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Dear Parents/Carers

We wish to inform you of a serious concern raised by the LADO Manager and Safeguarding Partnership Coordinator at Surrey County Council pertaining to the popular children's book series 'Spy Dogs/Pups' and 'Spy Cat', written by Andrew Cope.

It has come to our attention that the website which is referenced on the back page of the books, has been compromised. The site now redirects users to a highly inappropriate website without age verification.

If your child possesses a copy at home, please ensure they refrain from reading the book until we receive confirmation that the issue has been resolved.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the School Office or Surrey County Council at education.safeguarding@surreycc.gov.uk.

We have also been made aware that some children are repeating phrases from the viral social media trend **Italian Brainrot**. These often sound like silly gibberish in exaggerated Italian accents.

What is Italian Brainrot?

'Italian brainrot' is a sub-genre of 'brain rot' which features exaggerated AI characters with Italian-sounding names and audio. Silly and surreal on the surface, there are **concerns that the characters and videos contain racist and other offensive material.**

This is a complex example of the digital world they're growing up in.

Further information about brainrot and Italian brainrot can be read

here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zx6qg2p#zx3sqyc>

As a school, we will teach the children about online safety but please we ask all parents and carers to check what their children are watching online and to be aware that *Italian Brainrot* is **not suitable** viewing in light of the concerns outlined above.

Kind regards,

Mrs Freeman
Academy Head



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