

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

## SAFEGUARDING – KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

Do you know who your child is talking to online? Did you buy your child an internet-connected device for Christmas? A survey conducted by the children's charity Barnardo's has found just 55% of parents will monitor who their children speak to online. (Daily Telegraph 30/12/17)

Barnardo's Chief Executive, Javed Khan said: Internet connected devices like tablets and iPhones can also come in the guise of harmless dolls or teddy bears and potentially allow strangers to pinpoint your address, obtain your child's name and birthday, download their photograph and even listen in on conversations.

### Read the article:

[https://www.barnardos.org.uk/news/Adults-risk-leaving-children-vulnerable-to-online-dangers-this-Christmas-Barnardo8217s-survey-reveals/press\\_releases.htm?ref=127676](https://www.barnardos.org.uk/news/Adults-risk-leaving-children-vulnerable-to-online-dangers-this-Christmas-Barnardo8217s-survey-reveals/press_releases.htm?ref=127676)

### Check!

- What information does the toy collect? • Will the toy take pictures and/or store recordings of the child?
- Where is the information collected stored? • Does the toy require location services to work?
- Can location services be switched off? • Does the toy require a password?
- Who can interact with the toy? • Are parental controls available? • How are parental controls accessed?

### Review the checklist from 'Which'

To help keep your family safe the consumer organisation Which has compiled a smart toy checklist of the things you need to be aware of **before** buying a connected toy **and once you've brought one home**. Access via the following link : <https://www.which.co.uk/documents/pdf/connected-toy-safety-469632.pdf>

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Safer Internet Day  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Dance celebration  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Half term  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Pupils return  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Meldon to Dartmoor Zoo  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February – Pupil Progress Meetings  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Pupil Progress Meetings  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March – World Book Day  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Bonnet Parade  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Last Day of Term  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Pupils return  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Class photos  
**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Non Pupil Day**

## ACTS OF WORSHIP

The focus for the acts of worship and prayers in class next week will be "The wonder of God's love is found in the wonder of God's creation. We must share and care for this."

## CATHOLIC LIFE AND RE QUESTIONNAIRES

Thank you to everyone who returned the questionnaire about the Catholic life of the school and Religious Education at St Mary's. The results, which are on the reverse of this letter, will be discussed by the governing body and actions will be agreed to address the areas where we need to improve.

## ATTENDANCE FIGURES

19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Meldon	92.86%
Venford	97.20%
Fernworthy	95.65%
Burrator	87.00%
<b>Whole school this week</b>	<b>92.66%</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>95.76%</b>



We have slipped below this year's target of **96%** - please help us to get back on track!

## ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY

Today, we celebrated the following successes in our achievement assembly:



### Building Learning Power – Top Scorers!

Meldon – **Grace, Harry**  
Fernworthy – **Renais, Holly B-D**

Venford – **Sophia, Madeleine**  
Burrator – **Aidan C-W, Hannah Wh**

