**Cyber Safety Day-Tuesday February 9th, 2021**



Safer Internet Day (SID) is an EU wide initiative to promote a safer internet for all users, especially young people. It is promoted in Ireland by the PDST Technology in Education and Webwise.

Our School began the process of organising this day in November, by selecting two Transition Year Student as Ambassadors, who would represent the school and engage in training with Webwise and the PDST. The Safer Internet Day Ambassador Programme is a peer-to-peer youth training programme that gives students an opportunity to lead an online safety campaign in their own school or community. The two students selected were Tom Brunel and Molly Sue Tyndall and they began their training online over the course of 4 weeks. The four weeks consisted of engagement with other students across Ireland, professional experts on Cybersecurity and Psychologists on Wellbeing using online. Both students enjoyed the peer-to-peer learning, the engagement with professionals and useful strategies on how to make your campaign successful when leading a cyber safety day across your school community.

In late January, both Molly and Tom engaged with their Form teachers, Ms. Harrington and management about how they would organise this day and engage students. As all students were learning remotely, Molly and Tom used the learning platform Teams and social media to promote and highlight this day.

The day started with quizzes and videos on how to be safe online and the effects of Cyber bulling. Junior classes engaged in these activities and the Ambassadors presented information around how to protect yourself online. All Form 2 classes engaged with our Local Garda, Micheal Nagle on cybersecurity and learned about the world of online scams and crime. Our TY’s participated in an informative and pro-active workshop with Paula from Don’t be mean behind the screen. With the recent passing of Coco’s law by the president, Paula delivered and excellent active online class on sexting, sharing explicit images online and consent. Parents were informed around Cyber Safety with a school newsletter created by our Ambassadors with tips on how to reduce screen time at home and on how to protect your family online. The Ambassadors also reached out to the local radio station Dublin’s 98FM and our local newspaper Dublin Gazette to highlight their actions undertaken within the school community around Cybersafety. Congratulations to Tom and Molly on this wonderful leadership shown within our school and well done on your certificate from Webwise and PDST.