

Weekly Bulletin Friday 8th February 2019

Dear Families

This week St John's has been focusing on Online Safety, part of our termly cycle of safeguarding awareness for our children. They have been learning about a variety of Online Safety strategies, exploring safe and age appropriate use of social media and developing an understanding of safe and appropriate online behaviour. We have also been conducting a survey of internet use to gain some insight into the rapidly changing world in which our children interact online. This will enable us to support all our children in becoming safe, confident navigators of the increasingly risky online world as they grow up.

There are some really simple things you as parents can do to protect your child online. One of them is to educate yourself on the potential risks of online gaming and social media through some very easy to access resources. One of the best is www.commonsemmedia.org, packed full of information.

As parents, we have all probably heard of the game 'Fortnite'. Here are some useful facts to know about the context of this game and how it intersects with social media:

Online gaming is increasingly popular; three-quarters of 5-15s who play games do it online. This means they are playing in a way that enables them to chat with other players- all across the world, and of any age.

Did you know the age restriction for Fortnite is 12+?

Did you know that Fortnite is reported to have 125 million players?

Did you know that it is possible to interact with other players (all playing under pseudonyms) via 'voice chat'?

Did you know that you only need to provide an email address and user name to open an account to access the game?

Childnet has produced a parent's guide around Fortnite, which can be found here:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/a-parents-guide-to-fortnite-battle-royale>

Another way to support your child is to set an example through your own online use. Many parents deliberately choose times to put phones away at home, and explain clearly that they are limiting their own use. As a parent you can have discussions about the risks online and agree an appropriate length of time your child can use their device. Perhaps you could encourage the whole family to unplug and create 'screen free' zones in the house?! Or perhaps you could make screen time active and together find apps, sites and games that will help children explore their passions.



Regular attendance, on time, is absolutely critical for children to make progress. Each week we publish in the newsletter the attendance for each class and the class with highest attendance receives a certificate. At the end of this term the class with the highest attendance will win a cash prize that they can spend on a class celebration. Well done to Year 6 for being this week's Champion Children!

Percentage Attendance This Week

YR	Y1	Y2	Y3B	Y3H	Y4	Y5	Y6
75.42	95.71	87.69	96.00	94.12	98.40	82.22	98.44

As always, we thank you for your continued support.

Mr Funnell & The Staff of St John's

Diary Dates – Spring Term 2019

18th – 22nd February 2019	Half Term Holiday
25th – 28th February 2019	Year 6 Residential
28th February – 1st March 2019	Year 4 Residential
7th March 2019	World Book Day
15th March 2019	Red Nose Day
2nd April 2019	Easter Service – 10.00am
5th April 2019	Last Day of Term