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**Head Teacher** Mrs Catherine Carr **Deputy Head** Mrs Sandra Doyle

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Social Media Safeguarding

Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do in Hunter's Bar Infant School and we are guided by the Children's Act of 1989 which states that the 'welfare of the child is paramount'. This a good time to offer some reminders and advice to parents/carers in the use of social media and photographs, especially as children are participating in so many different Summer events.

Social media is a fantastic means of communication and indeed, we use it as a school as an additional means of communication. When children enter school, parents are asked whether or not they give permission for their child to have their picture taken and whether it can be used in public forums. Some parents are unable to give this permission for various reasons, some of which involve safeguarding issues for that particular child. School would never post a picture of a child unless we had permission.

Hopefully you will understand that the permission list is not something we can share with parents/carers. For that reason, unless you have specific permission from a child's parent, you cannot post pictures of children in our school on social media. We would like to thank parents and carers for respecting this.

We are delighted that so many parents access our official Facebook and Twitter pages. We use the Hunter's Bar name so that it can be easily found by parents but only Hunter's Bar Infants School may attach our name to our account. If you do set up any groups, please don't use this name as it could be seen to represent our school.

We are planning to add use of social media to our on-line safety parent workshops in the next academic year which we hope you will find of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Carr Head Teacher