

## Dear Parent/Carer,

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

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. We are hoping to follow up these lessons with some live discussions using Teams.

It is also important that children are supported to access the correct and ageappropriate 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 access 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 timetable of ICT lessons from your teachers. This may be supported by specific lessons sent via itslearning or simply directing you to tasks on the ThinkUKnow website to be accessed and completed at some point during that week. 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



#### Dear Parent/Carer

## Your child's online safety education this term

This term your child's class will be studying a unit of work based on *Play Like Share*, an animated series about online safety produced by Thinkuknow.

Thinkuknow is an award-winning education programme from the National Crime Agency's child protection command, CEOP. It aims to keep children safe from abuse, both online and off.

Thinkuknow education resources are age-appropriate, non-scaremongering, and give children the skills, knowledge and confidence they need to stay safe online. They are used by over three and a half million children across the UK each year.

## About Play Like Share

Play Like Share follows the adventures of Alfie, Ellie and Sam as they form a band and enter their school's Battle of the Bands contest, taking on the mean but 'cool' Popcorn Wizards as they go. The three friends learn that while the internet can help, they need to use it wisely and safely.

The aim of the films is to help 8-11 year olds learn how to stay safe online. In particular, the films and activities teach them to spot the early signs of manipulative, pressurising and threatening behaviour by people they might meet online, and develops their confidence to respond safely and get help.

The resource has been awarded the PSHE Association Quality Mark. This demonstrates that Play Like Share supports effective teaching practice, and meets the PSHE Association's ten principles of effective PSHE education.

## How you can get involved

You can watch a short trailer and all three brief episodes of *Play Like Share* at www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/playlikeshare.

It is a great idea for you to watch each episode with your child after they have viewed it in class (to avoid spoiling any surprises!) and to have conversations with them about the subjects covered. To help you do so, I attach the *Play Like Share* Parents and Carers Helpsheet, with:

- Ideas for starting conversations about online safety with your child
- Links to more advice and support on how to keep your child safe online
- Information about how to get help if you are worried about your child

You will also find plenty of advice and support about keeping your child safe 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 online safety.

Kind regards Mrs Francks E-safety co-ordinator