West Moors Middle School
Heathfield Way, West Moors
Ferndown, Dorset, BH22 0DA
Telephone: 01202 872474
Email: office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk
www.westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk

Safer Internet Day

3rd February 2022

Dear Parents/Careers,

Here at West Moors Middle we are excited to be introducing a new scheme, Digital leaders. Our digital leaders range from year 5 to year 8 and they have been selected due to their fantastic abilities when online. They will oversee the digital world here at West Moors Middle. There will be Blog on our school website about what they plan to do here at West Moors. The Digital leaders will be able to achieve badges throughout the year, they will achieve the badges for various different tasks and activities. All of our new Digital leaders will be wearing a purple lanyard, if ever your child is in doubt when online, the Digital leaders will always be happy to help at any time – just look out for the purple lanyards.

On **Tuesday 8th February** we will be joining schools and youth organizations across the UK as we celebrate **Safer Internet Day 2022**. Safer Internet Day, a global campaign, promotes the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, careers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to join together in helping to create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote here in West Moors Middle School, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasize the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year. Some of the activities we'll be participating in the afternoon include:

–Our plans for Safer Internet Day 2022–

Your children will be able to experience our activities for a whole afternoon on Tuesday 8th February, below are some of the activities that they will be able to complete to teach them about staying safe online. For the whole afternoon, the children will be able to learn about how the day is going to work and just more of a general idea of why it is so important we stay safe online, as the Year 8 students will be presenting a PowerPoint to the whole school.

KS2: In KS2, it is so important that we inform the students in years 5 and 6 how to stay safe online for when they are older, so they have the knowledge they will need to stay safe and out of trouble.

Year 5 and 6 will have a variety of fun quizzes, learning about the history behind computers and where they came from. They will also be able to understand the reasoning behind age ratings and why they are put in place, also they will have a chance to talk as a class about online safety, and the real reason they are there.

KS3: Here in KS3, we know how important it is that they stay online, especially at their age, activities that will be given and taught to the students in ks3 are listed below:

In years 7 and 8 they will be able to learn about the recommended age for games and social media that they may have access to when at home. They will be able to have a class discussion about the following phrase 'online gaming – is it all fun and games?'. Many of the KS3 students will play games that would be far over their age limit, and we

are really hoping to teach them why age restrictions are put in place and the real dangers that you could face if you do not follow the age restrictions.

Along with all these fantastic activities there will be a whole school poster-making competition, and there will be a winner from each tutor group. The best poster in the whole school will be put up outside on our noticeboard. Their aim is to make the best poster about being online and helpful tips for children to follow when online.

 We would be delighted if you could look at resources that follow and if you're in any doubt about your children's safety when online, these links should help you understand more about safety when in the online world.

Some other resources which you may find helpful in supporting your child online are:

Please note: these links will be shared with your child in our online safety lessons throughout the year and on Tuesday 8th February 2022 – Safer Internet Day.

1. Tips, advice and guides for parents and careers from the **UK Safer Internet Centre** (saferinternet.org.uk/parents)
2. Advice for parents and careers from **Childnet** (**childnet.com/parents-and-carers**)
3. Reviews and information about games, apps, TV shows and websites from Common Sense Media (commonsense.org)
4. Help on using parental controls and privacy settings from **Internet Matters** (internetmatters.org./controls)
5. Information and reporting of online grooming or sexual abuse from **CEOP** (**ceop.police.uk**)

Online safety is an important issue which as a School Community we're committed to teaching our pupils here at West Moors Middle School about how to stay safe when online, as we know how many students at our school are using the internet when at home, and we really are committed to helping our pupils with online safety. It is important to us that our students here at WMMS know how to enjoy the internet whilst staying out of all possible danger.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher, Miss Palamountain (Our head of ICT), the Head Teacher, Or Pupils with a Purple Lanyard.
We do ensure your child will ensure the best possible opportunity about how to stay safe online.

Kind Regards,
The Digital Leaders