Parent Post

News for Parents and Carers at Red Hall Primary School February 2018

**A WARNING FOR PARENTS!**

As you know we like to keep you up to date with any concerns that come through regarding children’s use of the internet, online gaming and messaging. Just last night we had an update from County Hall about an app that has been used by some primary age children: Yellow. Yellow is an online platform that allows users to message each other and has according to some sources been targeted by paedophiles to groom children. Yellow has changed its name to Yubo, but it is still the same app. This is the advice from the Council:

*If you are less familiar this app is based on similar principles to Tinder or Grindr where the user swipes right or left and make a decision to ‘like’ or ‘connect’ with someone based on a photo and short bio. Some have highlighted that this is ‘Tinder for teens or children.’*

*As always this poses a risk of children and young people making contact with people they do not know so it is important to share information and encourage on going conversations about using the internet safely and developing digital awareness and resilience. With the new name changes some guidance for parents and teens has also been launched and can be accessed via the link above.*

*Key things you need to know:*

* *You must not be under the age of 13 if you are using Yubo.*
* *There is no way to verify your age when you sign up to Yubo. This means that all children and adults can get access to this app.*
* *There are no privacy setting options and no way to block users.*
* [*Instagram*](https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/instagram/)*and*[*Snapchat*](https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/snapchat/)*can also be linked to your account.*
* *Users can see all personal information that you post on your account.*
* *You can have a look at Yellow’s safety page where you can report concerns about the app*

If you think your child is using this app or you are concerned about your child’s use of the internet ask to speak to Mr Goffee or the school’s PSHE lead Mrs Marshall. We all want our children to lead safe and happy lives.

Are you free on **Thursday 22nd February** at **2.30pm**? Mr Goffee will be following up his highly successful Mindfulness talk with one around Growth Mindset. Tea and coffee for all who attend and a chance to find out what a difference this can make to your child!

**Check our website**: *http://redhallprimary-darlington.co.uk/*