance of discussing problems and issues that might arise.

In school next week, staff will educate your children to know that:

· People are not always who they say they are online.

· 'Stranger Danger' also applies to people they meet on the Internet.

· They should never give out personal information online such as full names, ages, addresses, school name, siblings etc.

· They should never meet alone anyone they have met through an Internet source.

· Once information is published online it can be disseminated with ease and cannot be easily destroyed e.g., photographs.

What can you do at home?

· Keep devices in a communal area of the home.

· Be aware that children have access to the Internet via gaming stations and portable technologies such as smart phones.

· Monitor on-line time and be aware of excessive hours spent on the Internet.

· Take an interest in what your children are doing. Discuss what they are seeing and using on the Internet.

· Discuss the fact that there are websites/social-networking sites/games which are unsuitable for them to be accessing and discuss how they should respond to unsuitable materials or requests.

Online Safety Information for Parents

The following links will take you to websites containing resources which you can read, watch and discuss with your children at home:

UK Safer Internet Centre:

- https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers
- https://youtu.be/rl_gZTQ9F7w (Short video for parents)

Talking to your Child About Online Safety:

- https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/

Setting Up Parental Controls:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/

Guide to Apps, Games and Social Media:

- https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/

- https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/

Age Specific Advice:

- 0-5 years – https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/

- 6-10 years – https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/

- 11 – 13 years – https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/11-13/