

27.2.19

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **ONLINE SAFETY ADVICE – CYBERBULLYING IN SOCIAL MEDIA**

There has been a recent report in the media of another disturbing online 'game'. The alleged form of cyberbullying spreads through social media and mobile phones. It is hard to know whether these games are real, where they come from and what to do about it. You may be worried about the effects of these rumours, and whether or not they are real. Here are five ideas that may help:

#### **Do Your Research**

Find out and learn more about what children are getting up to while online. Find out what your child is looking at and judge for yourself if it is appropriate.

#### **Talk To Your Child**

Knowing how to block and report inappropriate content can help to start to make a difference. Look at Thinkuknow. The website is connected to the Police and CEOP and offers advice that is targeted appropriately to the age of your child.

#### **Take Them Seriously**

It doesn't matter if the fear is real or proportionate, if it is scaring your child, it is worth listening.

#### **Understand Technology**

It can be hard keeping up with which app, game or social messaging service kids are using. If you want information on the latest technology, consider checking out parentzone. There are sections ranging from explaining the game Fortnite, to what game age ratings really mean.

#### **Report Any Serious Risk of Harm**

Take a look at the CEOP online safety centre. You can make a report to one of CEOP's Child Protection Advisors if you are worried about online sexual abuse, or the way someone has been communicating with your child online. You can also do this through our website by clicking the CEOP report abuse button.

R.L. Munro  
Head Teacher

