



# EASTERN NEWS

Friday 15th November

This week we felt it was important to let you know about some of the apps and computer programs that children are using. Particularly in the run up to Christmas when new technology is on many Christmas lists to Santa! As parents ourselves, it is surprising to learn about certain apps and we are sure that you would like to have the same information. Please take some time to read the information in this newsletter, which could potentially help your child avoid any unnecessary harm. There is also lots of information on the website [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk) which is certainly worth spending a bit of time reading.

## What is happening in our diary?

Mon 18/11/19	Parent's evening meetings
Tues 19/11/19	3pm - 4pm Parents teaching reading
Fri 22/11/2019	Y6 - transition / Language, Literacy and Communication
Wed 27/11/2019 to Wed 04/12/2019	School Book Fayre
Fri 06/12/2019	Year 5 - transition day Design and Technology Day 'Festive Fun'
Thurs 12/12/2019	Mrs Thomas's class Christmas concert 2:00pm
Fri 13/12/2019	Mrs Thomas's class Christmas concert 9:30am
Friday 13/12/2019	Christmas Jumper Day
Tue 17/12/2019	Christmas concert day
Wed 18/12/2019	Christmas concert day
Fri 20/12/2019	Last day of term
Mon 06/01/2020	INSET DAY
Tue 07/01/2020	Children back to school
Fri 31/01/2020	Y6 - transition / Humanities Day
Mon 17/02/2020	Half term
Mon 24/02/2020	Back to school
Tue 17/03/2020	Y5 - transition / Creativity at YCB 'Little Shop of Horrors'
Fri 03/04/2020	Last day of term
Mon 20/04/2020	Back to school
Mon 25/05/2020	Half term
Tue 16/06/2020	Y6 - transition / Science and Technology Day
Fri 26/06/2020	Y5 - Maths in the Park, Margam Park

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

We were really surprised this week to learn that school has made £31.76 through easyfunding! In fact, we have to say a big thank you to Mrs Hinder who has earned the school over £200 simply by shopping online through this website. If you shop online, please visit this website first, it costs nothing and is easy to use, please check it out!

## Pudsey Day!

Thank you all for your kind donations to this important charity, we will count up the total and let you know as soon as possible.

## Reading at home

Following our parent's evening we will be holding a reading at home session on Tuesday 19th November. If you want to find out how you can improve your child's reading at home, please call in between 3 and 4pm.

## Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 school trip!

We have been very busy behind the scenes organising an important and special trip for these three classes to Liberty Stadium! Details will follow soon.

## Being safe in school.

When you visit the school, please wait at the school office. This rule is protect you, as well as the children. If you need to come into the school building for any reason, Mrs John in the office will always help.



## School Contact Details

website - [easternprimary.co.uk](http://easternprimary.co.uk)

email - [easternprimary@npt.school](mailto:easternprimary@npt.school)

twitter - @schooleastern

telephone - 01639 882819





**Flinch** – by makers of OoVoo.

Stare at the other person and the first to smile, laugh or 'flinch' loses the match. However the other person can be a complete stranger, of any age, from any country and can say or do anything. **Concerns-** It can be an easy platform for sexual predators, cyberbullies and criminals

to gain access to targets. Live video streaming.

No parental controls.



**Whisper-** This 17+ app's motto is: "Share Secrets, Express Yourself, Meet New People." that allows users to post whatever is on their minds along with an image, which other users can then "like," share, or comment on. **Concerns-** 'Whispers' are often sexual in nature with some users using the app to hook up with people nearby. Content can be dark with 'Whisper topics' including insecurity and depression. The app also encourages users to exchange information in the 'Meet Up' section, and also shows a user's location.



**Tik Tok and Musical.ly (merged August 2018):** Allows teens to make and share 15 second music videos. These feature users lip-syncing to the latest songs provided by the app, singing their own songs or doing comedy skits.

According the Common Sense Media site, many parents believe that the app should be used by teens aged 16 year old and over. This is mainly due to the number of songs with sexual and explicit content featured on the app and the instance of inappropriate profile pictures and usernames being used.



**Sarahah:** Anonymous feedback app – associated with bullying and was one of the most downloaded iPhone apps in the UK and the US in August.

The app is classified as 17-plus, and users must be over that age to download it from Apple.

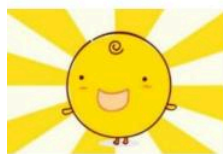
However, this requirement is easy to circumvent and the site has no age verification mechanism



**Rando 4Me–** This is an app allowing you to easily exchange photos with strangers all over the world. You take a picture and send it away. As soon as your photo has landed somewhere in the universe, you receive a photo back from a stranger. **Concerns-** Indecent images being sent to young persons.



**Blindr-** is a dating / flirting app used to meet new people through GPS location services. You can send messages, photos and videos via the app. **Concerns** around sexual predators, sexting and the fact that there are no age restrictions.



**SimSimi** - is an artificial intelligence chatting robot also known as a chatbot. Chatbots are computer programmes that simulate human conversations on the internet. With the development of artificial intelligence, chatbots are becoming more prominent. **Concerns** due to most of the content on the app contains offensive language and sexual content may cause upset for some users. Local schools have already circulated their concerns regarding this app to

parents

SimSimi is free to download to smartphone and can be accessed via desktop computer. The app mascot is a colourful, anime style character which is appealing to young people. The popular app encourages users to continue conversations by using playful language, however much of the language on the app is offensive or contains sexual content. SimSimi is also anonymous, making it easy for users to leave hurtful comments about others.



**Yubo (formerly Yellow)** - also labelled as 'Tinder for Kids' and 'Teenager Tinder' doesn't bill itself as a dating app but as an app to make new friends on Snapchat. You just connect your Snapchat account, upload a selfie and swipe left or right to connect with new people to follow. If both agree to 'liking' each other than you can communicate on chat apps including Snapchat and Kik.



**Concerns** regarding sexual predators who could exploit the app and set up fake profiles and message teenage users. There are also fears around inappropriate images and chat on the site which is used by children as young as 10 years of age. There are no checks on users' age.



**Tumblr**- Many children and young teens are active on this 17+ photo-sharing app. It can be used for sharing videos and chatting. **Concerns**- users can easily access pornographic, violent, and inappropriate content. Users need to jump through hoops to set up privacy settings and until then, all of a user's photo and content is public for all to see. Mental health experts say that Tumblr can be damaging to adolescents' mental health because it tends to glorify self-harm and eating disorders.



**Poof**- Hides other apps on your phone. You select which apps you would like to hide and their icons will no longer show up on your smartphone screen. **Concerns**- This app is dangerous as children have apps that they want to keep hidden from their parents, all they have to do is download this app and "poof," their screen is clear of any questionable apps.



**Skout**- is a 'flirting app' that allows users to sign up as adults or teens. They are then placed in appropriate peer groups, where they can post feeds, pictures and chat. Users get notifications when other users in the area join and when someone 'checks' them out however points must be paid to see who it is. **Concerns** as there is no age verification.



**MyLOL**- is a dating site for teenagers aged 13-20 years, although some users are up to 25 years. You can view other people's profiles and search for others based on age, gender and location. You can also post on its forum, send instant messages and make video calls. **Concerns** around paedophiles using the app.

According an article in [The Bristol Post](#), 'A Sunday Mirror reporter posed as a 13-year-old girl to sign up to the site as part of their investigation. Within minutes she was bombarded with private messages from six men. Three of these were grown men. One user called Jamie69 claimed to be a 14-year-old boy from South Hayling, Hants'. He wasted no time asking if the conversation could be moved to a Skype video call – so they could do 'naughty' things. The undercover reporter replied that she had never done anything like that before. He then replied: 'I'll go first'. She then asked if he knew she was 13 and, chillingly, he said he did. Shockingly but not surprisingly a quick Google search with his details revealed he was actually an American man in his 40's.

The NSPCC corroborated this report saying it took only 3 minutes for one of their people to find a 24 year old man messaging a 13 year old girl. The site allows anyone aged 13-24 to message, give contact details and send pictures and takes no responsibility for interaction between adults and children and teenagers.



**BigoLive**- is described as a platform where you can start your own live stream and watch 'talented performers'. **Concerns** around inappropriate streaming and child grooming. It is believed that grown adults are making inappropriate requests to children. The app also makes available personal information on children.



**Vigo Video** – Flipagram has changed to Vigo Video. Vigo Video is a video maker that lets you make 15 second clips from the photos and videos on your phone. You can edit them, add filters and share your creation with others.

By default, all privacy settings are switched off. This means that users profiles will be public and they will have to go into their privacy settings to ensure their account is not public to all users.

'Hide location' is automatically switched off in privacy settings, so users will need to activate it in order to protect your location.

There is a 'Nearby' section that brings up local users.



**Discord** - Parents need to know that Discord - Chat for Gamers is a voice- and text-chat tool geared toward gamers. Its developers created it to replace other voice-over-internet protocol (VOIP) apps that gamers use to talk to each other in real time while they play games, especially [MMOs](#). Users can log in to with a username, and they can add friends, join a server, chat by logging in with a code provided from an email

invitation or from a real-life friend. Users can send direct messages to other users, chat, and talk or listen in larger group chats. While there are good features available for opting in to conversations, this is still a social-networking app, and it's primarily geared toward adults. As you might find on any social network, there are occasional issues with abusive language. Also, though the app doesn't generate iffy content, many players are discussing mature games, so sex, violence, and substances are often a part of the conversation.

Been used by the alt-right and far right groups such as for planning for Charlottesville riots.



Open environment game where players make decisions with free reign to complete a crime-ridden journey. Graphic violence. Not many parental controls due to 18+ age restrictions.



**Omegle** is a free online chat website that allows users to socialize with others without the need to register. It is a platform whereby people are encouraged to 'chat to strangers'. The service randomly pairs users in one-on-one chat sessions where they chat anonymously using the names "You" and "Stranger" or "Stranger 1" and "Stranger 2" in the case of Spy mode. The site now provides a mobile application that lets users chat with strangers from mobile devices.

# GIVE IT A GO!

## Greetings / Cyfarchion

Good morning - Bore da

Good afternoon - Prynhawn da

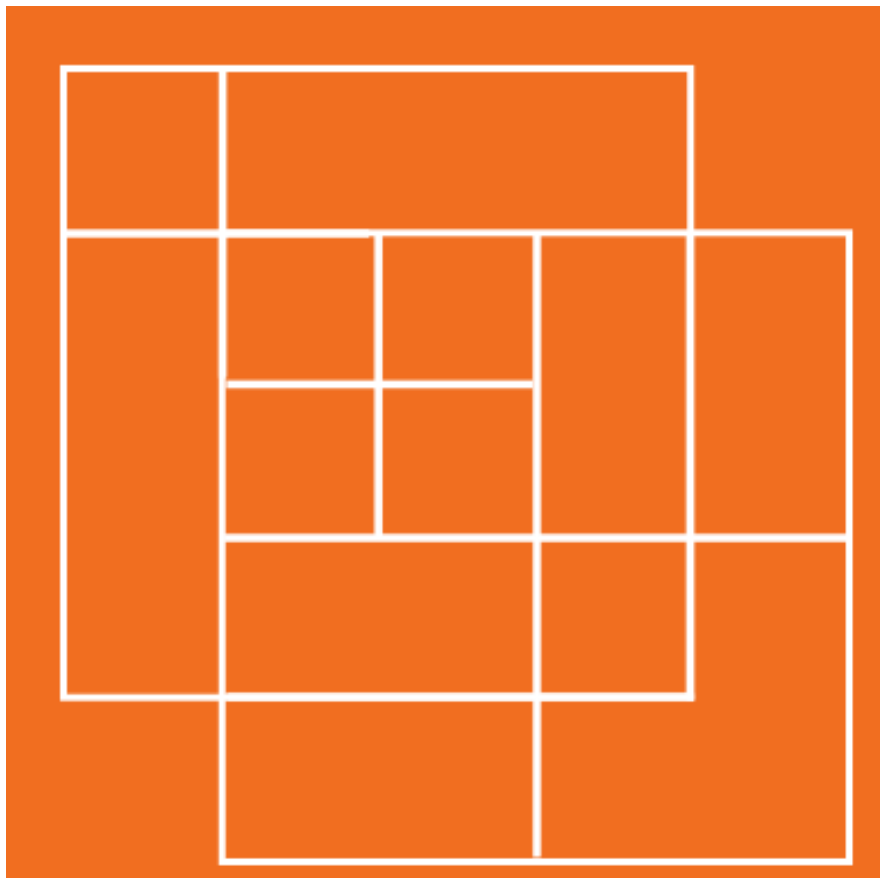
Good evening - Noswaith dda

Good night - Nos da

Hello - Helo

Goodbye - Hwyl fawr

## Puzzle page...



How many  
squares?

What is the car's parking spot number?

