



Online Safety The issue of children accessing inappropriate social media sites and playing adult themed games has sadly, once again reared it's ugly head. Children of primary age accessing sites such as 'WhatsApp' and 'Snapchat' simply do not have the resilience or maturity to deal with the harmful content that can sometimes appear on these sites. Social media sites are increasingly being used by criminals to infiltrate groups set up by children with the sole intention of exploiting them. This is not an urban issue. Criminals are specifically targeting children in rural communities where their activity can sometimes go unobserved or where children are perceived as being less 'streetwise'. Added to this, is the number of children playing games that are way beyond their age-range. Online games of an adult nature provide criminals with another means of communicating with children and despite the best intentions by parents, children can be manipulated and coerced into worrying behaviour/activity. Children's well-being can be harmed by what they are accessing online and often schools are having to deal with the aftermath. In some cases, children are coming to school tired, worried, with poor attention and poor communication skills because of spending too much time on inappropriate sites/games, often late into the night. This can all be avoided by parents only allowing children limited access to age-appropriate content online.



13-17 May -
SATs week

21 May - Road
Safety assembly

24 May - Break
up

4 Jun - Back to
school

Whatsapp - 16+
Snapchat - 13+
TikTok - 13+
Instagram - 13+
Facebook - 13+
Fortnite - 13+

These are some inappropriate social media sites / games that children in our schools are accessing on a daily basis. See below guidance from the NSPCC on how you can keep your children safe online. Thank you.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/>

And finally... I hope you enjoy whatever you have planned for the Bank Holiday weekend and that the weather doesn't spoil your plans. We are back to school on **Tuesday 7th May.**

Our whole school theme this half term is 'Changes in History'