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**Safer Internet Day (SID) – Tuesday 10th February 2015**

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Safer Internet Day was celebrated globally today, with the slogan ‘*Let’s create a better internet together’*.  For me, it was off to North Cerney C of E Primary School near Cirencester in Gloucestershire to reconvene with staff and support them in raising awareness of online safety issues among their pupils and parents/carers.

We dipped into the various resources that had been created by the UK Safer Internet Centre to promote the event.  The Headteacher delivered the assembly late morning, which provoked much thought and discussion from pupils.

After lunch, I spent an hour with their mixed Year 5 and 6 class exploring different ‘dilemmas’ and considering the decisions that could/should be made in each instance (‘Choice Wheel’ activity).  Pupils then worked in small groups to produce a short drama in which they had to ‘solve’ a ‘dilemma’, including three elements from the rolled die.  This challenged some groups – one had to incorporate the jungle, a sportsperson and a game console into their sketch!  All the children involved themselves, but it was the girls that really showed creativity, independence and maturity.  Later, we referred to the ‘Home Survey’ which individuals had completed, before contemplating ‘good digital deeds’ that they might carry out, both at home and in school, and completing their ‘pledge’.  Hopefully, students’ work will be displayed in either their classroom, the entrance hall or a corridor later this week for parents/carers to view too.

Their ‘Home Surveys’ revealed some interesting points.  As expected, gaming proved very popular with the youngsters and, reassuringly, the majority appeared to be engaging in age appropriate games.  We did discuss why advertised games, such as Grand Theft Auto, may be unsuitable and further issues that may arise as a result of the growing social networking element attached to gaming today.  Children accessed the Internet via a wide range of digital devices.  This was mostly done under the strict supervision of parents/carers and teachers. Lines of communication were very ‘open’; pupils certainly felt that they could talk easily to a responsible adult if they had encountered anything upsetting/disturbing.  It also highlighted to staff that the boundary between home and school is becoming increasing blurred and that they are now having to deal with problems that may have been instigated beyond their establishment. In addition, staff appreciate that there is a need to educate parents/carers, so that they feel equipped to deal with any issues that may arise at home, e.g. instances of cyber-bullying as a result of gaming and social networking.  Our youngsters are growing up in a very different digital world to what we experienced as children; on the whole, this provides many very positive experiences and fantastic opportunities.  However, there are, undoubtedly, some ‘risks’, but we have to work together and learn to manage these effectively.

The focus for Year 3 and 4 was ‘The Adventures of Kara, Winston and the SMART Crew’.  They really enjoyed watching the movie clip and were able to identify what each letter stood for and some of the issues it promoted.  I launched a follow-up activity with the class, which they will complete for homework over half-term and the best characters and captions will be awarded a small prize.  I have offered to act as a judge and look forward to viewing their creations.

At the end of the school day, I stayed around to chat to staff and parents further about online safety concerns that they had and provide ideas as to the best way forward from herein. The school are keen to look in detail at the 360 degree Safe self-review tool and consider applying for an E-Safety Mark in due course.  I will endeavour to support them by whatever means I can. Watch this space to see their progress!

This entry was posted in [Online safety briefings and workshops](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/category/online-safety-briefings/) and tagged [360\_degree\_safe\_self-review\_tool](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/360_degree_safe_self-review_tool/), [carers](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/carers/), [cyber-bullying](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/cyber-bullying/), [digital\_deeds](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/digital_deeds/), [dilemmas](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/dilemmas/), [E-Safety\_Mark](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/e-safety_mark/), [gaming](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/gaming/), [Gloucestershire](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/gloucestershire/), [Home\_Survey](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/home_survey/), [Internet](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/internet/), [Key\_Stage\_2](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/key_stage_2/), [mobile\_devices](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/mobile_devices/), [North\_Cerney\_C\_of\_E\_Primary\_School](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/north_cerney_c_of_e_primary_school/), [online safety](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/online-safety/), [parents](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/parents/), [pledge](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/pledge/), [pupils](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/pupils/), [Safer\_Internet\_Day](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/safer_internet_day/), [SID](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/sid/), [social\_networking](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/social_networking/), [staff](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/staff/), [students](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/students/), [SWGfL](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/swgfl/), [UK\_Safer\_Internet\_Centre](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/tag/uk_safer_internet_centre/) on [11/02/2015](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/online-safety-briefings/safer-internet-day-sid-tuesday-10th-february-2015/) by [eeblogger](http://myrecentventures.primaryblogger.co.uk/author/eeblogger/)