



ABINGDON

From: Mr David Wickes - Deputy Head Pastoral

3 February 2012

Dear Parents,

Do you ever feel that your son knows more about online technologies than you do?

Do not worry; you are not alone in this. The Internet and online technologies are playing an increasingly large role in children's lives at school and at home, providing great opportunities for learning, communicating, playing and creating. However, with these opportunities come challenges, particularly about how to keep everyone safe online.

Safer Internet Day is an annual event to promote safe and responsible use of technology among children and young people. The focus of the day this year is "**connecting generations**". It aims to encourage families to explore online technologies together.

We will be having a number of different activities at school next week, including assemblies and tutor periods, which will focus on safety and the use of online technologies. However, we also wanted to promote the day to you as well.

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) is the UK's national centre dedicated to protecting children from harm both online and offline. CEOP's **Thinkuknow** education initiative aims to empower children and young people to enjoy online technologies safely. To help parents participate in this area, CEOP are releasing **Parents' and Carers' Guide to the Internet** – a short, entertaining TV-style programme looking at what it's like to bring children up in the online world. The programme will help you to:

- Stay up-to-date with the technology your sons are using;
- Understand the steps you can take to keep your sons safe online; and
- Know what action to take and where to go for help if things go wrong.

Please visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents on **Tuesday 7 February**. From this day you will be able to view **Parents' and Carers' Guide to the Internet** and will have access to plenty of information about how to keep your sons safe online.

Yours sincerely,

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