



Christ Church CE Primary School

 Learning  Listening  Living

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16th April 2018

Dear Parents & Carers

E-Safety Events on Wednesday 2nd May 2018: 3.30-4.30pm with childcare, 5.30-6.30pm without childcare

Last term we conducted an e-safety survey and reported back to you what the children in Green and Yellow class said about their computer and internet use. Those results were sent home and they are also online here: <http://christchurchcressage.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/E-Safety-Answers-January-2018.pdf>

As a parent of young adults/teenagers I know how hard it is to keep up-to-date with the latest apps, with games and to know how to ensure that my own home systems have in-built safeguards and cut off points for going online after certain hours. I also know as a parent, when offered e-safety support from my children's schools, I immediately worried I would be made to feel guilty!

We do not want to make you feel guilty but informed and equipped. E-safety is a massive issue for our children – it has an impact on their emotional, physical and mental health. We need to act together – school, parents, children – to make sure that we appreciate the opportunities that technology brings but also protect our children from the dangers that are there. It is like teaching them about road safety: we wouldn't dream of letting a child of 5 years cross the A458 on their own and yet many of them are faced with the equivalent of the M54 on their screens. We need to support them together.

We are asking each family to give an hour of their time so that together we can feel confident that our school community is tackling this major issue. As some of the pressure comes from their friends, it is much easier to have a safe internet environment if parents are all giving the same messages to their children. For example, it is very hard if some children are being allowed to access games that are marketed at over 18s and talking about it in school to their friends. We all need to be giving the same messages about safe computer use and gaming to our children. This is why we are offering an online resource if you are not able to come to one of the events.

These events will take place in Yellow Class for parents/family members and are not suitable for children. The first event will have childcare provided for free in the Library. The second event will not have childcare and we ask that you do not bring children in to school, as it is important we can speak freely about some of the things children may come across online.

The school events will last for one hour and will involve a short presentation, some films that have information about some of the dangers online, opportunities to hear about how we tackle e-safety in school, a chance to ask about how to secure your own systems at home and time to share tips with other parents. They are suitable for anyone whatever their confidence level with technology.

We understand that some parents may be unable to come to the events but we ask that you help us in our goal of protecting all the children in school by looking at the online resources we are





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recommending. These may also be useful for those attending the events, and they will be referred to during the presentations.

The online resources we are recommending are:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/> - this page gives you access to step-by-step guides on how to set up parental controls on many different networks and devices and checks privacy controls. I highly recommend programming cut-off points for specific devices (eg. so that a child's tablet cannot access internet after 8pm as it means that you do not have to enforce it – it happens automatically – and it gets children into good sleep habits which research shows is a major issue for teenagers).

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> - this page has specific information on toys which connect to the internet, it has four easy steps to talking with your child about e-safety and links about protecting them from grooming. As half our children in the survey played games online with children they did not know in real life, this is a really useful page.

We look forward to working together at these events. Please return this slip by **Friday 27th April**.
Kind regards

Tracey Cansdale

Name of Child/Children: _____

Name of Parent(s) attending: _____

I will be attending the e-safety workshop on Wednesday 2nd May 3.30-4.30pm and I require childcare for _____ (insert number) children.

OR

I will be attending the e-safety workshop on Wednesday 2nd May 5.30-6.30pm (no childcare)

AND/OR

I confirm that I will read and use the online resources so that I am aware how to protect my child(ren) and the type of e-safety issues that are being faced by the school community.

Signed _____ Date _____

