

Online Safety Update - Spring Term 2024

Welcome to the latest Online Safety Newsletter.

At the beginning of February, we participated in Safer Internet Day. This is a day to promote online safety and numerous schools and organisations across the United Kingdom take part. Each year there is a different theme and this year's theme was 'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online.'

Across the school, the pupils participated in a variety of different tasks; these included looking at how technology has changed and what they think it will look like in the future, the power of influences.

I spent time speaking with different pupils about what they had learnt. Once again, I was impressed with their maturity and knowledge of the different options they have when facing challenging scenarios when online.

Please remember that you can also find more information by visiting the school website:

<https://robertdrake.co.uk/about-us/e-safety>

Regards

Mr Chaplin

Year 5 and 6 Interactive Stories

Internet Safety

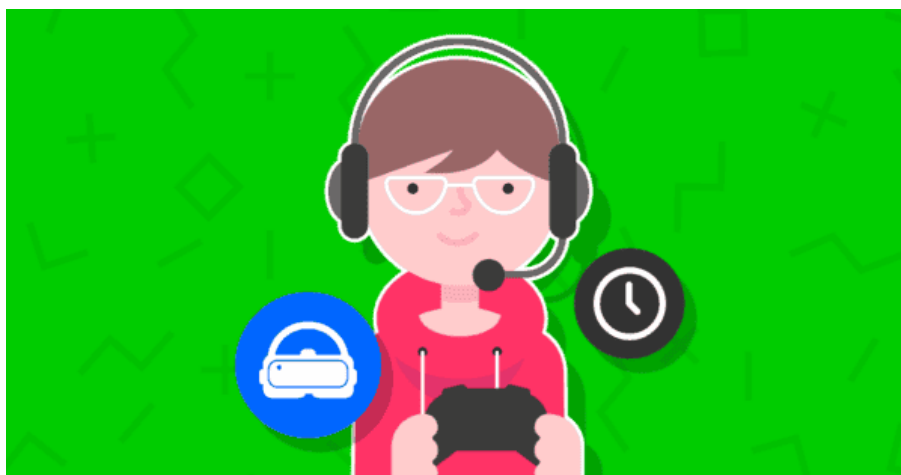


To help promote conversation at home, Internet Matters have created some interactive stories on topics which may be difficult to discuss. Topics such as Online Relationships and Self-Image and Identity are becoming increasingly more important as children are getting exposed to these thoughts and ideas at a younger age.

Each topic has a lesson which contains a story. These are designed for pupils in Years 5 and 6.

Click [here](#) to view the guides

One to Watch - Palworld

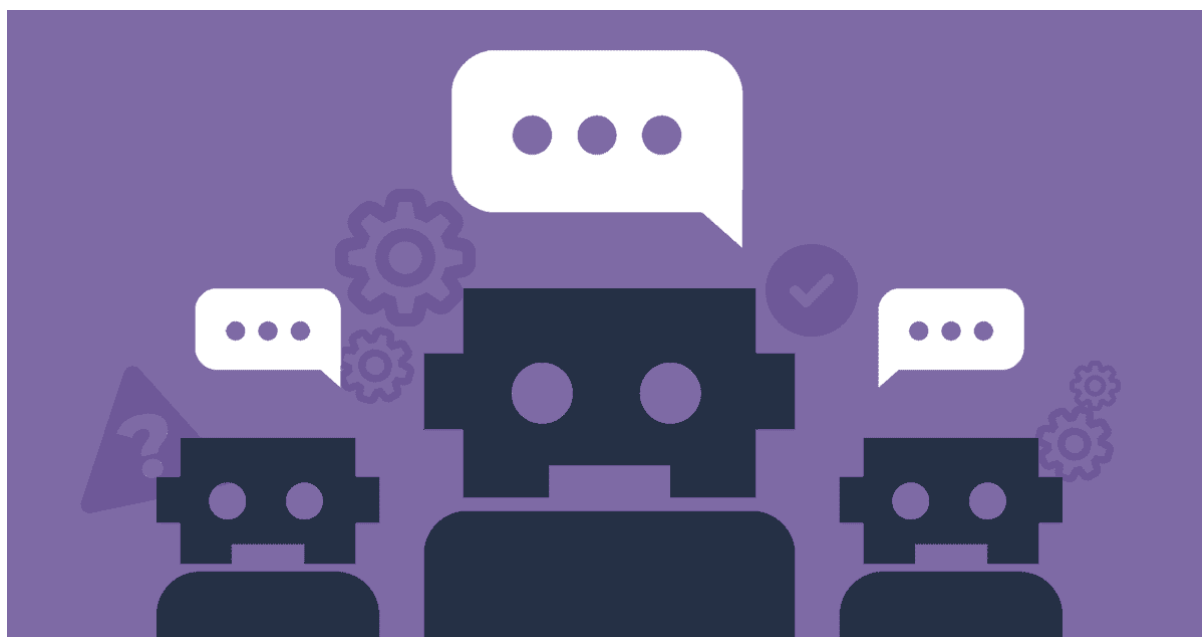


Palworld is a new online game which has grown in popularity in recent months. It is similar to Pokemon due to the characters it uses. It has been referred to as Pokemon with guns. Although the game doesn't contain any blood or gore it has received a PEGI rating of 12 due to 'fantasy character violence'.

Internet Matters have put together an in-depth guide including how you can keep children safe while playing it. Click [here](#) to view the guide.

You can find out more about it by clicking [here](#) and visiting Common Sense Media.

Being Safe in Early Years



Children are accessing technology at a younger age and therefore this is increasing the likelihood of them being exposed to harmful or upsetting content.

Internet Matters have put together four guides on how parents can help and support their child while they are online.

You can view the guides by clicking [here](#).

These guides have been created after the 2023 Ofcom report which looks at Children's Media use. It found that:

- *92% of under 5s use a video sharing platform;*
 - *38% of under 5s have their own YouTube profile;*
 - *48% of under 5s send messages or make video calls on devices;*
 - *23% of under 5s use social media apps or sites.*
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Parental Changes to Instagram and Facebook

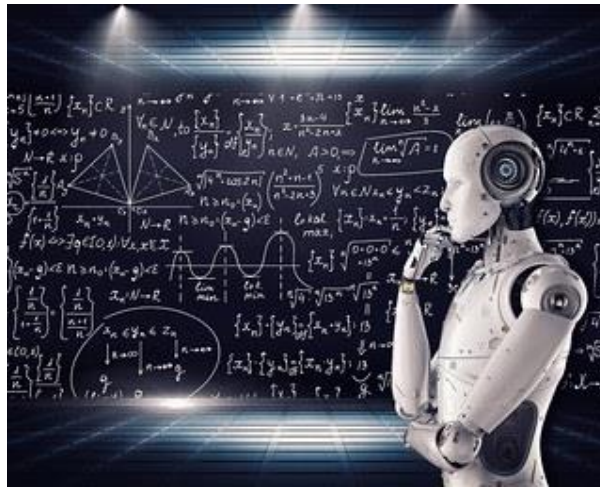


Meta have recently announced that they will be introducing a range of new features to Instagram and Facebook to try and protect young children when they are online. The new features include:

- Limiting teens' ability to see sensitive content;
 - Nudges to encourage teens to close Instagram at night;
 - Stricter private messaging (adults should not be able to privately message children who don't follow those adults);
 - Children can only be messaged by people they already follow or are connected to.
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You can find out more about these by clicking [here](#).

AI Generated Images



The use of AI is becoming more and more popular as people try to find ways in which it can improve their lives. There have been numerous cases of AI generated pictures and videos circulating on social media, many of which look deceptively real. This video demonstrates ways you can spot AI generated pictures by focusing on eyes and hands. Click [here](#) to view it.

Although lots of people are using it to save time, it is worth remembering that it is not perfect. A recent Willy Wonka Experience in Glasgow, which left hundreds of people disappointed, was put together by using an AI for scripts and marketing purposes. [BBC News](#).
