

Digital Citizenship Week 2016

Digital citizens know how to use their devices safely, responsibly, and respectfully.

Dear Families,

In Bend-La Pine Schools, as well as around the country, the week of October 16-22 has been designated as Digital Citizenship Week. As a parent and an educator, I know first-hand the importance of this topic and believe it is something we need to address with our children as part of their education. Digital devices are part of our society, and their presence can be both an asset and a challenge as we balance productivity, screen time, and being present in the moment with our teachers, friends and families. During this week, it is our hope that as a community we can open ourselves to learning and discussing the role that devices play in our home, school and work lives.

We have identified a digital citizenship focus for each grade level, and teachers will lead discussions around these topics during class times. You can find the the topic for your child's grade level listed to the right. We have also identified a Family Focus for each grade level which you will find described below. It is our hope that this family focus is something you can address throughout the school year in your home. Please make sure to check out the links and other support that our team has compiled and listed on our parent support site (<http://bit.ly/dcfamilysupport>). Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Skip Offenhauser

Executive Director of Instructional Technology and Curriculum
Bend-La Pine Schools

FAMILY FOCUS FOR SEVENTH GRADE: UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING OUR DIGITAL FOOTPRINTS

Have you ever Googled yourself? If you have, you've seen what your digital footprint is. Living in a connected world has its advantages but it also leaves a trail. Your digital footprint is all the stuff you leave behind as you use the Internet. Comments on social media, shopping history, browsing history, uploaded photos and email history - it's all part of our digital footprint. Kids need to be taught that their digital footprints begin early and managing its impact starts now. Colleges and employers will research social media and make decisions based upon what they discover regarding someone's digital footprint. Parents can help students begin managing their digital footprint by monitoring online use, modeling proper online behavior, and being careful of the information they share about their child and themselves. In this digital day and age remembering the Golden Rule is even more important than ever because once something is on the Internet it's pretty much there forever.



Seventh Grade

Managing your Screen Time



DISCUSS

Why is it important to be aware of the amount of time you spend in front of screens?



ACCESS RESOURCES

Please visit our parent support site:

<http://bit.ly/dcfamilysupport>



PARTICIPATE

What will your family pledge to do (or not do) with your digital devices this week? If you use Twitter, Facebook or Instagram please share and use the hashtag **#blsdigitalcitizens**. You may be featured on our website!