The Power of Social Media

I am going to discuss the power of social media. You may have heard about the homework that was given out to the young pupils of Darkley Primary School. It simply had a fantastic response as it has received over 1000 views and has been shared 500 times on Facebook alone. It also appeared on the radio, local newspapers and twitter. The views and reactions have been simply amazing. So now the question: is do you think social media all good?

What are your thoughts on the power of social media? Do you think the homework was a success? Let me tell you a bit about the brilliant homework. Mr Hart and Miss Carr wrote on it “Do not worry about the test; we are so proud of you already! For this week’s homework you could ride a bike, eat ice-cream, and eat sweets watch TV” and many more wonderful things. The reaction of the homework has been astonishing. Social media just took over and it was totally unexpected.

Some children went on a walk and others fed a calf for the first time. It was these kinds of things that were what the teachers really wanted the children to do. They wanted them to relax but also have fun. Social media can be very powerful and that is why you need to be careful. You may have heard the principal, Mr Hart, speaking about the homework. He had said that one of the parents had posted it and in a few days it just went “VIRAL!!!” and within 4 days it had gotten over a 1000 views worldwide. It has been discussed by celebrities such as Frank Mitchell.

This issue has allowed us as pupils to consider both the pros and cons of social media. We all know that social media can do many things and allow us to do many things. People can stay in contact with each other; you also can shop online, text, face time and look at the weather or the news. Also you never know in a few days something you post could go viral like the homework did and give you lots of publicity! However, there are also cons which can be very dangerous if you are not careful. Unfortunately, people can get bullied, and then there are people who pretend to be something or somebody which they are not and they can post bad things about you or even to you. Also it could lead to physical violence. There are also lots more bad things that could be much more serious than that. That’s why I wanted to tell you about this so remember to be extra careful.

Now my speech is coming to an end, I want you to consider the overall effect of social media. I want to remind you to ‘Stop, Block, Report’ if someone is bothering you online. Our homework was very successful in social media, it was a great experience and was fabulous advertisement for the school, and however, I urge you to always think before you post!

By Laura Farrell

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