



St. Malachy's Primary School

Bunscoil Naomh Maeleachlainn

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1st October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

The NSPCC's *Speak out, Stay safe*, programme is visiting our school on Monday 7th October 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. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they'll be presenting an assembly to all children as well as a workshop for P6 and P7.

As a charity, the NSPCC can only provide these vital resources thanks to the financial support and generosity of their supporters. Our school has therefore chosen to undertake a non-uniform day on Monday 7th October to support the valuable work of the NSPCC. **Your child should come to school on Monday 7th October in their own clothes, bringing a contribution of £1 for the NSPCC.**

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.

"NSPCC has helped me to build the confidence to tell people about my worries and problems." Child's feedback

If you would like any more information about the ***Speak out. Stay safe.*** programme you can visit the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/buddy

Talking PANTS 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 'Talk PANTS', 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 wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/parents

Yours sincerely,

Paul Duggan

Principal