SAFER INTERNET DAY 2021
#DiscoverYourIncredible

Dear parents/carers,

Safer Internet Day 2021 celebrates the amazing range of information and opportunities online, and its potential to inform, connect and inspire us, whilst also looking at how young people can separate fact from fiction.

At Ash Croft Primary academy we aim to support the Safer Internet campaign through teaching our children to **"be SMART"** online.

For our children and young people growing up today being online is very much a part of their normal social experience. Most children from school age have access to the internet whether through a tablet, a mobile phone, or a gaming device.

At the same time, technology moves quickly, and it can be difficult for parents to keep up and to know what safeguards might help minimise the risks children could encounter online. We also know during Covid-19 the risk has again escalated

S SAFE: Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information when you're chatting or posting online. Personal information includes your email address, phone number and password.

m MEET: Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present.

a ACCEPTING: Accepting emails, IM messages, or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!

r RELIABLE: Someone online might lie about who they are, and information on the internet may not be true. Always check information with other websites, books or someone who knows.

t TELL: Tell your parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.

Perpetrators are aware children and young people are at home spending more time at home, may be isolated from their friends. They are using this to their advantage.
The children at Ash Croft have been spending time with their Teachers through TEAMS discussing what it means to be Safe Online and have produced some fantastic work surrounding this.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Thank you for taking the time to keep us all Safer Online!.

Here are our top tips for parents to keep children safe during remote education

1. Take an active interest in your child's learning
2. Monitor your child's communication and online activity
3. Establish a daily schedule and routine
4. Encourage screen breaks and physical activity away from devices
5. Ensure your learning device is in a public space in the home
6. Implement safety controls and privacy restrictions on apps and software
7. Ensure your child only uses official school communication channels
8. Familiarise yourself with relevant school policies
9. Maintain feedback with teachers
10. Monitor your child's wellbeing and mental health

Useful websites

NSPCC	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/
UK Safer Internet Centre	https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/
Childnet International	https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/keeping-young-children-safe-online
THINK U KNOW .co.uk	https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/