# Ivy Lane School

## Parent E-Safety Newsletter #1 Term 3 17/18

Here at Ivy Lane, we know that children often have easy access to a range of technology , and as parents it not unusual to feel that sometimes we lag behind in terms of awareness and expertise!  Through our regular  E-safety newsletters, it is our intention to discuss many of the current issues both children and adults face whilst also highlighting useful resources.  It is hoped that we can merge the best and latest information from a range of E-safety websites such as NSPCC, ThinkYouKnow, CEOP, Kidsmart and ChildNet. Also, on **1st March 2018**, Karl Hopwood (national e-safety expert)  is back at ILS and will be offering an e-safety session for parents from 6-7pm —please save the date (feedback last time was very positive).

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All links to websites mentioned in this newsletter will also be on the school website, in the  '**Parents' Information**' section and  '**Online Safety**' tab, to enable you to access them easily.

### Online safety

Children and young people spend a lot of time online – it can be a great way for them to socialise, explore and have fun. But children do also face risks like cyberbullying or seeing content that is inappropriate. Whether you're unsure about what happens online or are up to speed with new technology, it is important that you talk to your child about staying safe.  It may feel daunting, but you don't need to be an expert on the internet. Understanding what children do online and the risks they face will help you keep your child safe online.

**Ask your children if they're SMART when they're online. Use the SMART videos  to make your children aware that although the internet is a powerful and amazing tool they need to be aware of their online profile and the information they share with the world.**
**www.childnet.com/resources/the-adventures-of-kara-winston-and-the-smart-crew**

## Parental Controls

The NSPCC and 02 have partnered up to develop a series of web tutorials/videos to help parents keep their children safe online. The first entitled 'Keeping your children's device secure' is an easy to follow guide on how to install/set up basic parental controls on a mobile or tablet device. Watch it here: http://www.nspcc.org.uk/fighting-for-childhood/about-us/partners/nspcc-o2-online-safety-partnership/

*'In a recent survey involving children aged between 9-16yrs old, almost half of Key Stage 2 children played games online and contacted people they did or did not know. 60% of Key Stage 2 children surveyed said they used a webcam or video app to chat their friends'.* Whilst using these games online can be good for children, parental controls are also important for their safety.

## Social Networking

Do you know the range of social networking websites/apps your children use? Are you aware of the age restrictions on each one and how they differ? Netware is a great website which not only explains the basics of each social media web-site but also gives guidance on what you need to know and why your children use it.

www.net-aware.org.uk/

## Free Wi-Fi

With so many organisations offering free public Wi-Fi and the widely differing requests for personal information it is  important to consider the security of 'free' Wi-Fi.  Many hotspots have little security (e.g. you don't need a   password to sign in) which means your device could be open to hackers and your data easily shared with the public. Also, Wi-Fi hotspots offer very little filtering meaning that your child could be exposed to inappropriate material which is blocked at home.

## NSPCC/O₂ Parents E-safety Helpline

The new NSPCC (working in conjunction with O2) Parents E-safety helpline is now up and running.  Parents can get advice on anything they're not sure about, including:

- setting up parental controls on computers or other devices

- help adjusting privacy settings

- understanding social networks

- concerns about online gaming

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The helpline is a free number: 0808 8005002.
More information can be found at http://www.nspcc.org.uk/

## Contact Us

Please contact us if you would like more information on any E-Safety issues:

Mrs Schonfeld, E-safety Lead, Ivy Lane School