Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to draw your attention to national e-safety week. Across the country children will be researching and becoming more familiar with the latest e- safety developments and quick reminders about how to stay safe online. E-Safety is an important part of keeping children safe at Garswood Primary School. We have extensive security measures in place in school, which are monitored both internally and externally, to help safeguard pupils from potential dangers or unsuitable material. Any e-safety incidents are recorded and managed in accordance with our e-safety Policy. E-safety is taught to all pupils explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online.

We can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with you to ensure the e-Safety message is consistent. Your help is invaluable in relation to talking to your children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online. There are steps you can take at home to minimise this risk and keep our already vigilant children fully aware.

What can parents/carers do?

Ground Rules:
· Discuss as a family how the internet will be used in your house. Consider what should be kept private online (personal information, photos etc) and decide rules for making and meeting online friends. Make sure you know what your child is doing online much like you would offline. Remember social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat have a **13 year old minimum age** for a reason.

Online Safety:
· Install antivirus software, secure your internet connection and use Parental Control functions for computers, mobile phones and games consoles to block unsuitable content or contact
· Remember that parental control tools are not always 100% effective and sometimes unsuitable content can get past them, so don't rely on them alone to protect your child.

Location:
· Locate your computer in a supervised family area. Always supervise the use of webcams in and applications which allow voice or video chat. Consider your child's use of other devices that allow internet access such as Mobile Phones and Games Consoles.

Websites for more information and helpful videos and resources:

- www.thinkuknow.co.uk – Visit the "Parent/Carer" Section and use the "Click CEOP" button to seek advice and report online abuse
- www.getsafeonline.org – Free up-to-date Security advice
- www.bbc.co.uk/onlinesafety
- www.cybermentors.org.uk – Online support for children
- http://parentinfo.org/articles/apps-and-social-media/all

Thank you for your continued support.

Lynne Mills
Pastoral Manager

E-Safety

Roots of happiness, branches to learning.
Head teacher: Pamela Potter BA (Hons) QTS NPQH
www.garswood.st-helens.sch.uk
Contact: Email garswood@sthelens.org.uk Telephone: 01744 678290 Fax 01744 678294