



## TO YEAR 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 PARENTS

9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents,

### E SAFETY CONCERNS

As part of our e-Safety awareness we would like to make you aware of two websites that are causing concerns. The first website is called **Musical.ly** and is also available as an app on iPads and other tablets.

#### **What is Musical.ly?**

Musical.ly allows children to make and share 15 second music videos. These feature users lip-syncing to the latest songs provided by the app, singing their own songs or doing comedy skits.

#### **What is the Musical.ly's minimum age?**

The terms and conditions don't clearly specify but according to an e-Safety advice website, Common Sense Media, 16+ would be recommended.

#### **How does it work?**

Users can create an account by using an email or their existing Facebook or Twitter account. To create videos, users can record themselves miming along to music or record their own songs. The app allows them to speed up or slow down the video. Once they're happy with the video, it can be posted to their followers and shared on other networks like Facebook Messenger or WhatsApp.

Like other social networks, users can follow others, comment and like videos on the app. There is a search tool that allows users to watch other videos.

#### **What do parents need to watch out for?**

- Chatting to strangers
- Giving abuse to, or receiving abuse from, other children
- Sharing their child's videos to other people

If you know your child is using Musical.ly, please ensure you know exactly where they are posting their videos to.

The second website that is causing some e-Safety concerns is called **Roblox**.

#### **What is Roblox?**

Roblox is a game-creation site where users design and upload their own games, as well as play other games in a multiplayer environment. Some of the gameplay is advanced, and many games include weapons.

#### **Is there a chat function within the website?**

The site offers a safe-chat mode for those under 13, as well as a parent login that lets you oversee your child's use of the site. However, there have been reports of users thwarting the chat and exchanging inappropriate/predatory messages with young players.



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## What do parents need to watch out for?

- Chatting to strangers
- Receiving inappropriate/predatory messages
- Children spending real money to unlock additional items

We would advise every parent to check their child's ROBLOX account and look to see if they have friends that they do not know.

We would also ask parents to check the child's 'in game' message inbox to check if they have been receiving inappropriate messages.

We strongly recommend using the very informative website [www.commonsemmedia.org](http://www.commonsemmedia.org) to review any new application, website or game to enable you to make an informed decision about its appropriateness for your child.

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact Mr Parker or your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Pip Joyce  
Headteacher