Archbishop Temple School

Online Safety Newsletter: May Half Term 2020

Phishing Scams

It has been widely publicised that a number of online criminal scams are taking advantage of the pandemic and members of the general public are falling foul of these scams, in many cases being duped out of money.

A Phishing Scam is usually sent in the form of an email looking like it is from a reputable company, however phishing text messages do also exist. A phishing email is a form of spam and is known for being one of the easiest forms of cyber attacker for a criminal to carry out. This type of cyber-attack aims to trick the recipient into handing over their passwords to companies such as banks and other such services where personal details including banking are available, this then enables them to access these accounts and withdraw or spend money. Another method includes downloading malware which can then spy on your internet browsing, gathering personal data and passwords which are then sent to the criminals.

Recently, I have been made a aware of two new phishing emails that are circulating supposedly from British Gas and TV Licensing, examples shown on the following page. Upon further investigation both were found to be phishing emails designed to scam people out of money.

There are some easy checks that you can make to help you spot a phishing email or text, these include:

- An urgency that money is owed in the content of the email
- Usually a popular service such as bank, utility company, Netflix
- Can be poorly written but this no longer the norm
- Send from an odd email address with many letters and numbers in often from an unknown server or dark web
- Usually a 'click here' to go to your account

Whatever you do **DO NOT click any links**, what happens when you do is the possibility of malware being downloaded onto the device you are using or you are redirected to what looks like a genuine webpage where you are then asked for log in and password details.

If you suspect you may have given away personal information it is essential that you change passwords for that particular service immediately and if you use common passwords across many accounts, change them all.

You can also help by reporting phishing emails to the National Cyber Security centre https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/information/report-suspicious-emails

Omegle

Age rating (17+)

Apple rate Omegle as 17+ and Google Play urge 'parental guidance'.

The Apple stores description of this App is 'Omegle connects you with others through authentic conversation in real time'.

This particular App is high risk and dangerous for children and unfortunately popular with young people. The Omegle talk to strangers online chat forum is where children are vulnerable. In just a few clicks and no age verification checks connections to strangers will be made enabling online chat with possible sexual predators.

If you suspect the Omegle App is being used by your child please do not panic, over react or name the App. Instead plan a time to have a sensible and sensitive chat at an appropriate time.

Please see the video on the YouTube channel by Ineqe - Pause, think & plan: Talking to children about online risk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16Ip86lS4hA

Examples of the British Gas and TV licencing phishing emails are below, these are purely examples of what to look out for.

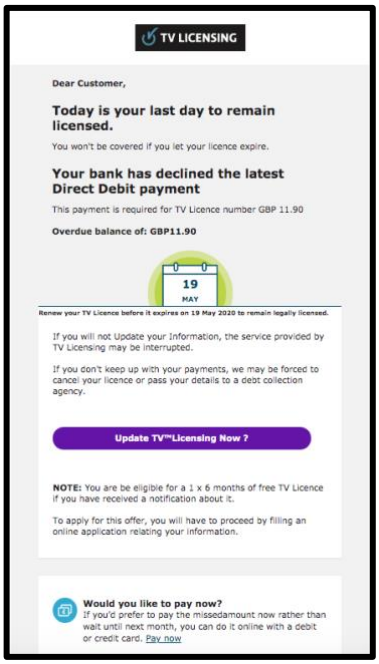
Both of these emails were received in the last month. The first check to make should you suspect a phishing email is to click on the email address of the sender.

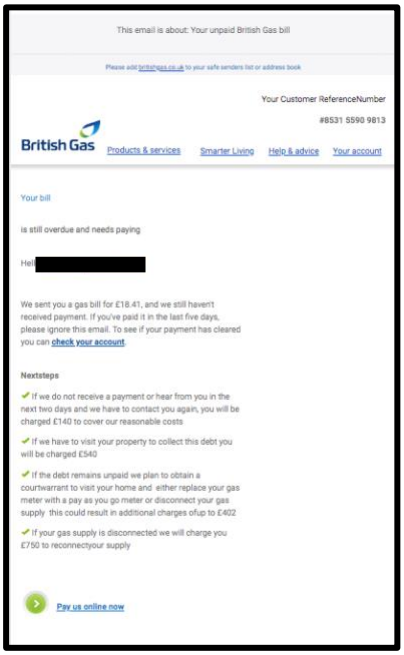
British Gas emails will always be from @**britishgas**.co.uk

TV Licensing emails will be from @tvlicensing.co.**uk**

Neither were the actual senders of these phishing emails

If in doubt DO NOT click on any links and report to the NCSC address given above.





Safer Schools update – Instagram update

Instagram have launched some new settings relating to commenting which could improve user experiences. Users are now able to bulk delete comments made on a post, control postings from certain Instagram accounts and prevent users from being able to tag other users without their permission. Users are now also able to pin positive comments to the top of a post.

Safer Schools App survey

Once you have downloaded and explored the app it would be very useful to hear your views so that you as parents can be best supported in the future. Please go to the **Surveys** section and select the **Safer Schools App parent feedback** survey to share your initial views by answering the 7 quick questions.

Quizzes and Digital Tests

There are a number of Quick Quizzes and also Digital Tests to help you test your knowledge, should you wish to try the Digital Tests please use the pin number 7575 to enter the Tests.

Final Thoughts…

Do you allow your children to have their tech in their bedrooms?

Do you know what your children are doing on their tech?

Do you know what Apps they use regularly and who they are in contact with?

Please use this opportunity to talk to your children and find out the answers to the above questions. Better still only allow tech use in the general areas of the house, especially with the younger ones.

Further support

Mrs McLean is available on email at h.mclean@archbishoptemple.com for further help and advice should you require any assistance outside of school.