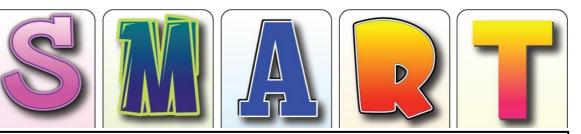# ICT NEWSLETTER

Term 2 2024-2025

Many of you will have signed up to the Safer Schools NI app. The app can be found on the App Store. This is the QR code for our school. The app will alert you of anything significant in relation to online usage for your child/children.

Parent/Carer Primary
Islandmagee Primary

SAFER SCHOOLS NI

Login Code: 5513

SMART

REMEMBER OUR SMART RULES FOR ICT

Go through these regularly with your child.

Secret—Always keep your name, address, mobile phone number and password private— it's like giving out the keys to your home!

Meeting—Someone you have contacted in cyberspace can be dangerous. Only do so with your parent's/carer's permission, and only, then when they can be present.

Accepting—emails or opening files from people you don't know or trust can get you into trouble—they may contain viruses or nasty messages.

Remember—someone on-line may be lying and not be who they say they are. Stick to the public areas in chat rooms and if you feel uncomfortable simply get out of there!

Tell—your parent or carer if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried.

Safer Internet Day falls within the half term holidays this year.

At Islandmagee PS we will be completing some Internet Safety related activities the previous week. (3rd-7th February) The PSNI will be visiting our assembly on Friday 7th February to chat about online safety.

Safer Internet Day 2025 | Tuesday 11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

SBNI
Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland

A great website for parents and pupils. The SBNI website provides advice on many aspects of online safety. From gaming to screen time and much more. Through this website you can subscribe to receive regular updates.

The Smart Rules for Internet Safety are:

Secret—Always keep your name, address, mobile phone number and password private— it's like giving out the keys to your home!

Meeting—Someone you have contacted in cyberspace can be dangerous. Only do so with your parent's/carer's permission, and only, then when they can be present.

Accepting—emails or opening files from people you don't know or trust can get you into trouble—they may contain viruses or nasty messages.

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Tell—your parent or carer if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried.

Parental Guidance
Sites and links.
www.ceop.police.uk
www.childline.org.uk
www.cybermentors.org.uk
www.kidsmart.org.uk
www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Partnership
1) Parents will read this leaflet and the E-safety policy.
2) Parents will attend any school events regarding E-safety.
3) Parents do/do not give permission for images to be used via annual GDPR Questionnaire

Cyberbullying
Can be defined as, 'the use of ICT, particularly mobile phones and the internet to deliberately hurt or upset someone.'
In Islandmagee Primary School we do not tolerate this behaviour and any incidents occurring in school will be dealt with through our Behaviour and Anti-bullying policies.
Whilst school cannot be held responsible for matters of cyberbullying that originate outside school times and environment, we will address all matters relating to pastoral care, safeguarding and learning.

E-Safety Policy
Our E-safety policy therefore covers issues relating to pupils, staff, parents and the school community regarding the safe use of the Internet, mobile phones and other electronic communication technologies both in and

Islandmagee Primary School

Information for parents.

E-Safety

What is the Internet?

The Internet is a huge network of computers making a worldwide community. It is a way of connecting computers together so that people using them can:

- Talk to each other and have fun.
- Send and receive messages.
- Obtain information and resources.
- Publish information.
- Buy and sell things.

Why do we use the Internet in school?

In our school the pupils now interact with technologies such as ipads, computers, cameras and the Internet on a daily basis.

The Internet is a unique and exciting resource bringing the world into the classroom. It has many educational benefits:

- It gives children opportunities to find up to date information that might otherwise be unavailable in school.
- It provides fast and efficient communication.
- It encourages independent learning and children enjoy using it.
- Children develop a range of ICT skills using the Internet.
- Use of the Internet is an essential skill for children as they grow up in the modern world.

What are the Dangers for my child?

The Internet is available to all. Unfortunately this means it potentially can bring young people into contact with unsuitable persons. Children should be taught:

- People they encounter on the Internet are not always who they say they are.
- That they should never give personal details to a stranger on the Internet.
- That they should never meet alone with anyone contacted via the Internet.

Some material on the Internet can be inappropriate for children as it may contain unsuitable information or images. Children need to know how to respond to unsuitable materials or requests on the Internet.

They should be taught.

- To tell a parent, teacher or other trusted adult immediately if they find unsuitable material.
- To tell a parent, teacher or other trusted adult immediately if they are requested to do something that makes them feel worried and/or uncomfortable.

What do we do in School?

In our school we do everything we can to protect children using the Internet:

- All access to the Internet is provided through a filtered service.
- Internet use is supervised by an adult.
- Children discuss and investigate Internet Safety issues as part of their UICT and PDMU programme.
- Children are taught Internet Safety rules (see overleaf for the E-SMART rules).
- E-safety posters are displayed around school.

What can you do at home?

It is important to promote Internet Safety in the home and to take an interest in what your children are doing on the Internet.

- Keep the computer in an area of your home where you can see your child using it.
- Know which technologies (mobile phones, gaming devices) provide Internet access and discuss this with your child.
- Keep an eye on the clock! Too much time spent on the Internet is unhealthy.
- Remind children that there are websites which are unsuitable. If they come across unsuitable materials, they must tell you.
- Know the E-SMART rules and discuss them with your child.
- Utilise parental restrictions.

#WakeUpWednesday®
formally National Online Safety

The aim of this website is to equip every trusted adult with the knowledge and skills they need to keep up with the latest information, implement best practice and heighten their awareness of issues around three core topics; online safety, mental health & wellbeing; and climate change & sustainability.

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

13 is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps.

X (formally Twitter), Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Messenger

TikTok, Discord, Snapchat, Twitch, Yubo

Reddit, YouTube, BeReal, WhatsApp

A reminder of the age restrictions for these apps. These age restrictions have been put in place to keep your child/children safe.
Parents must take responsibility to ensure they are vigilant with their children's internet usage.