



Thomas Fairchild Community School
Forston Street, London N1 7HA
Telephone: 020 7253 9469

tfoffice@newwavefederation.co.uk
Executive Headteacher: Ms Nicole Reid
Acting Head of School: Mr Matthew Trahair

Friday 4th February 2022

Dear Thomas Fairchild Families,

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 8th February



Next week we will be celebrating Safer Internet Day, we will be exploring how to be safe online as content consumers and creators. There will be an assembly and a variety of activities in class to reinforce the importance of staying safe on the internet.

We invite all families to join our Digital Leader, Sophie Medhurst, on Safer Internet Day to explore a range of practical ways we can keep our children safe online. We will learn how to manage the risks of technology with a focus on popular apps. We will discuss some of the following recommendations.

<p>Agree boundaries</p> <p>Be clear what your child can and can't do online including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where they can use the internet • How much time they can spend online • The sites they can visit • The type of information they can share • When they can have a personal mobile phone or tablet. 	<p>Explore together</p> <p>Encourage them to use their tech devices in a communal area like the lounge or kitchen so you can keep an eye on how they're using the internet. Regularly ask your child to tell you about what they do and what sites they like to visit. If they're happy to, ask them to show you. Talk to them about being a good friend online.</p>
<p>Check if it's suitable</p> <p>The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. Often the minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Twitter and Instagram.</p>	<p>Use airplane mode</p> <p>Use airplane mode on your devices when your child is using them so they can't make any unapproved purchases or interact with anyone online without your knowledge.</p>
<p>Put yourself in control</p> <p>Install parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. Make sure accounts and content for older users in the household are password-protected so that younger children can't access them by accident.</p>	<p>Search safely</p> <p>Use safe search engines such as Swiggle or Kids-search. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google as well as YouTube.</p>

If you have any questions about Safer Internet Day, please don't hesitate to ask one of the senior leaders.

Many thanks,

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Matt Trahair
Head of School