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19th December 2017

Dear Families,

We know that Christmas time is a popular time for giving and receiving new 'gadgets' and, in this ever changing world of technology, it is important to keep children safe online. We thought it may be useful to share some of the E-Safety advice we regularly receive.

If your child is getting a new phone or tablet for Christmas, you may wish to consider some monitoring software to keep a parental eye on what they're doing. There are plenty available to download, some are free some you have to pay a small subscription.

- Check those age ratings before you download Apps and games.
- For advice and instructions on setting up the most popular devices (parental controls, internet filters etc.) see the **Internet Matters** website <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/interactive-guide/>
- We all know **YouTube** is a fantastic resource and full of interesting, factual, useful, funny content however it can also contain some highly inappropriate videos. Please do talk to your children about the different videos/channels they watch. Just because a thumbnail or title appears child-friendly it doesn't mean it is. Also be sure to check if they have their own channel and upload their own videos.
- You can help protect your children by enabling RESTRICTED MODE (<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/interactive-guide/>) have a look through their watch/search history and, for younger children, you could consider using YouTube Kids.

Enjoy those gadgets safely and have fun this Christmas.

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