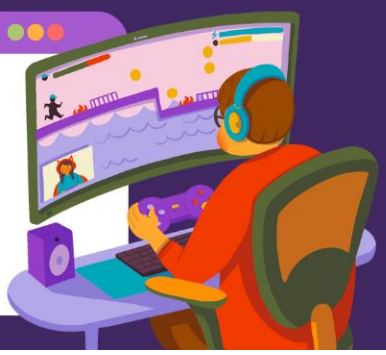
ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026



Staying Safe with AI: What Parents Need to Know

This year for **Safer Internet Day**, our school has been learning about how to use **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** safely and responsibly. Many families already use AI tools at home, such as **voice assistants** (like Alexa, Siri, or Google Assistant) and chatbots (such as Chat GPT or Co Pilot). These tools can be incredibly helpful—children can quickly find answers to factual questions, practise spellings, translate words or they can be used for entertainment.

However, it's important for children to understand that AI is **not a substitute for real-life adults**, teachers or trusted sources. While these tools can feel friendly, they do not "think" or "understand" in the way people do. They **sometimes get things wrong, misunderstand questions, or provide information that isn't appropriate for young users**.

Here are some simple ways to help keep children safe:

- **Use AI together**: Encourage children to ask questions while you're nearby, especially with new tools they haven't used before.
- **Discuss the difference between people and AI**: Remind them that AI can make mistakes and that not everything it says should be trusted.
- **Check privacy settings**: Make sure devices don't store unnecessary recordings or personal information.
- **Encourage critical thinking**: If something sounds odd or surprising, children should stop and ask an adult.

By **talking openly about AI at home and school**, we can help children enjoy the benefits of these exciting technologies while staying safe and confident online.

Cyber Ambassador update

Our cyber ambassadors have this term been **leading events on safer internet day**. The children led an assembly to raise **awareness of AI** including voice assistants. They did a fantastic job at informing the rest of the school on what AI is and where we see it in our day-to-day lives. The cyber ambassadors discussed many of the **advantages of AI** while also **highlighting the risks** of using the technology. On safer internet day, the children created fantastic posters about how to stay safe online. Soon, our cyber ambassadors will be choosing **two winners** to put on display. It will be a hard choice for our judges!

Online Safety Top Tip

Encourage your children to use devices in **shared family spaces** such as the living room or kitchen. This way you can **notice what they are doing** and step in if something doesn't seem right. You can also keep **an open, casual discussion** ongoing about what they are watching or playing.