



Jennett's Park CE Primary School

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Year 5 Whatsapp Groups

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Dear Parents,

We write to you to alert you to some Year 5 WhatsApp groups. We assume, as sensible parents, that you have trusted your child/children to use WhatsApp (an Age 16 recommended app or 12+ according to the iStore) because you feel that they are mature enough and that you are monitoring their messages in some way. Unfortunately, it appears that some of that trust has been broken. We have seen and had further reports of some unkind words being used online.

Later this term, in our e-safety week, we will spend some time discussing digital messaging. We are pleased that children have reported what they have seen to teachers but the core message is, "If you wouldn't say it to someone's face then don't type it." and remember that our Rainbow Promise doesn't stop at the school gate. We want them to take those strong values; to change our community; to change our country; to change the world.

We are here to work together. It is a team effort and we will always follow things up, even if they occur outside of school. Both classes have been spoken to. They have been reminded. We have also said that trust is key. When we are away on residential, we will need to be able to trust them. We will not be able to watch them every second of every day. If we are unable to trust that they will be kind to each other, we will find it very hard to take those individuals on the trip. We finished with asking them what they would like to see. The overwhelming response was kindness. Let's be the change we want to see. We concluded with watching this clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oKjW1OIjuw> We don't consider this to be bullying (it is not repeated or sustained) but the core message of kindness conquers is powerful.

We would like to take this chance to refer you to the Jennett's Park website, where we have a page on safety, <https://www.jennetts.bonitas.org.uk/esafety> as well as information on using whatsapp safely. <https://www.jennetts.bonitas.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/whatsapp-2023.jpg>

Thank you for your support with this. Children come to school not just to learn academically but to learn how to become a better person. Together we will make that Rainbow Promise shine brightly.

Miss Picton and Mrs Venediktou

Year 5 Team

