

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have recently had a number of incidents reported to us where children have been using social networking sites to communicate with each other and, in some isolated cases, annoy or upset each other. As a school we take e-safety very seriously and have taught the children that they should take every precaution to protect themselves when using technology. Whilst we take numerous steps in school to ensure this happens, we are obviously unable to police what happens when the children are at home. However, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you all of the following:

- Most social networking sites e.g. facebook, facetime, Instagram etc. have a minimum age requirement of 13 and any account set up using a false date of birth can be closed by the host company.
- Children of primary school age should always be supervised in their use of technology. This can be done by ensuring equipment is used in a family space or by using parental controls.
- Whilst it is important for children to learn how to use the internet, there are a wealth of age appropriate sites for them to use which have much stricter controls.
- As a school, we are responsible for reporting any misuse of sites as soon as we become aware of them. We do this, in the first instance through discussion with parents. However, if we are then notified that the site has still not been closed, we are required to report the username and request that the account is closed.

Please help us to keep our children safe online by adhering to the above.

Should you require any further information please read the internet safety advice on <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Mr T. J. Eastwell  
Headteacher