



Online safety newsletter - Autumn 2

Our Online Safety Leaders

This half term, we have nominated Online Safety Leaders from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. They will be supporting the staff to ensure that online safety is a priority across Parkland Primary school, as well as writing articles for the newsletter and delivering whole school assemblies.

They are:

3AN - Charlie G

3ZC - Elliott M

3MT - Ralph C

4DR- Jacob M

4VT - Jenson D

4MT- Tristan L

5RR- Jasper O

5AP - Rebeka C

5JS - Shivansh S

6LG - Lola A

6NA - Reeva J

6LW - Brannoy D

Online Safety in school

During the autumn term, each year group has completed several online safety lessons. This is what they have been learning about:

Year 1 have learnt how to use a tablet safely online, including ways to stay safe online. They have also discussed what to do if they feel unsafe online in school or at home.

Year 2 have been about how passwords protect us online and how they can ensure they choose a secure password. They have also learnt about online avatars, and why people's avatars may not look exactly like them. They have also learnt about why people might choose to change their appearance online.

Year 3 have been learning what a secure password is and how to create their own secure passwords. They have also learnt what cyber bullying is and what to do if they encounter this online.

Year 4 have been learning about online identities and the behaviours that can lead to a positive or negative online identity. They have also reflected on their own online identities.

Year 5 have also explored their online identity and explored the things that can have an impact on this. The children have also developed their understanding of cyber bullying and learnt some strategies to protect themselves online, including blocking and reporting.

Year 6 have also learnt about cyber bullying and the impact this can have. They have recapped how to report, block and screenshot anything they see online that may be cyber bullying, and discussed the importance of doing this even if the comments made are not about them. They have also explored the pressures that technology can place on individuals and have learnt some strategies to manage this.

Parent survey



The Online Safety Leaders have written a few questions that they would like parents/carers to answer to help them understand what online use looks like for pupils at Parkland Primary School. Please spend a few minutes answering the questions by clicking on this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/bmUAmvRgRq>

WhatsApp



The age restriction for WhatsApp is **at least 16 years old**. You may have noticed that WhatsApp have added an editing feature so you can change messages that you have sent for up to 15 minutes afterwards.

Childnet have published a blog outlining what you should be aware about with this new feature: [Find out WhatsApp's new features and how it can impact online safety](#) | [Childnet](#)

Instagram - new teen account features



Instagram has an age restriction of **at least 13 years old** and it is predominately a photo and video sharing app.

Teen accounts have recently been added to Instagram, and this has additional layers of protection, making sure they avoid mature or inappropriate material. Any content flagged as sensitive will be removed from their recommendations, even if it comes from followed accounts.

From now on, teens who sign up to Instagram will automatically be enrolled into Teen Accounts. For those who already have an account, this will be pushed out gradually. Those under 16 will require parental permissions to change any privacy and restriction settings.

How to talk to your child about Instagram

It's important to talk to your child about what they are doing online. Ask them to give you a demonstration of Instagram and explore safety settings together. Here are some questions you could ask them to help get the conversation started:

- What types of accounts do you follow?
- Who is your favourite influencer?
- Can you show me how Reels works?
- What's your favourite feature?

1 - From [Is Instagram safe for my child? | NSPCC](#)

Parental controls online

The online world gives us access to huge amounts of information and services, but this also means that there is a lot of content that is inappropriate for children. What is or isn't

appropriate, is for parents and carers to decide so it is strongly recommended that parental controls are added to children's devices.

Parental controls allow you to block and filter online content that may be upsetting or inappropriate. They work across WiFi, phone network and individual apps and devices.

You can find out more here: [Use Parental Controls to Keep Your Child Safe | NSPCC](#)

If you have any concerns about online safety or need any support creating parental controls, please contact your child's class teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.
