Planting Seeds for Success; Grow and Blossom Together

Dear Parents, Tuesday 7th February is Safer Internet Day. This is a day to celebrate all the wonderful things that the internet and digital technology can do and also to acknowledge its imperfections and the dangers that can be associated with online activity.   In school we will be celebrating this day by engaging in discussions and activities to explore this year's theme:
"Want to talk about it?- Making space for conversations about life online."

We would like to share some information with you as parents to help you to stay informed on how to best protect your children.

As a school we are registered with the Safer Schools NI app. This app provides information for parents and pupils about online safety. There are a range of resources, tips and guidance, family discussion topics, videos and stories available. This is a really good resource for keeping families informed about any new or current online safety issues and also for providing current and reliable information that you may find useful when discussing online behaviours etc. with your child.

To access the app just follow these steps:
1) Download the app Safer Schools NI from your apple store/ Google play account.
2) Click to register by adding your name and email address
3) Select Castledawson Primary School
4) The code for parents is **4160**
If you have a child in Key Stage 2 who would like to register, the pupil code is **0245.**

Once registered you will be able to access information about apps or programmes that your child may be using.

If you have any concerns about online safety please use the option on the school website to report these directly. You can access this by clicking on the tab for School Life- Pastoral Care- Online Safety Form.

ICT has become a large part of many children's lives and so the better informed we all are and the more open we can be in our discussions with children about how to stay safe online the better. It is important for children to be able talk about the things that they see and do online and about what to do when they come across something that upsets, scares or worries them. Children need to be aware of the steps that they should take to protect themselves when engaging with digital devices and the internet. We hope you find this information and the related resources, along with our monthly online safety newsletter useful.