



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Regents Gate
Long Causeway
Exmouth
Devon
EX8 1TA

Interim Head: Mrs N Taylor-Bashford

Tel: 01395 264875

23rd May 2017

Dear Parent/carer,

The NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe* programme is visiting our school on Monday 5th June to make sure our pupils have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse.

This is a nationwide programme for every primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, the NSPCC will be presenting an assembly to the children in our school. In addition, Years 5 and 6 will be taking part in ChildLine classroom base workshops.

As a charity, the NSPCC can only provide these vital resources thanks to the financial support and generosity of their supporters. This is why I have agreed that our school has chosen to support the valuable work of the NSPCC by taking part in a small fundraising event, and I would really value your support. More information on how you can support their work will follow their visit. (I am aware there is a lot of fundraising/donations going on at the moment. Please can I remind you all fundraising/donations are voluntary, the children will still take part in all activities. The most important thing is the children hear the talks and understand the key messages)

What is the *Speak out Stay safe* programme?

Through child-friendly, interactive assemblies and workshops their specially trained staff and volunteers will give our children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and sexual abuse, without using scary words or adult language.

We have studied the content of the materials and heard from other schools who have participated and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of their visit, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like any more information about the NSPCC ***Speak out. Stay safe*** programme, including frequently asked questions, you can find it on the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/schools or please come in to speak to me and I can provide more information.

Talking about the Underwear Rule with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe – and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'The Underwear Rule', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words or even mentioning sex.

The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the information and advice which is available, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Taylor-Bashford

Email: admin@stjo.uk

Website: stjosephsprimaryschool.com