

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Headteacher
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Dear Parents / Carers

IMPORTANT E-SAFETY NOTICE

Our school is participating alongside hundreds of other schools across the UK in Safer Internet Day. Today the children have been learning how to use the internet and social media safely and positively.

It has been brought to our attention that a number of our children have Whats App accounts, an instant messaging app for smartphones. **Please can we remind you that the Whats App Terms of Service requires users to be age 16 or older so no child at Westfield Primary should be accessing a Whats App account.** There have been occasions recently where we have dealt with situations where children have posted inappropriate language and comments. Children are often creating 'groups' to which others are joining. This means that all the information is shared with anyone who is in the group so privacy is lost and strangers can be added to the group.

Through lessons provided at school, we do our best to provide our children with the awareness and knowledge of how to keep safe online. However, it is only through a collaborative effort between parents and teaching staff that we will succeed in creating safe, responsible social media users.

We recommend that all parents visit the CEOP Think U Know website for more information on keeping your child safe online www.thinkuknow.co.uk www.net-aware.org.uk and www.getsafeonline.org Please ensure that you also monitor your child's online activity.

Thank you for your continued support.

Regards,



Suzanne Stace
Headteacher

