



Woodchurch Road Primary

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Dear Parents/Carers

INTERNET SAFETY

- Does your child have access to the internet?
- Do you have parental controls set up on your internet?
- Does your child play games online?
- Do you know what games your child is playing or who they are talking to online?
- Are you aware if your child uses social media to talk to friends?
- Do you know who their 'friends' are and what they post to each other?
- Do you know that children can chat to each other or strangers via their X Boxes and PlayStations?

It has been brought to my attention that some of our children are accessing and using apps, games and platforms that are not be appropriate for their age. With the summer holidays upon us I would urge you to limit screen time and be vigilant about your child's use of the internet. Remember, that just because their friends are playing them – it doesn't make it right.

- **Minecraft** is a popular game for our children, however, if playing online a link can be followed to Five nights at Freddy's. This is not suitable for children to be playing. A review from 'Common Sense Media' Parents need to know *Five Nights at Freddy's* is a horror game that uses tension and jump scares in place of blood and guts -- and, as a result, is a lot scarier than many other titles. The sense of being trapped and defenseless in a small office quickly becomes real -- and when the animatronic characters jump out at you, you'll jump (and maybe scream). This makes the game much too intense for younger kids -- and teens should know what they're getting into.
- For many social networking sites: OoVoo, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, you are required to be at least 13 years old. This is because children do not have the emotional maturity to manage themselves in such a forum.
- Battle Games and GTO are not suitable for children to be playing.

Woodchurch Road Primary School is committed to keeping our children safe and to promoting safe and responsible use of the internet, however, it is only through a collaborative effort between parents and school that we will succeed in creating responsible and safe cyber citizens.

We recommend that all parents visit the following sites for more information:

- www.thinkuknow.co.uk and www.net-aware.org.uk

Yours sincerely

C Knowles
Headteacher

