



Executive Headteacher: Mr Stephen Snelson

Head of School: Mrs Rachel Watts

Assistant Headteacher: Miss Jessica Hall / Mrs Polly Press

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the last few days, it has come to our attention that some children are part of a Year 6 WhatsApp/Snapchat group. Whilst we recognise that, for the most part, this is a place for fun, laughter and friendly messages we are aware that some children have also used this platform to be extremely unkind to others in this group. As a result, these issues have been brought into school and have had a direct impact on the learning and well-being of the Year 6 cohort at school.

We would be grateful if you could talk to your child about online behaviour and safety. Please can you discuss the level of responsibility that comes with a mobile device and that once images and messages are sent, they remain in the public domain.

As the minimum age for a WhatsApp account is 16, we would strongly urge that this group be closed as soon as possible. Whilst we realise that children will inevitably want to talk to each other online, it is vital that they know how to conduct themselves appropriately and how they seek help if they are concerned about things that they see and hear.

The following guide may be useful:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/>

Further information can also be found here:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Yours Faithfully,

Steve Snelson, Rachel Watts, Jessica Hall and Polly Press

Senior Leadership Team



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