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A Learning Ladder for Life

16th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL PARENTS - ONLINE SAFETY and DOKI DOKI

DOKI DOKI

We have had a few incidents reported to us over the past week where children have accessed the website Doki Doki. This website is not age appropriate and does contain a range of potentially harmful content to young people. We are therefore writing to advise parents not to allow their children to access this site.

Doki Doki Literature Club is a free-to-play, visual novel online game that begins like a 'cute, romantic novel' set in a school. Players take on the role of the boy, who interacts with other characters. The plot begins with the characters chatting within a school environment but soon descends into dark themes such as suicide and violence. Attached to this letter is a factsheet for parents, published by National Online Safety, which contains some basic information about the website. Please be warned that this factsheet includes some of the graphics from the website, which are not appropriate for children to see.

ONLINE SAFETY

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents of some basic preventative measures that we would advise parents to employ to keep their children safe, whilst being online.

- Set appropriate parental controls and use filters for home computers and devices (such as games consoles, tablets and smartphones).
- Talk to your child about what they are doing online and ask them to show you the apps and sites they use.
- Ensure your child understands how anyone can copy and share images or messages posted online and the importance of keeping their personal information and images safe.
- Ensure that privacy settings and age restrictions are discussed and in place for the websites and apps that your child uses.
- Ensure, whenever possible, that your child accesses the internet in family rooms where their behaviour and communications can be monitored by a responsible adult.
- Limit the amount of time your child spends on social media and set clear boundaries on when and where they are allowed access to their phone.
- www.childnet.com and www.thinkuknow.co.uk has some really useful tips and ideas for parents/carers about starting conversations about online safety.

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Director of Primary : Mr M Wilson

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Registered in England No: 07344732



- Always ensure your child knows how to report and block people online who may send nasty or inappropriate messages or content. Encourage your child not to retaliate or reply to cyberbullying and to keep any evidence.
- Make sure your child knows it's important that they tell an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable.

Please speak to your children about online safety. Parents should understand this must be an ongoing conversation over time, not a one off. Together we can help one another keep all children safe at South Borough.

Thank you for taking the time to read this very important message,

Yours sincerely

Mr M Currie
Head of School