

TURRAMURRA

HIGH SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers,

The purpose of this email is to provide you with some information regarding resources that you can access to support your young person in being a responsible digital citizen. It will also outline initiatives being undertaken at Turramurra High School to educate students about acting safely and responsibly in the online environment.

Office of the E Safety Commissioner - <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

This valuable Federal Government department offers a wide range of support, education and services to promote and enforce safety in the digital environment. Most notably, the 'iParent' section of the website where parents can learn about the digital environment and keep updated on their children's technology use and the changing nature of the online environment - <https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>

Further, the Office of the E Safety Commissioner provides services that allow individuals to report cyber-bullying and other inappropriate online activity for further investigation - <https://www.esafety.gov.au/complaints-and-reporting/cyberbullying-complaints/i-want-to-report-cyberbullying>

We strongly encourage you to look at this website and discuss the key messages with your young person as ensuring that these conversations take place both at school and at home can greatly assist in protecting our young people online. We will be looking to have a link to the Office of the E Safety Commissioner placed permanently on the school website.

Police Youth Liaison Officer - Online Safety Presentations

Year 7 recently attended a wonderfully informative presentation from Senior Constable Lynda Hart. The presentation educated students of their rights online. Further, Senior Constable Hart outlined the possible legal consequences for young people should they choose to behave inappropriately or illegally when online or using social media. The students were highly engaged and asked thought provoking and considered questions regarding their digital rights and responsibilities. Senior Constable Hart will be conducting a follow up session to Year 7 later in the year. She will also be addressing all other year groups throughout Terms 2 and 3.

National Day of Action Against Bullying

March 17 was the National day of Action Against Bullying and members of the Turramurra High School Leadership Team attended a webinar on being a 'positive up stander' when experiencing or observing bullying behaviours, both in the online and real world contexts. The key messages from this webinar will be presented by the leadership team to all students during assemblies in Week 10. These presentation will focus on the key ways that students can ensure that they are being a 'positive up stander' and why this is important. They will also clearly communicate to all students the Support they can seek at school and the support that can be sought outside of school, especially for online issues.

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Further, all students will be invited to enter a design competition, to be run until Week 2 Term 2, where they are invited to create a piece of work that communicates their understanding of the following concept - 'What would a world without bullying look like?'. Further information about this will follow in Week 10.

Digital Thumbprint Workshops

The school has engaged the services of the Digital Thumbprint organisation, who are fully endorsed by the Office of the E Safety Commissioner, to run highly interactive workshops in Term 4 with Years 7 and 9. The workshops cover a wide range of digital citizenship material relevant to the students' ages and experience in the online world. We are forming an ongoing relationship with this organisation and will aim to have Year 7, 9 and 11 participating in these valuable experiences from 2018.

At Turramurra High School, we feel that educating students, parents and the community on their rights and responsibilities is key to young people becoming responsible digital citizens.

Regards

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