North Primary School and Nursery
John Harper Street
Colchester, Essex CO1 1RP

Headteacher: Alan Garnett

Telephone: 01206 574225
Fax: 01206 369583
www.northschool.org.uk
admin@north.essex.sch.uk

January 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

<u>Year 5 E-Safety Workshops</u>

You will have read over the past three years my summaries of E-Safety Workshops I have run for Year 6 pupils which can still be viewed on the school website. For the first time I have now run these workshops for Year 5. I am sure that in future years we may introduce something similar for younger pupils. (As you know we have taught termly e-safety lessons for all age groups for a number of years now.) And for a number of years we have provided you with advice – available on our website on how you can parent your children effectively. Here is a summary of the Y5 worskhops held on the 20th and 22nd January

Here are five statements that underpin how we .approached the Year 5 workshops.

1.Children spend a lot of time on their devices (and if they do not yet, they will).

2.They love them.

3.Children may know more than we do about how to use their phones, tablets, consoles and the games and apps they use. Many are primarily self-taught.

4.Children like to have a world separate from their parents – especially as they get older – (remember that feeling when you were an adolescent?) so they are not going to want to share everything they do with you.

5.Research tells us that children don't like talking to their parents about things that have gone wrong because they fear their parents' response will be to stop them using their phones etc.

Free for All Patron
Danny Crates

So, if you accept all of the above we need:

- ✓ to teach our children to make good choices;

- ✓ make sure they are aware of the risks associated with the games, the internet and social media;

- ✓ to make sure they know what to do to stay safe teach,

- ✓ to teach them if they do not know how they can stay safe – which is our parental responsibility.

Workshop 1 had three activities.

a.We surveyed the children on their usage.

b.They completed a risk benefit analysis of their activities (messaging, gaming etc): what is good about the activity? what are the risks? and how can they minimise them?

c.They wrote down questions they would like answered in workshop two.

Workshop two shared the survey results and then posed the children the problem of answering their own questions which was summarised into clear advice. The children were animated and knowledgeable. It was a fascinating session.

All of the results, their questions and their answers can be found in the accompanying document sent out with this letter. Hopefully you will find it informative.

Sit down with your child, read the document together and discuss it with them.

One of the children asked, "Is online safety one of the most important things to learn in life?" Well, it was not when we were children, but it probably is now.

If you think a workshop for parents would be helpful, please let us know.

Yours sincerely

Alan Garnett