

Dear Parents/Carers,

On **Tuesday 9th February** we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating **Safer Internet Day 2021**. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and more to join together in helping to create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year. Some of the activities we'll be participating in on the day include:

Our plans At Hipsburn include:

Asking the children how they can create #AnInternetWeTrust. What do they think others can do –gaming companies, government, teachers or their classmates? We will use a magnifying glass template to explore how we can all work together to question the online world and challenge ourselves and the people and apps we interact with online to change the internet for the better. The children will fill the template with their ideas about how we can create #AnInternetWeTrust. This may include:

- Questions to ask when you are looking at information online, for example: Who wrote this? Why was it written?
- Words or questions we can ask to help us spot if something is reliable online.
- Illustrations of what a better, more trustworthy internet could look like. Or images of online clues that may make something seem less reliable or trustworthy.
- Pledges of what they will do to help create a more trustworthy internet, such as, "I will only share things I have checked are true" or "I will support my friends if fake news upsets them."

Children will use and develop their critical thinking skills to question the motives behind what they see. By focusing first on advertising, it will help them explore trust online and challenge their personal responses when engaging with the wider digital world.

We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, you may be interested in downloading the free Safer Internet Day Education Pack for Parents and Carers which is available at: saferinternet.org.uk/sid-parents.

There are also [top tips](#), a [quiz](#) and [films](#) which you can use at home with your child. Some other resources which you may find helpful in supporting your child online are:

- Advice for parents and carers from [Childnet](#)
- Tips, advice and guides for parents and carers from the [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
- Guides on popular apps and games from [NetAware](#)
- Reviews and information about games, apps, TV shows and websites from [Common Sense Media](#)
- Help on using parental controls and privacy settings from [Internet Matters](#)
- Information and reporting of online grooming or abuse from [CEOP](#)

Online safety is an important issue which as a school we're committed to teaching our pupils about.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher or the Headteacher, Mr Kevin Moloney, who is also our Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Kind regards,

Miss Laura Haswell,

Deputy Headteacher