

**Mission Statement Motto:** *Building relationships with God and each other, working hard in faith and hope to give our best in all things*

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Sandra Power BA(Hons) NPQH



Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

## **Internet Safety and the Use of Social Media**

We have been made aware that a group of our Year 5 children have been using inappropriate language and making disrespectful comments towards other pupils as part of a WhatsApp group. This has caused some hurt and distress to some of our pupils.

Today, we have spoken to our Year 5 children and reinforced the right way to use social media platforms and what to do if they see inappropriate or abusive content. We would like to make all parents aware that your child may be using WhatsApp without your knowledge and you should be mindful that the minimum age for WhatsApp is 16 or over.

We are asking you as parents to support us in reinforcing this message at home by discussing this issue with your children and reminding them to report anything inappropriate to yourselves or an adult. We would be grateful if parents could also inform the school if they become aware of any distressing or inappropriate messages.

We have attached a parent's guide to WhatsApp which explains how to keep safe while using the app.

**We strongly advise a device free bedroom policy after bedtime to allow for uninterrupted sleep and rest for all children.**

If you have any questions or queries then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Many thanks.

Mrs S Power  
Headteacher

