

2 November 2017

Dear parents and carers

**Cyber-Safety Fortnight – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November**

As part of our ongoing commitment to Safeguarding at Fairfield, we have organised a Cyber-Safety Fortnight beginning on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November. During this time we will focus on our students' emotional well-being, linked with on-line safety and the responsible use of social media. At Fairfield, our view is that students should learn to use the internet responsibly and safely and we feel it is important to know how to deal swiftly and appropriately with any problems or issues which may arise, and how to be pro-active by using appropriate security and safety settings in on-line and social media accounts. Please find below the activities which will be taking place during the fortnight for both students and parents/carers.

**Assembly**

We will have an assembly in Period 6 next Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November, where students will learn about the lessons, events and sessions organised below.

**Ethics lessons**

In Ethics lessons in Year 7 and Year 8, students will be focusing on Bullying and Cyber Safety using specific lessons designed by Childnet International and endorsed by the PSHE Association. Students will be discussing internet safety and will be recording their thoughts, feelings and findings about how to stay safe on-line.

Year 9 will continue with this term's topic, exploring challenging stereotypes and prejudice, especially those found on-line.

Year 10 and 11 will continue to explore issues of justice in their RS lessons, developing their knowledge of potential on-line pitfalls and how to deal with them.

**ICT lessons**

In these lessons KS3 students will be learning how to modify profile settings across a number of social media sites to improve their safety on-line. In order to do this, students will be asked to bring in their own mobile devices or mobile phones to their time-tabled ICT lessons between 13<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November. Students will be expected to abide by the school's mobile phone policy (ie off and unseen), at all other times of the school day. Student access to the school's WiFi will only be made available in the Computing Suite during each specific lesson and the WiFi password will be changed for every lesson. Students without mobile devices will be accessing profiles on websites using the school's computers. The school is not responsible for the security of personal mobile devices, eg, iPads, whilst they are in school.

There will also be a questionnaire about students' on-line safety and usage which will help inform the school about any further intervention, training or strategies to focus on in the future.

**SELFIE Project**

Years 9 and 10 will be taking part in the SELFIE Project run by outside speakers. SELFIE is an educational resource designed to offer precautionary strategies regarding personal on-line safety and to support young people, professionals and parents.

Topics covered at **an age appropriate level** include gender stereotyping, consent, prevention of sexual violence, its impact and support, sexualisation and social media. There will be an opportunity for parents to talk to a member of the SELFIE Project during the Parents’ Online Safety Session outlined below.

**Strong Young Minds**

Strong Young Mind, a charity promoting the mental health and well-being of children in Herefordshire, are also organising a lunchtime Anti-Bullying workshop on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> open to any interested students in Years 7 to 11.

**Non-uniform day**

We are holding a non-uniform day on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November for Children in Need, to include ‘Odd Socks Day’. The idea of the ‘Odd Socks Day’ is that ‘we are all equal but all different’. Please see the link below for further details.

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/odd-socks-day-anti-bullying-week>

**Parents’ On-line Safety Session**

Fairfield has invited the Youth Engagement Team from West Mercia Police to deliver a Parents’ Online Safety Session on Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup>. The session will start at 6pm and end around 7.30pm and is for parents and carers only. As some of the material is not suitable for children under the age of 16, the Police have requested that the session be for parents and carers only.

I hope that you find the attached information of interest. If you would like to attend the Parents’ On-line Safety Session, please complete the attached reply slip and send it back to school by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November at the latest.

Yours sincerely



Sue Gaston  
Head Teacher

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I would like to attend the Online Safety Parents’ Session on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November between 6pm and 7.30pm.

Parent or carer of (name of student) .....Form.....

Name of parent or carer .....

Number of people attending. ....