



Warboys Community Primary School

Moving Forward Together
To Develop Confident, Independent Learners

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Momo Challenge

I have recently been made aware that some students in school are chatting about the 'Momo Challenge'. This is a relatively new craze hitting social media with the Momo Challenge being a form of cyberbullying that appears to be targeting children and vulnerable people.

Momo asks to be contacted through a social media site and then demands the person to perform a series of dangerous tasks sometimes including self-harm and even suicide. The person is sent violent images and threatened with violence if the tasks are not completed.

Currently this craze is being spread via WhatsApp with users also being encouraged to watch YouTube videos of Momo. However, I am aware that the Momo Challenge is becoming more prevalent on all social media platforms.

There have been reports of children telling their classmates they will die in their beds due to Momo, there have also been reports of self-harm and deaths related to the Momo challenge. I cannot emphasise enough the potentially devastating effects this type of social media activity could cause. I would ask you all to be sure you know what your children are viewing online and I think it would be prudent if you could also take a few moments to do your own research on this current craze.

I would also encourage you to restrict your children's access to YouTube, or at the very least supervise them, due to the vast amount of inappropriate material that is available for viewing. There is a Kids YouTube app available which has inbuilt filters to restrict inappropriate content.

Sometimes it's all too easy to hand a device to a child for a few minutes peace but if appropriate age related controls are not in place there is the potential for devastating consequences. This is not the first time a dangerous challenge game has appeared online and it most definitely will not be the last, so please continue to be vigilant regarding your child's online activity.

For your reference I have included parent guides for WhatsApp and YouTube, with this communication, which provide some useful information and tips for managing your child's use of these platforms.

Kind regards,

Nick Bostock - I.T. & Data Admin

