

STOP! SPEAK! SUPPORT!

Cyberbullying is on the rise. This happens in multiple ways and has many forms. For example, social media and the multiple apps available on smartphones, online gaming chat, messaging or email.

As many of you know, this week is 'Anti-bullying week'. For the first time this year, one day (today) has been set aside for schools and parents to discuss the issue of cyberbullying. The motto for this day is 'STOP! SPEAK! SUPPORT!' which is an aide-memoir to help children know what to do when then encounter cyberbullying.

Your child's teacher has talked today to the children about these principles in an age-appropriate manner, and Key Stage 2 had an assembly to further explore the issues.

The official website for this is <https://www.stopspeaksupport.com> , but, as a parent, if you would like to learn how to help your children make smarter choices online and cope when they see online bullying, it is recommended you visit:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues-old/cyberbullying2/conversation-starter-guide>

where there is age-specific advice for how to conduct conversations with your child about cyberbullying. Please take the opportunity to talk to them and also consider what online activities your children take part in on a regular basis.

