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NEWTON LONGVILLE C OF E COMBINED SCHOOL
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Penguins, Dogs & Visits!

SAFER SITES

In the last newsletter we outlined some of the dangers that lurked in cyberspace & the role of the CEOP (Child Exploitation & Online Protection) unit. This generated quite a few questions mainly concerning the availability of sites that we would be happy for our kids to visit without us having to worry about them. Whilst no sites are risk free, you might like to have a look at these two free ones.

CLUB PENGUIN

CLUB PENGUIN (www.clubpenguin.com) is an online world inhabited by, yes you guessed it, penguins. Your child chooses a name for his/her penguin and can wander around a frozen world mixing with other similar minded creatures where they can meet up & communicate with their friends. It appears to be one of the safer sites, although it would be sensible not to use a real name and, after another penguin asked a friend's daughter "Are you a girl" (probably perfectly innocently), it's worth explaining that you still have to be careful.

ZILLADOG

ZILLADOG (www.zilladog.com) is a "safe" email setup. When you register, your child chooses their email address and you provide yours. When someone first tries to contact your child, a message is sent to your email address asking for you to authorise this person. If you are happy, then all you have to do is authorise the communication and from then on they can email each other to their heart's content.

This setup allows you to filter out any spam or unsuitable people or organisations contacting your child but does not regulate what an authorized person passes to them. As an aside, if your kids use Facebook, Hotmail/Live or any other similar communication provider, then they WILL be exposed to unsuitable material – guaranteed. Also, check the minimum ages needed to have an account; Facebook is 13.

Educational Visits

If you would like your child to go on a school visit, but are worried about the expense, then please do get in contact with the school sooner rather than later. Any discussions will, of course, be confidential and arrangements can be made to help (for example spreading the cost over a period of months). Please don't just ignore it – the school is not in a position, financially, at the moment to provide unlimited free places and if people fail to pay and don't discuss things with the school beforehand, then the only outcome will be that the visits are cancelled and all the kids suffer.

PLAYGROUND

It's here! Thank you to all those who wrote to the Council; that, combined with pressure from the school, has made it a safer and more enjoyable place – happy days!

REMEMBER

50/50 is still available.

Some lucky person will win £50 this month.

Contact the Office for details.

What do you get if you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?....Hot cross bunnies!