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Thursday 19th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has come to our attention that some of our children are talking about “smartschoolboy9” since this has been shared over social media.

Smartschoolboy9 can be accessed via websites or apps such as YouTube, Instagram, whatsapp, TikTok and Reddit. WhatsApp and Reddit are currently only allowed for those over the age of 13 years old. Other apps have parental controls in place for younger users.

Smartschoolboy9 is a sinister looking male adult wearing a mask and school uniform. The real threat that smartschoolboy9 possesses is unclear, which is why we need to be vigilant. There is much reported information in the media, however the actual risk is hard to gauge.

Online safety is taught continuously through the computing curriculum at Roberts but staff have reminded children today about how to stay safe online and talking to a trusted adult if they see anything they don't like or are worried in anyway. We also have a strict web filter in place which will prevent students from accessing smartschoolboy9 or any other concerning content at Roberts Primary School.

In agreement with the NSPCC, we strongly recommend that you speak to your child about keeping themselves safe online and you may also want to check your parental controls and search histories.

Many excellent tips and guidance can be found on the [NSPCC's website](https://www.nspcc.org) on how to do this. These can be accessed at www.nspcc.org. On [CEOP](https://www.ceop.gov.uk) has many superb resources to help your child understand e-safety in a fun, interactive way and there is also a section with advice for parents. Finally, there are also online safety resources on our school website in the [safeguarding section](#) which can give you, as parents, excellent tips to keep your child safe online.

As always, should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely,

K. Hughes

Mr Ken Hughes
Deputy Headteacher

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