Prior Heath Infant School
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Dear Parents,

Keeping Children Safe Online

At Prior Heath we take online safety very seriously and we teach children how to be safe on the internet. The children are regularly reminded of our Think Then Click online safety rules which are on display in every classroom and a copy is also attached to this newsletter. We will be reinforcing online safety by taking part in **Safer Internet Day** again this year on Tuesday 7th February. Safer Internet Day is organised in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre in February of each year to promote the safe and responsible use of online technology and mobile phones for children and young people. This year's theme is **'**Be the change: Unite for a better internet**'.**

We will be holding an online safety assembly on Thursday 2nd February and using age-appropriate material to help teach children the importance of staying safe online. Further information can be found on the **UK Safer Internet Centre** website http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/. This website has a Parents/Carers section which includes information about setting up the parental controls on your home internet and on devices like smart phones, tablets and games consoles together with resources aimed at primary aged children.

The following websites have been recommended to us and provide important information about staying safe online:

CEOPs (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) Think U Know:
The Think U Know website www.thinkuknow.co.uk. provides information on internet safety and the sites young people like to visit. It is separated into sections relevant for 5-7 years, 8-10 years and 11-16 years. There is also an informative Parents/Carers section.

Hector's World™
We use the the **Hector's World Safety Button™** in school which is a child-activated safety tool that the children can use if something on-screen upsets or worries them. This has been created by the New Zealand charity Hector's World Ltd. (HWL) http://hectorsworld.netsafe.org.nz/ which is a wholly owned subsidiary of New Zealand's online safety group NetSafe. Hector Protector™ and his undersea friends are available in the UK because of an education partnership between CEOP and HWL. Hector's World® is a free online learning resource for children 2-9 years of age. The Hector's World Safety Button is available for parents to download from the Hector's World website http://hectorsworld.netsafe.org.nz/parents/hectors-world-safety-button/

NSPCC

The NSPCC's Keeping Children Safe information includes advice about online safety. Their resource Net Aware has recently been updated and is now available as a free mobile app for iOS and Android. Net Aware is a parents' guide to 50 of the most popular social media sites, apps, and games that young people use.

Childnet International

Childnet International http://www.childnet.com/ is a non-profit organisation working with others to help make the internet a great and safe place for children. Here you will find top tips, games and internet safety information to help young people get the very best out of the internet and stay safe online**.**

Internet Matters

Internet Matters http://www.internetmatters.org/ provides advice on important online safety issues, news and advice from industry experts, guidance on setting parental controls and filters and reviews on the latest technology and apps.

Parentzone

https://parentzone.org.uk/ provides information and advice for families including some useful parents' guides.

Social Media Information

The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCISS) has produced the attached practical guide "Child Safety Online" for parents and carers whose children are using social media. Whilst we don't expect infant aged children to be using social media, it may be informative for parents who also have older children.

Purple Mash

As you are aware, Prior Heath currently subscribes to Purple Mash which is 2simple software's award-winning website for nursery and primary school children. It enables children to explore and enhance their knowledge in a fun and creative way and we believe it is a valuable tool which will support your child's learning. Through Purple Mash your child will to able to explore various activities including games, art activities, design and making activities, literacy and numeracy activities etc. which are all appropriate for KS1 (Years 1 and 2). There are also a number of activities that are suitable for children in Reception. When working on an activity in Purple Mash your child may save it either onto your computer or better still on their Purple Mash account. This way they can open it to share at school with their class. If you need a reminder of your child's login details, please contact the school office.

There is a link to our Purple Mash portal under Quick Links on the homepage of the Prior Heath Website www.priorheathinfant.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R. Bates
Computing Co-ordinator

Think then Click

These rules help us to stay safe on the internet

- ✓ I will take care of the school computers.

- ✓ I will ask before going on the internet.

- ✓ I will only use the internet when an adult is with me.

- ✓ I can click on the buttons or links when I know what they can do.

- ✓ I will always ask if I get lost on the internet.

- ✓ I will tell an adult if I see something on the internet that upsets me.

- ✓ I will not tell other people personal things about me including my password.

- ✓ I will always be polite and friendly when I write messages on the internet.