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Dear Families,

In our effort to make E-Safety high priority at St. Mary's this year, we are focusing on a new strand from the document 'Education for a Connected World' in classes this half term.

Each half term, we will focus on a different strand of online safety:



Self-image and identity

This strand explores the differences between online and offline identity beginning with self-awareness, shaping online identities and media influence in propagating stereotypes. It identifies effective routes for reporting and support and explores the impact of online technologies on self-image and behaviour.



Online relationships

This strand explores how technology shapes communication styles and identifies strategies for positive relationships in online communities. It offers opportunities to discuss relationships, respecting, giving and denying consent and behaviours that may lead to harm and how positive online interaction can empower and amplify voice.



Online reputation

This strand explores the concept of reputation and how others may use online information to make judgements. It offers opportunities to develop strategies to manage personal digital content effectively and capitalise on technology's capacity to create effective positive profiles.



Online bullying

This strand explores bullying and other online aggression and how technology impacts those issues. It offers strategies for effective reporting and intervention and considers how bullying and other aggressive behaviour relates to legislation.



Managing online information

This strand explores how online information is found, viewed and interpreted. It offers strategies for effective searching, critical evaluation of data, the recognition of risks and the management of online threats and challenges. It explores how online threats can pose risks to our physical safety as well as online safety. It also covers learning relevant to ethical publishing.



Health, well-being and lifestyle

This strand explores the impact that technology has on health, well-being and lifestyle e.g. mood, sleep, body health and relationships. It also includes understanding negative behaviours and issues amplified and sustained by online technologies and the strategies for dealing with them.



Privacy and security

This strand explores how personal online information can be used, stored, processed and shared. It offers both behavioural and technical strategies to limit impact on privacy and protect data and systems against compromise.



Copyright and ownership

This strand explores the concept of ownership of online content. It explores strategies for protecting personal content and crediting the rights of others as well as addressing potential consequences of illegal access, download and distribution.

This half term, we will be talking to your children about Managing Online Information. In Reception, children will begin to understand how we find information out online, and which devices we can use to do this. In KS1, we will build on this by thinking about the different digital technologies we can use to find information out online (search engines, voice activated devices such as Alexa and Siri etc), discuss how we navigate web pages to find the information we need, and think about how reliable and trustworthy information online is.

In KS2, children will think about the limitations and problems that may occur when searching online. We will think about the phrases we need to enter into search engines in order to gather the most accurate information, and to think about the reliability of information by identifying whether something is a fact, a belief or an opinion. We will look at some of the ways people are encouraged to buy things online (through targeted advertising offers. In-app purchases and pop-ups), identify what 'fake news' might look like and discuss when it is important to be 'sceptical'.

There are some useful videos, resources, tips and advice regarding online information and keeping ourselves safe online available on the BBC website here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/topics/cqllgp2jw71t>

Remember that the new Stockport Online Safety Hub is live and can be accessed here:
<https://stockport.onlinesafetyhub.uk/>

It contains expert advice and guidance to help you manage your child's safety online as a parent. It includes information on the latest topics when it comes to keeping children safe, such as how to manage your child's screen time, understand the latest gaming platforms, what they mean for your child's safety and lots more.

If there is anything in particular you are concerned about regarding E-Safety, please let us know and we will do our best to help address these issues in school through our E-Safety discussions.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs Burns
(Computing Lead)