School Bus Safety Week

Safety Starts at the Bus Stop

Your child should arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Visit the bus stop and show your child where to wait for the bus: at least three giant steps (six feet) away from the curb. Remind your child that the bus stop is not a place to run or play.

Get On and Off Safely

When the school bus arrives, your child should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, the door opens, and the driver says it's okay before approaching the bus door. Your child should use the handrails to avoid falling.

Use Caution Around the Bus

Your child should never walk behind a school bus. If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, tell him/her to walk on a sidewalk or along the side of the street to a place at least five giant steps (10 feet) in front of the bus before crossing. Your child should also make eye contact with the bus driver before crossing to make sure the driver can see him/her. If your child drops something near the school bus, like a ball or book, the safest thing is for your child to tell the bus driver right away. Your child should not try to pick up the item, because the driver might not be able to see him/her.

For Drivers

When driving in neighborhoods with school zones, slow down and watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in neighborhood. Watch for children playing and congregating near bus stops.

Learn and obey the school bus laws in your state used to alert motorists. Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles. Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop-arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.

October Cyber Security Month

Online gaming is a fun and interactive activity for millions of people across the globe, but it's also a space where cyber criminals try to ruin your fun by sending malicious links, stealing credentials and payment card information, and much more.

Tips:

- Use long, unique passwords
- Enable multi- factor authentication
- Secure payment data
- Think before you click
- Share with care- Be cautious about how much personal information you provide on gaming account profiles.
- Use Secure Wi-Fi -Public wireless networks and hotspots are not secure

Block the bullies If another player is making you feel uncomfortable, tell a trusted adult. Remember that you can always kick a player out of the game if they are making you uncomfortable.

Play in disguise
Playing with people you don't know or who aren't your good friends? Use a safe Game Name. Don't use your first or last name in your usernames. Use an avatar instead your actual photo. If a stranger asks you to share a photo or to turn on your webcam, say no.

Parental controls are a great way to establish parameters around what kids can and can't do in their gaming environments, including limiting communications, limiting time spent, restricting e-commerce, etc.

Privacy Settings Go through accounts with children to configure privacy and security settings to limit over-sharing of information–such as location sharing. Walk the kids through why certain settings need to be changed.