

Date 7th April 2017



# Online Safety Newsletter

Issue 8



Dear Parent or Carer

## **The Blue Whale game**

We have been asked to circulate this information by the Police.

**The Police have asked that we circulate to all schools, a dangerous new game that has hit social media.**

**The following has originated from a Police Safer Schools Officer in Leeds.**

The Blue Whale game is a dangerous game that is popular at the moment in Russia and spreading across Eastern Europe.

The game is played online and spreads through social media.

Players are appointed a "master/teacher" and these "masters/teachers" challenge the players in stages, to tattoo a Blue Whale somewhere on the body, usually the arm or the leg. As the game goes on the players are encouraged to self-harm and the final challenge is to commit suicide.

All these actions have to be filmed and shared via social media to the so called "master/teacher". The game is being played by children of all ages, some as young as primary age, but predominantly by teenagers.

Apparently this game has been mentioned on the Romanian News due to the seriousness of the consequences.

This obviously sets a worrying trend and the game has already been mentioned at a school in Leeds

Thank you

Andy Blakeley