Online Safety Update - December 2022

Welcome to the second Online Safety Newsletter. I have included information about Roblox, parent controls and examples of work completed by some of the pupils.

I recently held an assembly with the pupils in Key Stage 2 in which we discussed the history of technology. I spoke to them about a clip I had seen on YouTube from BBC News. The story was from 2002 and it was about a brand new invention - the camera phone. In talking about this, the conversation moved onto what technology will look like in 20 years. The pupils shared with me about having to learn and understand new technologies and how they are having to be prepared for, and be educated in, a technological future that doesn't exist yet or might not have even been considered possible.

Christmas is not far away now and some of the pupils have spoken to me about their Christmas lists and their hopes of receiving a wide range of electronic devices. I have included guidance for how to set up parental controls below.
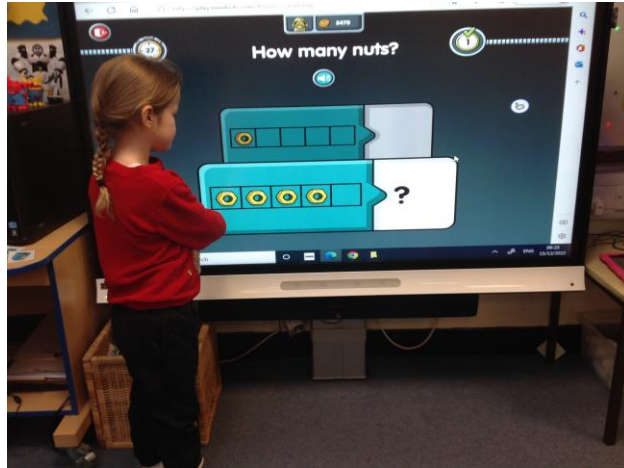
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Regards

Mr Chaplin

A Focus On....

The pupils in Early Years have recently been using Numbots. When logging in, they have been using their own usernames and passwords. Well done to Scarlett for demonstrating this.
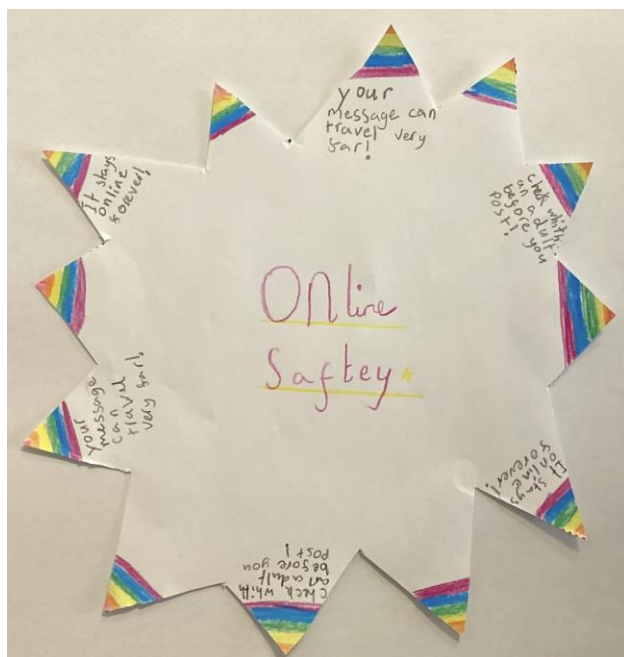
Year 1 and Year 2

PEGI Ratings

A child in Mrs Tingy's wants to play this game. They are 4 years old.

Is it a safe game for them to play? How do you know?

It is safe because they are 4 year old so they are older than 3. The number in the box tells you how old you need to be.

In Years 1 and 2, the pupils have been learning about the PEGI ratings. This topic provides pupils with an understanding of how to check which games are suitable for them. Well done to Katie for this very good piece of work.

Year 3 and Year 4

The pupils in Years 3 and 4 have been learning about the dangers of sharing information online and the speed at which it can travel at. Pupils also learnt about how the information they share online is very difficult to remove. Olivia created this brilliant poster!

Year 5 and 6

E-Safety

It is important to make your own decisions about online products as some people get paid to review them.

Why might vloggers and influencers share products online with good reviews?

It is so that more people see it and if they have good reviews more people will want it.

Why are people with large followings, ideal for big companies to use?

It's so that people can see that they have loads of followers and if they have, people will want to choose people with more so & more people will see it.

Why should we make our own decisions about content shared online to people?

Because if people are paid to ~~do~~ review it they will only say good things but if it's bad you should say so.

In Years 5 and 6, the pupils have been learning about how products are advertised by influences. Well done to Megan for recognising the importance of making her own decisions when online.

Roblox

In school, we often hear the pupils discussing games they have been playing online. One that is often mentioned is Roblox. For those unfamiliar with it, Roblox, which has a 7+ UK PEGI rating, allows users to create their own games which they can play online with other people. It has over 150 million users worldwide and most of these are young people.

Recently, there has been an increase in the amount of unsuitable content such as horror, gore, profanity and inappropriate images, which are becoming more commonly accessed and upsetting young children.

A guide about how to keep your children safe can be found by clicking here

You can speak to your internet provider for help and guidance when setting up parent controls:

Sky

Virgin Media

BT

An overview of other companies can be found by clicking [here.](#)

BeReal

BeReal is not a particular new app but like so many it has recently become more popular with children. Its popularity increased by 315% between January and August. The app works by sending a notification to all users at the same time. Within two minutes, the user will need to take and upload a photo of what they are doing. The user can upload at any time but it will then displayed with a late note so anyone viewing will know it was not taken within the required time frame. The apps aim is to share real life and real images with everyone as there are no filters built into it. However, the app takes a photo using both the front and rear facing cameras at the same time. Both photos are then placed onto the user's feed for anyone who is following them to view.

BeReal has a 13+ rating.

More information can be found by visiting Childnet and their guide [here](#)

Advice for Grandparents

Internet Matters have put together a guide for grandparents to help and support them with keeping children safe online.

Click [here](#) to view