Dear Parents and Carers,

**Online Safety Concerns**

You may already be aware of an online game called Momo Challenge. This is a viral game that encourages players to perform a series of challenges. Challenges appear midway through Kids YouTube, Fortnite, Peppa Pig, and other sites, deliberately to avoid detection by adults.

The challenges issued as part of this game present a serious risk to the safety, welfare and emotional well-being of children, as does the distressing content that appears when a player refuses to carry on.

I am aware that the media is not being particularly helpful in its reporting about this current online issue, and that some journalists are suggesting that the whole thing is a hoax. Whether or not this is the case, judging by some of the conversations that we have experienced with children in several of our classes today, it is clear that they are terrified by the concept of Momo, and it is this that we need to address promptly and consistently, both at home and at school.

The key messages we need to reinforce are that Momo is not real, and that the children know who to talk to if they are frightened or concerned by anything that they experience online.

Please find below a link to the National Online Safety guidance on how best to support your children and any questions they might have for you regarding this challenge.

**MOMO parent guidance**

Thank you for your support with this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Stokes