



Newsletter May 2018

As I write the newsletter this morning our Year 11 students are sitting their GCSE English Literature exam. As many of you will already know there have been significant changes to the GCSEs with examinations becoming much harder than in previous years. Students this year will gain 9-1 GCSE passes in their GCSEs, with the threshold for all grades becoming much higher. Our Year 11 students have been working very hard to prepare for their examinations, and we wish them lots of luck for the next couple of weeks. We also wish our Year 10 students lots of luck for their forthcoming Health & Social Care exam.

Girls have been busy over recent weeks representing the school in the local community. Students in 7H visited the Kia Oval for a cricket event, which they enjoyed. Key Stage 3 students have experienced a synagogue as part of their RE curriculum to learn about the Jewish faith and Jewish traditions. Across the school we have been working with girls on their independence; through developing their awareness of colleges, careers and the world of work. A local midwife came in to school to speak to Year 10 students about her role as part of their Health and Social Care course. Students in Year 10 have visited NESCOT and East Surrey Colleges to look at the courses they provide, to help them with planning for the next step of their life.

In Duke of Edinburgh news 7 ex Limpfield Grange girls went to Buckingham Palace on Thursday 24th May to receive their Gold Awards. It was an incredible day for the girls and for Mr & Mrs Bunn, who also attended the ceremony, which was presided over by Prince Edward. Well done girls – what an incredible achievement! Currently our Year 10 Bronze group are practising their canoeing for their Bronze Expedition on the River Wey in June. The girls have been very dedicated, and have really developed their ability to work in a team and their communication skills. We wish them luck!

I would like to thank those parents who completed our online Quality of Life surveys. This long term project will help us as a school to design better support for students, parents and families, and will enable us to feedback to Local Authorities where facilities and services can be improved.

Safeguarding and online safety continues to be a top priority for us at Limpfield Grange. I have included some information for parents carers and families below about YUBO (formerly known as Yellow) which is an app commonly used by our girls. I would also like to draw attention to a Netflix show "13 Reasons Why" which is aimed at young people. The show contains some very strong content and harrowing scenes, and I would advise that adults check out the series before allowing a young person to watch it. As the holidays start I would also encourage parents and carers to monitor their daughter's use of social media closely.

Year 11 students are welcome to attend the GCSE revision day at school on Tuesday 29th May, and all girls will be welcomed back to school on Monday 4th June 2017.

Best wishes

Sarah Wild
Headteacher



yubo

Yubo is a location-based social networking app previously known as Yellow. It has been dubbed 'Tinder for teens' due to its similarities with the adult dating app, in which users swipe to find matches. Yubo allows users to livestream themselves to anyone watching, and rate other users.



What parents need to know about YUBO (Formerly 'Yellow')



WHO IS USING YUBO?

Although its official guidelines suggest the app is for people aged 18+, those aged between 13 and 17 can create a profile with parental permission. Furthermore, the app does not verify ages or identities upon sign-up, leading to fears that it could be exploited by those seeking to target children. Adults can set up fake profiles for sexual reasons, while children younger than 13, with access to the internet, could pretend to be older than they are.

LIVE-STREAM FOOTAGE

Yubo says it uses a combination of technical tools and human moderators to check the content created by Yubo, but because users can comment on footage in real-time, it could mean children could be exposed to derogatory or unpleasant language. Media reports indicate that teens are being pressured into undressing live on camera for strangers, sending nude photos, and even lured into face-to-face meetings on Yubo. Any users can take screenshots or copies of live streams, alter them and share them with others.



SNAPCHAT

While the Yubo app doesn't directly link to Snapchat anymore – users still tend to share their Snapchat usernames on their profiles, making them very easy to add on Snapchat without ever speaking to the individual. On Snapchat, if your child's location feature is switched on, there is a high chance that strangers can find your child's exact location.



BULLYING & MENTAL HEALTH

The way Yubo works is users 'swipe' to accept or decline to talk to someone. Whether users accept or decline is all based on based on their profile picture, meaning there is the potential that children may be left with low self-esteem if declined. Receiving comments about their appearance can have a negative impact on a child's emotional wellbeing, leaving them feeling less confident about how they look or how interesting they are.

Bullying includes actions such as making threats or spreading rumours about people. As users have the ability to screenshot copies of live streams and private messages etc., they can use these screengrabs as forms of blackmail, making the person feel victimised, embarrassed and unsafe.



National Online Safety

Top Tips for Parents



HAVE A CHAT

Start a conversation your teenager so that they know how to stay safe online. Don't be embarrassed to talk about inappropriate online content online with your children and look out for secretive or reserved behaviour when it comes to their internet devices.

DISCUSS YUBO GUIDELINES

Take the time to go through Yubo's Community Guidelines, which all users receive a link to, when they sign up to the app. Anyone that does not follow the guidelines may have their content removed or account suspended. Guidelines include advice not to post any fake pictures or pretend to be someone else.

YUBO GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

Yubo offers a guide - <http://parents-guide.yubo.live> - aimed at reassuring parents about their child's usage. It explains how the app works, how children can stay safe and outlines its 'five-step approach to safety', including Sign-up, Profile Settings, Community Guidelines, Moderation and Reporting.

REMOVE LOCATION FEATURE

In their Profile settings, children can hide their city and choose to connect with people who are only within a certain radius of their location.

CHILDREN MAY ASK FOR PROOF OF AGE

Yubo recently updated its security settings so that users who attempt to change their date of birth after signing up now have to send proof of ID to the app in order to verify the change.

ENCOURAGE RESPECT

Remind your teenager to always consider what they are about to share online and to think about whether they would do that in the 'real world', or posting something they may at a later date. Encourage your child to think about the language they use online and to think carefully before making a comment on content posted by someone else.

AVOIDING UNEXPECTED IMAGES

Yubo suggests that teenagers ask the person they are talking with to share a picture of themselves with a spoon on their head to prove they are really the people they say they are in their picture. Another tip is to avoid profiles with only one photo as these are often 'catfish' - someone who pretends to be somebody else by creating false identities.

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Report any suspicious activity You can report any concerns by clicking on the flag icon within the app or by visiting Yubo's Safety Centre at <http://safety.yubo.co>. This includes pornographic, sexually implicit content, bullying, grooming and fake accounts.

PREPARE FOR 'GOING LIVE'

Yubo users can 'Go live' during a chat with friends or choose to live stream 'Anyone' on Yubo. To help your child avoid sharing too much, help them to consider if they really want the world seeing what they are doing. If they are going to watch streams they should also know how to report anything that makes them feel upset, uncomfortable or unsafe.

Sources: <http://teens.yubo.live/>
<http://community.yubo.live/>
<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/yubo-formerly-yellow-dating-app-teens/>