



**The John Harrox Primary School**  
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Head Teacher: Mr. D. Pilsworth



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Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school, we have a robust e-safety curriculum which aims to educate children in the appropriate use of technologies, ways to remain safe online and what to do when they experience inappropriate or abusive communication online. These important lessons are also reiterated and supported by the work of the Lincolnshire Stay Safe partnership and our PHSE curriculum.

This term, we have needed to address an increasing number of online safety issues. These have included the sending of inappropriate messages and voice chats that were abusive in nature. The language used within these chats has also caused great concern. These online conversations can then continue to impact on the children on their return to school, effecting their well-being and their learning.

These online conversations always occur when the children are out of school, and we are therefore requesting that you are vigilant in how you monitor your children's access to their digital devices. Please ensure that appropriate parental controls are set on their devices and that you regularly check their use of apps, the conversations they are having and the content they are both viewing and sharing. The following link directs you to support and guidance on adjusting parental settings for your child's phone or for specific apps: <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/>.

This morning, the children within year 5 and 6 participated in a discussion about cyberbullying, what it is and the consequences it can have. The discussion also focused on the use of homophobic language and the use of the word 'gay' to mean something is 'rubbish' or 'stupid'.

It is incredibly important that we work together to help all our children navigate the challenges presented by the online world and we hope you will support the school in our endeavour to educate the children to have fun online whilst remaining respectful and safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr. D Pilsworth  
Head Teacher

