

## THE BATT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Corn Street, Witney, Oxon, OX28 6DY

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Safer Internet Day is taking place on Tuesday 6th February and we will be exploring this during the week across school. This is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on children and young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

We feel it is important to share with you what will be taking place in school and what would support you in keeping your children safe at home. We can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with parents to ensure the e-Safety message is consistent. Your help is needed to talk to your children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online.

## What are school doing to keep children safe?

We have security measures in place in school, which are constantly monitored, to help safeguard pupils from any potential dangers, such as during the first term, all children have an E-Safety lesson at the beginning of every term using Project Evolve, and sign an agreement that they will be sensible whilst online. We have restrictions that block access to websites that are not age appropriate and this is regularly monitored.

As a school for Safer Internet Day, we will be carrying out different activities throughout the week. We are having Internet Safety assemblies (KS1 and KS2) to highlight the importance of staying safe when using technology and being online.

Activities that are taking place in school are not about shocking children about the dangers of the internet, but things they enjoy whilst staying safe. This could be discussing what they enjoy doing online but giving explanations of how to keep themselves safe. Other activities and discussions will also be taking place during the week.

## What can I do as a parent?

The widespread availability and use of social networking applications bring opportunities to understand, engage and communicate with audiences in new ways. It is important that we are able to use these technologies and services effectively and flexibly.

Remember that services like Facebook, Snapchat, WhatsApp and Youtube have a minimum age limit of 13. Using Parental Control functions for computers, mobile phones and games consoles to block unsuitable content or contact is a good way to keep children safe at home but remember that parental control tools are not always 100% effective. Always ensure your child knows how to block or report people online who send nasty or inappropriate messages or content. Encourage your child not to retaliate or reply. Make sure your child knows to tell an adult they trust if they see something online that makes them feel scared, worried, or uncomfortable.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher or our Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Harding-Jones).

If you would like to find out more about online safety, useful leaflets and resources can be found at the following link:

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/esafety-leaflets-resources/#age\_guide

Best wishes,

Miss Mills (Computing Lead)

