

The Willows Online Safety News – March 17



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Explore - Dream - Discover

Dear Parents/Carers

The internet is essential in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. As children move up through the school their access to various types of technology increases and it stands to reason that their exploration and curiosity increases too. The positives of the digital world overwhelmingly outweigh the negatives but children, schools and parents all need to be aware of various online risks. By providing a regular online safety newsletter we hope to keep you up to date with various technology trends, provide practical advice and share resources to help children to stay safe online. If you would like to share any information or require any further support please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. Future additions of this newsletter will be sent via email and published on the school newsletter.

Thank you,
Miss Pickerill



New Resource Alert!

Play Like Share follows the adventures of Sam, Ellie and Alfie 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 8-10 year olds learn how to stay safe online. In particular, the films 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.

Find the videos at <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/playlikeshare/>

Do you know all about Parental Controls?

Parent controls are a great tool to help protect your children online. These controls are designed to help parents and carers manage their child's online activities. There are various types, some of which are free but others which can be bought. However, nothing is totally fool proof so they don't replace the need for adults to support and advise children using the internet. For details on what controls can be used for and how to set them up please visit <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Parental-controls/>



Social Media Update—ooVoo



ooVoo is a video chat app. It lets you make video calls, voice calls and send texts to friends and family. Like many other sites and apps, ooVoo is used by both adults and children. This means that children can be directly contacted by an adult they don't know. Please check your child account settings if they are using ooVoo.