



February 2024

We would like to invite you to an E-Safety presentation given by our Computing Lead, Mr Cummins. This is open to all parents and carers of any year group and we would love to see you there. We strongly encourage parents of children in Years 5 and 6 to attend. Sadly, there have been incidents within our school associated with both social media and mobile phone use. This event will help us to raise awareness around these kinds of issues and present ways to combat them.

On Safer Internet Day on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February children had an assembly in school, but with children spending an ever-increasing amount of time online we felt this was the perfect moment to raise awareness around this crucial issue with parents and carers.

The talk will discuss hazards surrounding the kinds of apps and games children use; issues such as age ratings, cyberbullying, grooming, sexting and screen time addiction: with its links to adverse effects on the mental health and wellbeing of children. Also, we will offer solutions such as parental controls, how to easily stay up to date and how to take steps to minimise these dangers. Additionally, there will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the presentation.

***Due to the sensitive nature of the presentation and discussions, this is a parent and carer only event.***

Please contact the office at Rectory Gardens on: 0208 3404898 if you would like to reserve a spot in our creche facility for your child to attend whilst you're in the meeting. Please note – this creche is for St Mary's pupils only.

In the meantime, if you need advice on parental control apps or to check the age recommendations for things your child uses, you can find links to extremely useful sites on our school website. Simply select E-Safety from the parents tab or click here [E-Safety Links](#)

We very much hope you will join us for this important event.

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 6.00pm – at Rectory Gardens**

