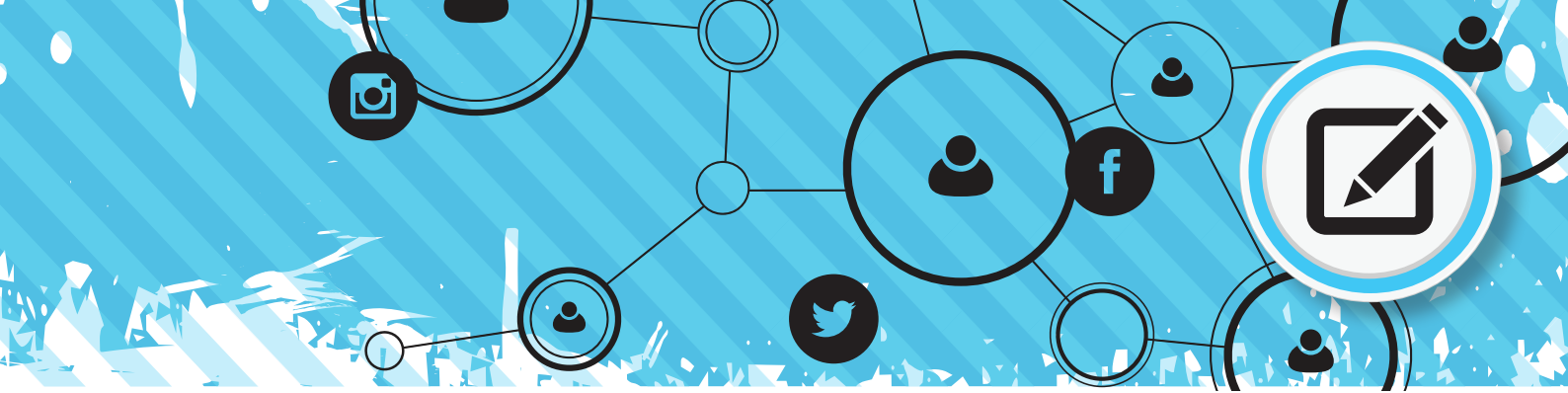# Activity Starters

Listed on the next few pages are some activities that your leadership team could plan and implement in your school. These are just ideas, every school and leadership team are different, so have fun with your activities and make them your own.

Newsletter Items

1. Work out how often you want to include information in your school newsletter or portal.
2. Think of topics to write about for each newsletter.
3. Frame your article so that for each piece of information, you also have a skill building activity. For example:
   Knowledge: Geotagging is a function on most Smartphones, recording the GPS location of where photos are taken.
   Skill: Recommend to Smartphone users that they turn off geotagging on their phone when they are not using it. For most phones this is located under Settings and then Location Services. For some phones this setting is located in the Camera Settings Menu.
4. Try to write as many 'news' articles as possible in the one meeting to have some prepared in advance.

Daily Bulletin / Portal ideas

1. Decide on which day of the week and how often you want to include a tip in the Daily Bulletin. If you are preparing newsletter items, try to use the same theme in the daily bulletin to ensure consistent messages.
2. Decide on the issues you want to address in each term.
3. There is usually much information in each daily bulletin so try to make your item brief, with an action as a part of the information. Questions work well to encourage action. Some examples are below:
   a. **Instagram** – How long has it been since you reviewed your Instagram followers? Do you have any photos of yourself on your profile you wouldn't want your teachers to see? Friends of friends cause more cyber harm than any other online group. Make tonight the night to review your followers, privacy settings and delete any inappropriate photos of yourself.
   b. **Snapchat** – Do you use Snapchat to share photos of yourself? Did you know you can limit who sees your Snapchat stories to only those on your My Friends list or create a custom list? Next time you open Snapchat, check your settings and who can view your story.
   c. **YouTube** – Do you load clips onto YouTube? Did you know you could load clips so the number of people who see them is restricted? Remember once you post a clip on a website in most cases the website owns the clip. Next time you load a clip try out the restricted options.
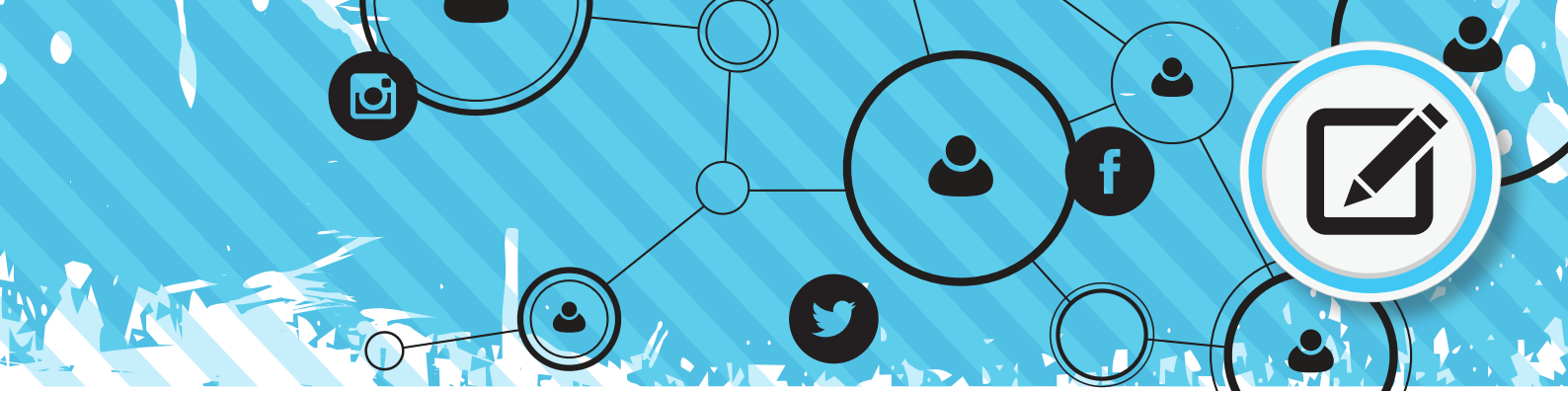
Media / Movies and Drama

1. Decide on the type of theatre you would like to have as your activity. The 'bigger' you make this show/video, the more time and energy you will need to invest in it, e.g. if you are going to encourage the school to do a drama production about a cybersafety issue, you will need support from the whole school.
2. You may need to ask your school if they could fund a prize for the winning entrant/s.
3. Think carefully about what you are hoping to accomplish by creating this show/video or competition. The most effective pieces of media include strategies and are focused on solutions rather than only problems.
4. Here are the links to two clips which might give you some ideas:
    a. **Anti-bullying clip:** http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EA5C-1N_r1w
    b. **Sienna's story:** https://vimeo.com/173728194
5. You may decide to give some guidance to entrants, e.g. limiting its duration to 3 minutes, or, a series of photos showcasing supportive online strategies to reduce cyberbullying.
6. Ask for an opportunity to present the winner/s during the school term.

Assembly Presentations

1. For most school assemblies the maximum amount of time you will have to present is around 10 minutes.
2. Select the issues you feel are most important and focus on these throughout the year.
3. Use your time well, here is an example of a possible structure:
    a. Be confident and excited. Practice what you are going to say. These three simple steps will help you deliver your information in a way others can relate to.
    b. Introduce your topic with one or two statistics and why you feel it is important.
    c. A short relevant clip (no more than around 3 minutes long).
    d. Information regarding the ACTION you are wanting students to take.
    e. A short reminder of why this action is important (linked to your introductory statistics).
    f. Where they could find out more information if they were interested.
4. Many schools plan how their assemblies a term ahead. If you want to speak, make an appointment to see the person who manages this time as soon as you can to request a slot.

Parent Nights

1. Give some thought to what you feel parents need to know about and then make a list of the issues you want to cover.
2. Feel confident. Parents enjoy listening to young people speak; remember if they turned up to listen to you, then they really want to hear what you have to say.
3. Showcase the positive uses of technology.
4. Show parents how they can support their child's safe online travels.
5. Explain to parents the sites/apps you feel are dangerous and why, help them understand how to set clear boundaries for their children.
6. Discuss strategies parents could use when setting up their child's mobile phones/internet usage – help them through this process.
7. Parents also like the use of audiovisual clips, you can use these to assist you when trying to get your point across.

Presentation to school staff

Your life has been surrounded by technology; it is integrated into everything you do. While some school staff are very competent and avid users of technology, for others keeping up to date with social media and other forms of online communication is challenging. Here is a list of popular issues you may wish to address if you are presenting to staff:

- • Instagram/Snapchat and other social media settings
- • Popular websites/apps for teenagers
- • Online reporting avenues
- • Creating and promoting school online help systems
- • Strategies to save information (print screen etc)
- • Information on spam
- • Viral nature of the net/digital footprint
- • Information about Smartphones

1. Plan ahead. Staff meeting times are usually booked a term in advance with most meetings already having clear topics to be addressed.
2. On average you will have around 20 minutes to present. As a rule of thumb most people use around half the number of slides as they have time, so if you speak for 30 minutes you might use 15 slides.
3. Spend time thinking about what you want to get across, why it matters and how you can pass this message on in an interesting way.
4. Another way you could run the session is as a show and tell. Staff really enjoy seeing how you are using technology. You could spend the first half of the time showcasing apps you are using on your mobile phone and the second half showcasing websites you are using. Ensure to explain the benefits of these apps and websites.

Training younger students or peers

1. The most valuable thing you can give younger students is your time. Consider focusing on a year group and each of you, as student leaders, mentor a tutor/home/form group in that year group.
2. Show students how to use technology appropriately, with a goal to cover at least four topics in a term.
3. If you are presenting to your peers you could do so in the following ways:
   a. Talk about the issue at hand (e.g., inappropriate profile pictures/sexting)
   b. Show a clip which highlights the challenges
   c. Talk about solutions/help seeking
   d. Sit with students and assist them to apply the suggestions you have demonstrated (this is where the most effective learning will take place)
   e. Give the group 'homework', asking them to apply the learning.

Reporting strategies in your school

1. Review how students at your school currently report cyberbullying or inappropriate image sharing. You may consider asking other students to comment on the effectiveness of reporting strategies and what, if anything, they feel needs changing or improving.
2. Consider starting with simple strategies like ensuring that every student in your school knows where the offices for the Heads of Year are, or the School Counsellor or to whom in your school students are encouraged to report problems.
3. You might wish to try the following reporting strategies used by other schools:
   a. 'Real' drop box in an easily accessible, but not highly visible, place.
   b. Email address that goes to a staff member to read e.g. report@myschool.edu.au (ensure students know which staff member will read their email).