

1st February 2021



Dear Parent/Carer,

This term the ICT topic (across the school) is Managing Online Data and Online Safety. On Tuesday 9th February, the UK will be celebrating Safer Internet Day 2021, and St Barts will also support this event in school and within the home-learning.

Data shows that more and more children are accessing the internet at younger ages than ever before.



As a school, we want to promote the safe and positive use of the internet/technology for our students and it is our intention to use various platforms to support the children's learning in school and at home.

For those children home schooling, the topic may generate questions and discussion points, which we would encourage parents/adults/carers to support their children with. If you would like anymore information around E-safety please contact your child's class teacher.

It is also important that children are supported to access the correct and age-appropriate areas of online material we are using.

One website we will be using is ThinkUKnow



<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

This is a government and law enforcement backed, interactive, learning platform, that provides games, videos, and question-based scenarios involving characters. The Website is partitioned into 3 age groups.

It is important that your child only accesses the areas that are age appropriate and relevant to them.

This website also has a number of areas and links to support parents to keep their children safe. Please feel free to look around this web site, to feel confident in the content.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact your class teacher or myself as the curriculum co-ordinator.

In due course, it is likely that you will receive a post on Tapestry from your teachers simply directing you to tasks on the ThinkUKnow website. We hope that you will find them helpful in supporting your child's understanding of how to use the internet safely.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Kind regards
Mrs Francks
E-safety co-ordinator

1st February 2021



Ages 4-7

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your child's online safety education this term

In this term's ICT/PSHE sessions your child's class will be studying a unit of work based on *Jessie & Friends*, an animated series about online safety produced by Thinkuknow. Thinkuknow is the national education programme from NCA-CEOP at the National Crime Agency. NCA-CEOP works to keep children safe from sexual abuse and exploitation.

About *Jessie & Friends*

Jessie & Friends follows the adventures of Jessie, Tia and Mo as they begin to navigate the online world, watching videos online, sharing photos and playing games. The friends learn that while the internet can be an exciting place where they can learn and have fun, sometimes they may encounter things online which may make them feel worried or sad.

The aim of the animations and accompanying activities are to give 4-7 year olds the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to help them stay safe from sexual abuse, exploitation and other risks they may encounter online. The animations and activities provide children with the opportunity to explore ideas like trust, false identity online, consent, and develop their confidence to ask an adult they trust for help if something online makes them feel uncomfortable.

The *Jessie & Friends* animations and lessons are age appropriate and are not scary. They **do not** depict any situations where adults communicate with children online. [***If using Im 3:*** Instead, they show safe, non-scary situations between children to help young viewers identify ways in which people might sometimes try to pressure or trick others online. Learning how to identify when this is happening, and how to get help by telling an adult they trust, will help children respond safely in many risky situations, including if an adult tries to pressure or trick them online.]

The resource has been awarded the PSHE Association Quality Mark. This demonstrates that *Jessie & Friends* supports effective teaching practice, and meets

the PSHE Association's ten principles of effective PSHE education.

How you can get involved

To find out more you can watch the video for parents and carers and all three episodes of *Jessie & Friends* at www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends.

After your child has watched an episode, you can also read the associated storybook with them to reinforce key messages and help start (or continue) conversations with your child about online safety. Please refer to the attached ***Jessie & Friends* parents and carers helpsheet** which provides further guidance about:

- Ideas for starting conversations about online safety with your child [L] [SEP]
- Things you can do at home to further support your child [L] [SEP]
- Links to more advice and support on how to keep your child safe online [L] [SEP]
- Information about how to get help if you are worried about your child [L] [SEP] You will also find plenty of additional advice and support about keeping your child safer online at the **Thinkuknow parents and carers website:** www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like further information or if you have any concerns about your child and/or online safety.

Kind regards
Mrs Francks
E-safety co-ordinator