Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Internet Safety Tips:

- Create strong passwords using a combination of uppercase and lower case text, symbols and numbers.
- Do not share personal information online including passwords, phone numbers, email address, location, full name.
- Images searches are often how "creepers" locate children: turn off the location setting within your camera application on your phone (this is different than your smartphone's general GPS – it is within your camera application itself, usually under settings > apps > camera > permissions > location > deselect location to ensure it is off) If this feature remains on, "creepers" may be able to see when and where photos that are posted online were taken and can gather too much information about ones location etc.

Report to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's CyberTipline® if:

- Anyone sends your child photos or videos containing obscene content.
- Anyone asks your child to send sexual images.
- Anyone speaks to your child in a sexual manner.
- Anyone asks your child to meet in person.

You can contact them at **www.CyberTipline.org or 1-800-THE-LOST®**
Call 311 immediately if a stranger asks your child to meet in person.

4 things you should never do when it comes to Cyberbullying:

1. Be a bystander
2. "Like" – Do not encourage bullies by approving of their activities
3. Forward – Never spread rude or hateful comments
4. Fail to report it to the school or a trusted adult

Consider viewing the video on Amanda Todd on YouTube without your children present first. Consider then watching it, and discussing it together with your children.
Know that the law is cracking down on Cyberbullying. Some states are now holding parents accountable with fines and jail time.

Consistent supervision and monitoring of apps and device usage is imperative.
Communication is also key.

- View the content your children post – Is it kind? Are they revealing too much? Could it hinder their safety?
- Inappropriate content can **ruin your reputation and damage your future**: talk with your children explaining the fact that whatever they post online is there indefinitely regardless of if the app claims to be a 24 hour turnover, and can affect whether they get into a good high school, college or even into the military in the future – this is called a *Digital Footprint*. What will your children's children see if they Google their parents someday? Have you Googled yourself lately?
- Set an example with digital media use.
- Check out the Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) **www. ESRB.org** to ensure content is appropriate for your child's before allowing them to download the software.

CONTINUED....

“Safe” Apps in Disguise:

- Did you know there are apps that can hide photos, texts and other content that may be inappropriate? Your children, being Digital Natives likely know this. One appears to be a calculator app for example. DO YOUR RESEARCH. Monitor, supervise, communicate, and monitor some more.
- Check your child's search history frequently.

Additional Resources:

www.waituntil8th.org
www.protectyoungeyes.com

Selected tips and resources provided by the LVMPD Internet Crimes Against Children Task force.