Speak out. Stay safe. parents/carers letter

West Road Primary Academy
West Road
Moorends
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DN8 4LH

16 May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* online programme

I am pleased to tell you that this term we will be participating in the **NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* online** programme. This consists of an online assembly and supporting classroom based activities. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands. It aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

In the online assembly, the *Speak out. Stay safe*. messages are delivered in a fun and interactive way with the help of their mascot Buddy as well as special guest appearances from Ant and Dec.

We have studied the content of the materials and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of the programme, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme you can find information on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout or I would be happy to discuss any questions that you may have.

Additional resources

Activities for children at home

Keep busy while learning about staying safe and speaking out with our at-home activities for primary school children. These are hosted on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/activities.

Online safety hub

You may also like to visit the NSPCC Online Safety Hub where you will find advice and information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing nudes, parental controls and more.

You will also find online safety information for families of children with additional needs and disabilities. We have worked with Ambitious about Autism and parents and carers who have children with additional needs and disabilities to create activities to help talk about online safety which you can find at www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-families-children-with-send.

Childline Under 12's Website

Childline also have a website with age appropriate advice for primary school children on topics such as bullying. It also has games and other interactive tools. Your child can visit it at www.childline.org.uk/kids.

The Childline website has an accessibility tool too, you can find out about it by clicking on the accessibility link in the Get Support menu. Children can use it to:

- Read the website out to them
- Change the text size and font
- Change webpages to just text only
- Add a mask or ruler to help them focus on just part of the page
- Magnify parts of the webpage
- Translate the website in to over 120 languages

Talking PANTS with your children

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides a simple but important message that can help keep children safe. You can find out more and download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.

Penguin and Ladybird have partnered with the NSPCC to create a Pantosaurus book aimed at children aged 4 - 8. You can find copies of the new book on sale at https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/ or in Matalan's selected stores. All profits from the sale of this book will support the NSPCC.

Support the NSPCC

You may be interested in the NSPCC's new selection of BUDDY goodies available from the NSPCC shop at https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/collections/buddy which make perfect gifts for children - and all profits go to help keep children safe.

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website www.nspcc.org.uk/parents.

Yours faithfully

Miss A Northwood
Assistant Headteacher