



# Manor Primary School

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25 May 2017

Dear Parents – Years 5 & 6

It has been brought to our attention that a number of children in years 5 & 6 have social media accounts such as Facebook, Instagram, Musical.ly and Snapchat, and are aware that the use of these has contributed to some serious friendship issues over recent weeks.

An important part of our computing curriculum involves e-safety, and within this we advise all our children that such forums are not designed for, or advisable for, children of their age – generally they are not sufficiently mature to use them properly and this can lead to problems including safety and friendship issues. In addition, the minimum age for these apps is 13. We therefore recommend that children of primary school age are not permitted to have these social media accounts.

There have also been misunderstandings through the use of messaging apps, used in the evenings and at weekends. Small issues which would normally blow over or be resolved within school, can be escalated by the electronic communication that takes place outside it.

As teachers, we do not wish to tell you what you should and shouldn't allow your children to do outside school, and recognise that all children are different and have differing levels of maturity. However, we have witnessed first-hand the upsetting and detrimental effect the use some of these sites can have.

We therefore seek to alert you to some of the problems that we know of and have had to deal with in recent weeks, and hope that you will be able to discuss this with your children so that we are all working together to keep every child happy and safe.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Dixon and the Y5/6 Team

**Headteacher:** Karen Dixon

**Deputy Headteacher:** Julie Solomon

