



# Livingston PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**Principal**

BURNET HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
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Dear Burnet Hill Parents:

In the era of text messages, Facebook, Instagram, and various other forms of electronic communication, it is necessary to be aware of your child's activities and messages at all times while online.

We strongly encourage you to check your child's cell phone, Facebook, and Instagram account tonight and on an ongoing basis either alone or with your child present to ensure the safety, privacy, and appropriateness of the activity. Additionally, please closely monitor your child if/when they use FaceTime or video chatting. Completing random checks of your child's internet use will help you to better understand what their online activities look like.

There is one website in particular that is a cause of a great concern. This website, <http://ask.fm>, allows children to post anonymous messages. Many of these messages are inappropriate in nature and could potentially create harmful situations. This website is linked to various other accounts and has created huge concerns for many students across the country.

Please remember that the majority of information your child posts online will comprise their digital footprint, one that will follow them throughout their academic careers. Encourage your child to be responsible with their online activity. Additionally, please consider utilizing some type of software to monitor your child's activity while online.

Two good resources to monitor what your children are doing on social media sites are <https://www.kwicklook.com/> and <http://www.spectorsoft.com/>. Kwicklook sends you a daily email letting you know what your children are saying and doing on sites like Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. Spectorsoft monitors everything your children do on their computers and mobile phones and sends you a daily snapshot of their activity.

Here is a helpful article called "Talking to Kids and Tweens About Social Media" - <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/Media/Pages/Talking-to-Kids-and-Tweens-About-Social-Media.aspx>.

Please contact me with any further questions or concerns.

Thank you,

*Erika Gomez*

Principal