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December 2016

Issue No. 1

VISIT THE SITE



A welcome message from Stella



It is with great pride and pleasure that I welcome you to the very first issue of **Gooseberry News**. What a year! Since launching in October 2015 Gooseberry Planet has gone from strength to strength. We have won 6 awards, **registered 22,000 students which means we work with over 110 schools globally**.

I didn't think we would achieve this in such a short space of time. My mission as a mum to find something to teach my own children about online safety seems a distant memory. It has been a huge learning curve and I have to say thank you to all of the teachers and staff that help us develop, through their feedback, a complete system that protects the whole school community. **Look out for our game and resource updates in the new year.**

On behalf of myself and my team, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and peaceful festive season and look forward to working with you next year.

Stella

CEO Gooseberry Planet



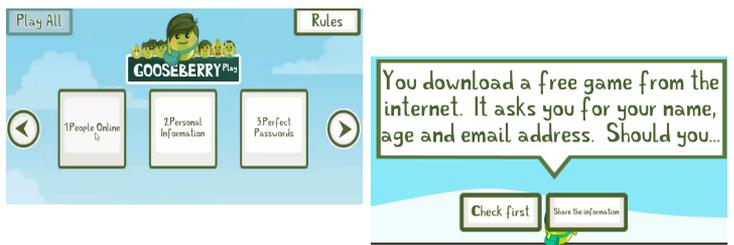
Working with our Gooseberry Schools

We are always keen to support our Gooseberry Schools and be a part of your E-Safety events. Most recently we have worked directly with **Burhill Primary School** as part of their Internet Safety Day. Using a secure web link, we became 'virtual visitors' and teamed up with over 150 Year 3 and 4 students. Reflecting upon their learning from Gooseberry Planet, the students shared practical ideas and tips about keeping safe online. The students also suggested some fantastic ideas they would like to see as part of the Gooseberry Student.

We know that there are many more examples of **good gooseberry practice** and invite you to **share your ideas and achievements with other Gooseberry Teachers**. If you would like to feature in the next issue of **Gooseberry News** please contact Jo Thomas at joanna@gooseberryplanet.com

Gooseberry Updates 2017

We have some exciting new updates which are being launched in January 2017. Developments include **improved level play, increased scenario content** and interactivity, **more collectable rewards** and **achievements** across all levels of Gooseberry Student. As, Gooseberry Teachers you will have the opportunity to **organise your lessons** with our new and **improved scenario structure, permissions, assessment quizzes and tracking functions**. We are also introducing improvements to our administration capabilities for Lead Teachers.

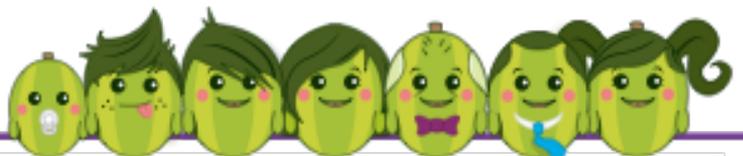


We welcome any feedback and work tirelessly to ensure that this is included and addressed as part of our development programme. We look forward to bringing you **audio and interactive workbooks in our next development phases over 2017** and will **continue to bring you our popular parent resources**.

JustAsk – Free legal services for Gooseberry Schools

We are now in partnership with **Michelmores Solicitors** who are offering their legal services to all GP schools **free of charge**. **JustAsk** is a support service provided by an experienced team of Education lawyers, giving schools direct access to specialists to discuss an unlimited number of queries. Sessions are limited to half an hour.

To find out more about JustAsk, please contact **Russell Holland** at russell.holland@michelmores.com or 01179 069323





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Gooseberry Research: Reporting Online Safeguarding Issues in GP



As part of our ongoing commitment to developing Gooseberry Planet we have been exploring the need for children to report an online safeguarding concern, in direct response to a scenario that they have been playing in the game.

Thank you to those of you who took part in our Survey Monkey back in October, your feedback has been invaluable. We have been very encouraged with the response and would like to share some of the key results with you.

59% stated it would be useful if children were able to report an issue relating to Online Safeguarding, in the game. Feedback highlighted the logistical issues and the need for robust testing and training in making this possible, to ensure the safety and welfare of the children. The need for staff to be able to deal with this swiftly and effectively also emerged.

The results show that **50% of those surveyed feel it is a collective responsibility when it comes to who should be notified if an in-game report is made**. This indicates that working collaboratively in identifying, responding and dealing with an issue is key to successful safeguarding within schools. **Keep an eye on your inbox for more Gooseberry Surveys and 'be the change'**, making Gooseberry Planet work for your school community.

Free GP Resources for schools and parents

We offer a selection of **free resources** to support schools and parents, providing updates on the latest apps and downloads. These offer practical tips for keeping your children safe online whilst enabling them to enjoy the internet. Recent uploads include **'Pokemon Go!', Sexting** and **'musical.ly'**. For more information or to make a request, contact us directly through our website at: www.gooseberryplanet.com

Why not find out about a Parent Workshop too?

Supporting Safer Internet Day 2017



In support of Safer Internet Day we are planning our very own **Gooseberry Planet Competition**. Details will be coming at the start of next term, offering free access to Gooseberry Student for one day to enable entry. We would also like to hear how you plan to use your Gooseberry Planet resources, as part of Safer Internet Day.

Safer Internet Day Tuesday 7th February 2017
'Be the Change: Unite for a better internet'

OFCOM: Media use and attitudes report

As part of *'The Communications Act 2003'*, the industry regulator OFCOM have a responsibility to promote and research media literacy. They have recently published their findings for media use and attitudes of key groups including children aged from 3-15 and parents. The key findings are fascinating and underpin the need for ongoing education amongst children and their parents.

- ❖ **5 -15s spend more time online and use their digital devices to watch TV**
- ❖ **Five per cent of 8-11s and 14% of 12-15s use chat features in online gaming to talk to people they only know through the game**
- ❖ **A majority of children think they can easily delete information about themselves online**
- ❖ **Children are more likely than in 2015 to have added people as friends who they only know online**

Follow the link on our website and read the full report

Get Involved!

We offer a range of **free webinars and demos** at times to suit you. Book directly through our website or **contact us at:** www.gooseberryplanet.com

