

18.03.14

## Instagram/Facebook and E-Safety

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to you, as we are finding that an increasing amount of teaching time is being consumed by out of school issues around messaging on social networking sites, particularly Instagram.

As a school, we are concerned about 'Instagram' and the behaviours we are seeing in class due to the effects of inappropriate and nasty behaviour and bad language. Due to this we have today spoken to all the children to give them some initial guidance on this subject, and we will be providing the children with further Internet safeguarding training from our local Police Community Support Officer.

We would like to also make you aware of the issues that we are facing so that, you too, can speak to your child and closely monitor their use of the internet out of school.

As parents, we'd like to make you aware that, like Facebook, Instagram is not authorised to be used by children under the age of 13. However, we know that many of our Year 6 children are using it, and not always appropriately. Cyber bullying and the safe use of the internet is part of our ICT and PHSCE curriculum, and we are continually adding to our website to promote the safe use of the internet. Please look at these parent support pages so that we can work in partnership on this issue and talk to your child about this issue. We will be speaking to specific parents next week at Parent's evening, but if you are concerned in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Yours Sincerely

Mr J Fox and Mrs J Ashley-Jones