

Inspire, Enjoy, Achieve

37 High Road Cotton End Bedford MK45 3AA 01234 740100

office@cottonendprimary.co.uk

18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 Dear Parent/Carer,

Do you ever feel that your children know more about online technologies than you do? You're not alone. The Internet and online technologies are an important part of children's lives at home and school, providing great opportunities for learning, communicating, playing and creating. As we know, these technologies create huge opportunities for us all; however, they can sometimes be a bit overwhelming, and present challenges to keeping your family safe online.

On <u>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 9am</u> in the school hall, Bedfordshire Police will be hosting an event for parents and carers, demystifying the online technologies used by children and providing guidance on how to keep them safe when they're online.

Bedfordshire Police works to promote the safe and responsible use of technology among children and young people alongside encouraging families to explore online technologies together.

The event will look at practical steps that you can put in place to protect your children online and will cover issues that children and young people face online right from <u>early years to</u> teenagers.

There will also be a specific focus on:

Unwanted contact - how to keep your child safe online, what your child can do to keep their information personal safe, how your child can avoid unwanted contact, how an online offender may operate and what to do if someone is making your child feel uncomfortable online.

Cyber Bullying - what is Cyber bullying, how it differs from playground bullying, what you and your child can do if they are getting cyber bullied, what the legal consequences of cyber bullying are.

Taking and sending indecent images (Sexting) - What is Sexting, what your child should do if they are sent an indecent image, what are the legal implications of sexting.

We would like to invite you and anyone responsible for your children's online activity (grandparents, child minders, close family friends) to join us on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 9am, for approximately an hour, in the school hall for this unique and exciting event.

Kind regards

Karen Headland

Headteacher