



**Oakmeadow CE Primary School**

**Bayston Hill**

**Shrewsbury Shropshire**

**SY3 ONU**

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**Head teacher:** Mrs C Whelan BA (Hons) QTS NPQH Pg Cert

**Deputy Head teacher:** Mrs L Jones B Ed (hons) NPQH

12<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day and as a result we have been basing much of this week's work on how to stay safe online, with a specific focus on what is appropriate information to share and what is not.

During these sessions, we have found a number of children sharing information with us and their peers regarding their online behaviour at home. We are aware that children have a tendency to say things in front of their peers which may be exaggerated, but just in case we thought we would write to let you know some key information you may wish to act on as parents.

Whilst most children said their parents monitor their online activity, we have heard some children share that they have signed up for APPs themselves claiming they are older than they are. A number of children shared that through games and APPs they are friends with people online that they do not know in 'real life' and many did not know if their profiles on these sites were set to public or not. A number of pupils, shared that they had posted material online that they would prefer their parents not to see. Some children referred to their online friends as 'IBF's' (Internet Best Friend) and demonstrated some degree of misunderstanding about the potential risks associated with this. We have of course addressed these issues with the children through our discussions and lessons and have contacted parents where a concern has arisen with a specific child, however we felt it would be proper to send this letter out to all as we are aware that some children may not speak out on these matters.

As parents ourselves we know we would appreciate the school letting us know if something arose which meant our child's safety might be compromised and so wanted to extend the same courtesy to you as we naturally care about your children too.

These are some websites you may find useful to refer to:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://parentzone.org.uk/home>

We hope you have found this helpful,

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hill & Mr Ostermeyer

Year 6 Teachers

Twitter: @oakmeadow Nursery: @Ladybirdsoak



**OUTSTANDING 2016**