

Infants:
Etsome Terrace,
Somerton, TA11 6LY

Tel: 01458 272537
kinginainfants@educ.somerset.gov.uk

KING INA



CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Juniors:
School Lane, Kirkham St.,
Somerton, TA11 7NL

Tel: 01458 272587
kinginajunior@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Registered Office: School Lane, Kirkham Street, Somerton, Somerset TA11 7NL

Wednesday 27th February 2019

Dear Parents

5th February 2019 was Safer Internet Day when children across the Academy took part in activities designed to help them stay safe when online.

All children also completed a survey, asking them about their use of the internet. We continue to be aware that a growing number of our children are playing certain games and using social media sites, even though the minimum age to have a Facebook account is 13 and in the case of some games they should be 18 years old to play them. Please do consider the appropriateness of sites that your children are being exposed to, either through older family members or at their friends' homes; our advice is to adhere to the age limits, they are there for very good reasons.

We would like to draw your attention to a particularly concerning online danger currently facing our children:

The Momo challenge pops up whilst children are using apps, interrupting their play or viewing. A character hatches from an egg and appears to play a game of hide and seek. It quickly turns in to something much more dangerous, giving children instructions or challenges that would seriously harm them. The character proceeds to threaten the children if they do not take up the challenge and tells them not to tell family members. Please find attached to this letter a factsheet for parents containing information about the Momo challenge. We urge you to research this further so that you are fully aware of the dangers.

School staff will be speaking to the children about staying safe online and helping them to know what to do should they encounter upsetting content.

Whilst pupils are on the internet in school, there are robust filters in place but this may well not be the case at home. We cannot stress enough how important it is to carefully monitor your children's internet use and to have open conversations with them about the dangers and how to stay safe.

www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers and www.vodafoneparenting.co.uk offers excellent advice and guidance for parents and carers on helping children stay safe online.

If you would like to discuss any issues covered in this letter, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

S Svenson

S Svenson
Headteacher