Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

Welcome to the first of a series of newsletters to support parents of primary aged children with online safety risks, issues and concerns. If you have any serious concerns or issues, please contact school as usual.

Advice

Your child is used to having restrictions and monitoring in place on the devices they use at school. Whilst your child is completing school activities, playing a game, researching an interest, and so on, engage in a conversation with them. Join in their game and ask them who they are chatting too, take an interest in their searches and interests.

Ensure that children are adequately supervised and supported by an adult during any time they are online.

Further guidance on supporting and monitoring your child's home learning can be found here:

- Internet Matters https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe/
- Parental Controls offered by your Internet Provider https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parental-controls-offered-your-home-internet-provider
- Parent and Carer Toolkit https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/parent-and-carer-toolkit

There is a Facebook page for Warwickshire and Coventry parents (others can join in of course) https://www.facebook.com/stayingsafeonline/ You do not need a Facebook account to be able to read the posts. However, if you do have one 'Like' the page and you will get notifications when articles are posted.

Restrictions and Settings

Internet matters (link above) is a great site as the instructions for putting restrictions on devices is clear and simple to use.
If you have younger children you might find the Swiggle browser a better option than Google https://swgfl.org.uk/services/swiggle/

Fun Stuff

Let's not forget the internet is a fun place! Here are a few of suggestions to try out with your children:
- https://switchzoo.com/zoo.htm (make your own animal)
- https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/ (online safety game)
- https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting/goldilocks (Free book)