

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

# Fairlands eSafety News

The eSafety newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

[www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk](http://www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk)

December 2015

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome to our eSafety newsletter. These newsletters are sent out each term to give you the most up to date eSafety advice. Don't forget to check here each term for all of the latest eSafety guidance to help keep your child stay safe online. If you have any questions or suggestions of things you would like advice on please feel free to contact me via e-mail. My e-mail address is [emily.thompson@fairlands.herts.sch.uk](mailto:emily.thompson@fairlands.herts.sch.uk).

**Emily Thompson**  
**Deputy Headteacher**  
**Curriculum Leader – New Technologies**

## eSAFETY GROUP

We recently ran a competition to select our new eSafety group representatives. The children were asked to re-design our eSafety reporting poster. Our slogan is:

***"Before you click, you need to think and tell someone!"***

We have had lots of entries! Miss Flanagan (Assistant lead for New Technologies) and I are busy choosing worthy winners. They will be invited to lunch with us on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December and will become our eSafety group representative for the year. This is alongside Julie Jefferies (Pupil Premium Champion – EYFS) and Daniel Cowan (eSafety Governor). Look out in the next school newsletter to see who the winners are!

## INSTAGRAM

There is a newly identified danger to young people who click on the hash-tagged key words under posted images. '#fluffy bunny' could be a genuinely harmless link but one parent of a primary aged child recently discovered that it linked directly to pornographic images which their child was unfortunately subjected to before the parent was able to close the page. Solution: Remember that Instagram has a minimum age 13 years. No pupils at Fairlands should have an Instagram account.

## SEXTING

Sexting can broadly be defined as sexually suggestive text or images sent electronically between two or more people. The latest NSPCC research highlighted by Nicky Morgan suggests that 60% of teenagers have been asked for images or videos online. This issue is not restricted to secondary school children - recently, the BBC reported that 'Children as young as 10 are being reported to police for sharing explicit photos of each other'. Please be aware of this and monitor your child's new technology use at home carefully.

## SMART WATCHES

We recently sent a letter to remind parents that SMART watches will not be permitted under any circumstances within school. If your child has access to a SMART watch outside of school hours we would like to highlight the risks to parents. As a wearable device a SMART watch makes monitoring of your child's n/w technology use far more difficult. Social activity (i.e. messages) can also wake them in the night. Solution: Remove the device at night and charge in a family space. Ensure that you regularly check the device as part of a shared agreement with your child. Ensure there is open communication around safe internet use between your family.

## DIGITAL FOOTPRINT VS DIGITAL TATTOO

You may already be familiar with the term digital footprint. This relates to the representation, trail or footprints that you leave in the digital world. New advice surfacing is that this will now be rebranded as your digital tattoo. This is to represent that once there it can NEVER be removed. This is an important message to remember as adults and to discuss with children.

## HOW DO I GET MY CHILD TO LISTEN ABOUT ONLINE SAFETY?

We know it can be challenging to talk to children about online safety. By using websites and videos to engage your children this task can be so much easier.

Phone brain is a fun and engaging website to offer eSafety advice to children. It even caters for younger children too.

<http://www.phonebrain.org.uk/>

Don't forget the school will always help you with this too! Speak to your child's phase leader or send Miss Thompson an email and we'll be happy to help!

## ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

Please can we remind all members of the school community that each member of you has agreed to the following as part of our acceptable use agreement:

*I/we will ensure that my/our online activity would not cause the school, staff, pupils or others distress or bring the school community into disrepute.*

*I/we will support the school approach to online safety and not upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset or offend any member of the school community.*

We take this very seriously at Fairlands. All members of the school community have the right to feel safe. You will be asked to come and discuss this with a member of the headship team if this reported to us at any time.

## 13+ RULE

We'd like to take this opportunity to again remind you about the 13+ rule for many social media sites such as Facebook, Instagram, SnapChat and many more. Again in our acceptable use agreement you have agreed:

*I/we will support the school's policy and help prevent my/our child/children from signing up to services such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube whilst they are underage (13+ years in most cases).*

*I/we will close online accounts if I/we/teachers find that these accounts are active for our underage child/children.*

This is to ensure that we are adhering to the terms and conditions of these sites and teaching children about telling the truth during their online activity. This is also to ensure that we are minimising any risk to their safety.

## eSAFETY ADVICE FOR PARENTS

In school the Hertfordshire Grid for Learning provides for a safe and secure online environment. Many parents and carers do seek advice on how they can help their children to 'Stay Safe' online outside of school. Click on the following link for suggested websites which provide comprehensive information about online safety and, once parents and carers have a wider knowledge and understanding of the issues, they can decide what is right for their family.

[http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/weblink\\_s\\_parents.shtml](http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/weblink_s_parents.shtml)

The internet is an exciting and fun place for adults and children to use and explore educationally and socially. The challenge for parents, carers and teachers is to make sure our children are aware and understand how to be safe when using the internet and related technologies.

If you have any eSafety concerns with regard to education please contact your child's school directly. If the issue is concerning access to the internet at home, please refer to the help pages on your internet service provider website.

***This eSafety Newsletter will be published termly. If there is any advice you would like to see in the next newsletter please contact me at [emily.thompson@fairlands.herts.sch.uk](mailto:emily.thompson@fairlands.herts.sch.uk)***