Welcome to the third online safety newsletter. Technology is hugely valuable for education, as well as a way to keep in touch with friends and family. However it's important we all consider how we can support children's online safety. Each newsletter will provide parents & carers with some information about what your child may enjoy online and what you can do to help keep them safer:

Chatting, being kind and making friends online

Primary-age children may not have previously had much experience with video chatting apps such as zoom, FaceTime and Skype, but may well be using them now for education or to keep in touch with family and friends.

To make sure your child has a positive experience video chatting online, read this guide for parents and carers
The internet has many positive opportunities for children to learn and play, but it can also be used in negative and unkind ways.
It's really important to speak to your child about being kind online, and how they can get help if they see or hear anything that makes them feel worried, scared or sad.

Use these conversation starters to help your child understand the importance of being kind online

The term 'online friend' can be used to describe people you only know through the internet, or those that you also know offline. Some children make friends online by meeting new people through online platforms such as gaming sites.

To help children have positive online friendships, read this handy guide.

Steps you can take to help keep your child safer online

Talk about how their online actions affect others: If your child is engaging with others online, remind them to consider how someone else might feel before they post or share something. If they are considering sharing a photo/video of somebody else, they should always ask permission first.

Use 'SafeSearch': Most web search engines will have a 'SafeSearch' function, which will allow you to limit the content your child can access whilst online. Look out for the 'Settings' button on your web browser homepage, which is often shaped like a small cog.

Visit www.Thinkuknow.co.uk/parents for more information on keeping your child safer online.