

To Be Read At Open School Night In All Grade 2 Classrooms

A Message From Marc Epstein, District Technology Director

The Great Neck Public Schools place a high priority on educating our students about technology. Internet Safety is a part of our curriculum that begins in Grade 2 when many of our students go online for the first time. Lessons are introductory in nature and are conducted by the computer teacher in collaboration with the classroom teacher. Through this curriculum, students learn about the Internet as an online community, use educational Web sites with adult supervision, and learn about accounts, passwords, and personal information.

Inappropriate Internet use rarely, if ever, occurs in school because Internet access is filtered and students are supervised when they go online. It is also extremely rare for a problem to arise when children at this age use the Internet at home. Here are some guidelines you may want to consider:

1. Establish rules and limit the amount of time your child uses the Internet in your home.
2. Supervise your child and his or her friends when they go online.
3. Do not allow your child to go to Web sites that you haven't visited first.
4. Place all Internet-enabled computers in a family room and never in your child's bedroom.
5. Create screen names and online accounts for your child that do not include any personally identifying information.
6. Make sure your child understands that passwords are private and not to be shared.
7. Make sure your child knows to come to you if anything online makes him or her feel uncomfortable.

If you have any questions, feel free to stop by and see our school's computer teacher or visit the Great Neck Web site for more information.