AIR FORCE BAL BHARATI SCHOOL

LODI ROAD. NEW DELHI-11OOO3

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CIRCULAR AWARENESS ABOUT INTERNET GAME-'BLUE WHALE'

Dear Parent,

The internet has become an integral part of everyday life for all of us. It enhances social interaction, communication and builds communities, It is an immense database of knowledge and thus is the largest educational tool available. Your children are growing up in a technological age which has its pros and cons and as parents it is our responsibility to monitor their activities on a regular basis by following up on these aspects..

1. TEACH YOUR CHILD HOW TO MAINTAIN PERSONAL PRIVACY -
They should not share their personal information online in the virtual world i.e. internet.

2. LEARN HOW VARIOUS SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES WORK -
Become familiar with Facebook, My Space, and Twitter be a part your child's friend list.

3. TALK REGULARLY AND SPECIFICALLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT ONLINE ISSUES-
Let them know they can come to you for help if anything is inappropriate, upsetting, or dangerous.

4. BUILD TRUST WITH YOUR CHILDREN -
Set time limits, explain your reasons for them, and discuss rules for online safety and Internet use. Ask your children to contribute to establishing the rules, Then they'll be more inclined to follow them.

5.   DON'T OVERREACT BY BLAMING YOUR CHILDREN -
If they are being bullied, be supportive and understanding.

6. DONT THREATEN TO TAKE AWAY YOUR CHILDREN'S COMPUTERS IF THEY COME TO YOU WITH A PROBLEM -
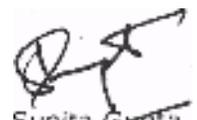This only forces kids to be more secretive.

7. TEACH THEM TO APPLY STANDARDS YOU ADOPT OFFLINE TO THE ONLINE WORLD AS WELL -
For Example: Tell them not to communicate with strangers online or accept friend requests from them,

8. THEY SHOULD BE EDUCATED ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE VIRTUAL AND THE REAL WORLD -
When a video game character dies he can be restored again but the teenagers and adolescents today tend to take these games and challenges too seriously.

The parents must be very alert about the recent alarming cyber trends highlighted by the media. They should be sensitive to any signs or symptoms of their ward behaving differently, Examples include drawing a blue whale on paper, writing status updates about being a blue whale, and carving a blue whale into your arm. There are lists of them online, but check back frequently as they can change. While Blue Whale is prevalent now, new trends might appear. Therefore, it is important to sensitize your child about general social media literacy, such as what constitutes inappropriate content and how to protect themselves from strangers and abuse.

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