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Learning and Loving, Caring and Sharing
Dysgu a Charu, Gofalu a Rhannu

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YSGOL GYNRADD Y SANTES FAIR
ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Mrs R F Acton B Ed Hons, NPQH
Headteacher/Pennaeth

14.01.21

Dear Parents/ Carers,

On-line Safety and Security – Keeping our children safe on-line

I hope you are all continuing to stay safe and well. Once again, may I thank you for your continued support and engagement with remote learning at this extended period of school closure. As far as we are aware, schools will remain closed to most children until at least 29th January.

Children and young people lives have changed dramatically due to Covid-19. With school closures, lockdowns and social distancing measures in place, children are clearly spending more time on-line.

We recognise that the internet is an invaluable tool for children to continue to access their education and stay connected with their peers during these challenging times. However, using the internet can also bring about risks for our children's safety. Now more than ever, it is very important that we talk to our children about how to stay safe on-line and ensure that we are aware about the apps and sites they are using.

Through the Citizenship element of the 'Digital Competence Framework' in schools in Wales, all children are taught important age appropriate skills about how to keep themselves safe on-line.

During this morning/ yesterday's Microsoft Teams' meetings, the teachers reminded all children about the importance of staying safe while they are working and playing on-line. It is very important that as teachers and parents/ carers, we continue to work in partnership to ensure that our children have a clear understanding about safe and appropriate use of the internet.



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There are many resources to support parents to talk to their children about internet safety. Please see some links that you may find useful below:-

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>

<https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/keeping-safe-online/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/homepage>

Since we have been providing remote learning, the teachers have responded to a very small number of incidents where children have made unkind remarks to their peers on-line. Whilst we recognise the difficulty for all learners at this time away from their friends, we continue to seek your support to reinforce our 'St Mary's code of conduct in the spirit of our mission statement 'Learning and Loving, Caring and Sharing- through the message of Christ'

If you have any questions or concerns about on-line safety, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teachers via Seesaw or email the school mailbox email address- mailbox@stmarys-wxm-pri.wrexham.sch.uk

On a different note, you will be pleased to hear that the '**St Mary's Lockdown Newsletter Takeover**' is back next week. Please email your photos and news by Wednesday 20th January. The Newsletter Takeover will be shared with our school family every Friday.

Thank you for your continued support, prayers and cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. F. Acton'.

Mrs R F Acton

Headteacher