

TLA ONLINE



March 2026

Issue 21

SAFER INTERNET DAY - 2026

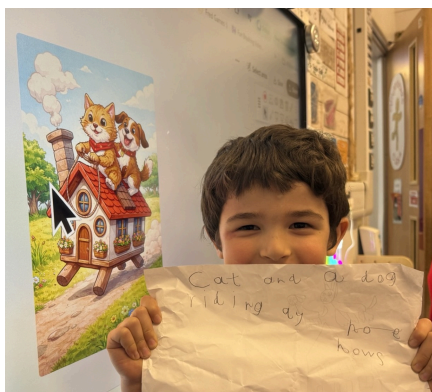
This year's theme for Safer Internet Day was: "Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI". It was heavily focused on AI (Artificial Intelligence), how we are already using it, how to use it safely and responsibly as well as information on AI chatbots and the differences between AI and real people.

Safer
Internet
Day 2026 | Tuesday
10 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

Every class took part in activities throughout the day. The younger classes enjoyed the story of 'Roo's New Friend' where they discussed the difference between talking to smart speakers and real



humans and learning that AI cannot feel emotions or replace real human interactions.

Year One created images with AI and used these to inspire some writing. They used a prompt: 'Cat and dog riding a house' and then went further to make their image even funnier.

The older children learnt about how to use AI responsibly, making sure they use it in kind ways, and as a tool to help them rather than using AI to do their work for them. They also learnt about why people might use AI chatbots, why it's better to talk to a trusted adult instead and that AI chatbots are not always accurate or safe with their advice.



HOW TO MAKE A REPORT

If your child tells you or shows you something inappropriate that they have seen online please report it. It could help prevent this from happening to someone else.

The first place it needs reporting is to the APP/ Website/Game it happened on.

If you are worried about online abuse or the way someone has been communicating online let CEOP know. You can report it by visiting www.ceop.police.uk/ or by clicking the button on our website. The website will guide you through how to make a report.

For further advice visit the School's website, visit the [Childline](https://www.childline.gov.uk/) website or call 0800 1111



TLA TECH TEAM VIDEO

Our wonderful TLA Tech Team created a video assembly which was shared with every class. Please click the link to watch it.

<https://vimeo.com/1163666229?fl=pl&fe=sh>



WHAT IS AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is technology that allows computers to “think” and learn so that it can perform tasks that are typically done by people. It powers everyday tools children may already use—like voice assistants, chatbots, or apps that recommend videos and games. AI, however, can process large amounts of data in ways that humans cannot. The goal is for AI to recognise patterns and make informed decisions like humans. AI can also be used to generate pictures, videos, music and writing.

AI SAFETY TIPS

- Remind children that not everything they see online is real - it could have been AI generated.
- Discuss misuse of AI, talk to children about using AI in a kind, safe way so it is not harming others.
- Using AI to create images of others without their permission is not OK.
- Remind children to check any information they learn through AI - it's not always correct, check by asking others and searching other websites
- Remind children that AI collects information (data) about those who use it and how they use it including private and personal information.
- Remind children to talk to a trusted adult if they are worried or unsure of something online. It's important they know who to talk to if they have any problems.

SMART SPEAKERS

Smart speakers/ Voice assistants are a type of computer program and a form of technology that uses AI. They can access lots of information and can connect to other devices like lights and TVs. Some examples of smart speakers are: Echo Dot (Alexa), Apple HomePod Mini, Chatterbox and Google Nest Mini.



It's important that children understand that voice assistants are not real people and how to use them safely and responsibly. Smart speakers have both benefits and risks, many of the risks depend on how a smart speaker is being used. Some of the main concerns people should think about are:

- Children accessing inappropriate or false content
- Making unauthorised or accidental purchases
- Having their data collected and used
- Being 'hacked' through other devices the smart speaker is connected to.



Internet Matters has a guide on how to set up Smart Speakers safely.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/smart-speakers-set-up-safe-guide/>

Uk Safer Internet Centre has some great conversation starters for talking to your child about smart speakers.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/smart-speakers>

AI CHAT BOTS

AI chatbots are something we need to be aware of as parents.

Chatbots allow people to talk to them in interactive conversations and use AI to give realistic responses, this can lead people into believing they are making friends and developing relationships with a real person. This could be confusing for children as they may be tricked into sharing personal or private information with the chatbot believing it is safe to do so.

Below are some websites with advice.

- <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-character-ai-parent-guide/>
- <https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/how-does-snapchats-new-ai-function-my-ai-impact-young-people>

