



Taking Action
to Prevent Crimes Against Children

www.fbi-sos.org

Welcome to the first issue of *Safe Online Surfing News*, a newsletter dedicated to highlighting the achievements of students participating in the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge

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FBI-SOS

Safe Online Surfing News

A resource for teachers, school administrators and members of the FBI community who are working to keep students safe online

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The FBI-SOS Internet Challenge Makes a Difference

The FBI-SOS (Safe Online Surfing) Internet Challenge has proven to be an effective tool for helping elementary and middle school students recognize and react to online dangers.

The Internet is an invaluable learning and communication tool for today's students but with online predators preying on unsuspecting children it is important for students to know how to protect themselves.

The concept of the FBI-SOS program is quite simple. It runs month-to-month, so schools can begin participating anytime. The entire program is done via the web, there is no software to buy or install. A teacher simply registers his/her school at the FBI-SOS website (www.fbi-sos.org) allowing students to register under their school name and receive unique IDs and passwords so they can begin.

Students start by taking a short, self-scoring, online *Pre-Quiz* that tests what they currently know about Internet safety. Next, they

complete a *Scavenger Hunt* that takes them to pre-screened websites that have Internet safety tips. Finally, the students take an online *Post-Quiz* to demonstrate what they have learned.

Each student receives a score, and the top students' scores make up the school's team score. At the end of each month, the school with the highest team score wins the National FBI-SOS Trophy and a visit from the FBI.

Program results from the 2006-2007 school year indicate that there was a significant increase in knowledge demonstrated by students who took both the FBI-SOS Pre-Quiz and Post-Quiz. And, students enjoy the competitive nature of the program.

The 2007-2008 program runs from October to May and is FREE to every elementary and middle school in the country. A teacher or school administrator can register their school at www.fbi-sos.org.

Future Educators Promote Internet Safety Nationwide

Inspired by Judge Marilyn Milian of The People's Court, students at Lake Stevens High School in Washington decided to take action against Internet predators and help implement the FBI-SOS program in their local area and take the message nationwide.

In a televised Public Service Announcement (PSA), Judge Milian explains the importance of Internet safety and encourages schools to participate in the FBI-SOS program. Kathy Hahn, a teacher at Lake Stevens High School outside of Seattle, Washington, saw the PSA early one morning and shared the FBI-SOS program details with her students. Now, the group of future educators is using the FBI-SOS program to gain some practical experience by preparing and delivering FBI-SOS lesson plans for middle school students. Once completed, these lesson plans will be presented at national conferences around the country with the hope of reaching even more middle school students.



Judge Marilyn Milian,
FBI-SOS advocate



A safe screen name does not reveal any personal information that a predator might use to find you in the real world



The 2006 Wharton School team and Daryl Hulce, CKSF President

Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation and the Wharton School Team Up for a Third Year to Promote Internet Safety

A team of 10 Management 100 students at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania are working with the Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation at Nova Southeastern University to implement the FBI-SOS program in the Philadelphia area, develop a "Parent" component for the program and recruit sponsors.

As part of one of their fall 2007 classes, the Ivy League

students have to collaborate with a not-for-profit organization and carry out projects and assignments to help further the mission of the organization. The Wharton students had several not-for-profits to choose from and for the third year in a row, students selected to work with the FBI-SOS program. "This year's team is bringing many fresh ideas to the table and working hard to expand the

program beyond its current reach," says Daryl Hulce, President of the Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation.

Under the guidance of Tanya Jeter, Community Outreach Specialist for the Philadelphia FBI, the students on this year's Wharton team plan to visit several Philadelphia area schools to help implement the program.

"Since 2005, more than 10,000 middle school students have visited the Dolphins' webpage dedicated to Internet safety."



The Miami Dolphins Help FBI-SOS Score Some Important Points Off the Field

As one of the earliest supporters of the FBI-SOS program, the Miami Dolphins continue to do their part to help ensure kids stay safe online. The Dolphins help the FBI-SOS program achieve an important goal - *to arm students with the information they need to stay safe online and make learning fun and exciting.*

The Miami Dolphins have supported the FBI-SOS program since its inception in 2004 by dedicating a page on their website to Internet safety tips for kids. During the FBI-SOS online Scavenger Hunt, students are directed to the Miami Dolphins website where they find an important message, "To protect yourself from strangers, you should use a screen name that doesn't reveal anything about you." They will also find sample screen names, both good and bad, and some information about protecting their identity when online. By posting the safety tips on websites that appeal to kids, the young participants are more likely to enjoy the Scavenger Hunt process and learn the safety concepts. Since 2005, more than 10,000 middle school students have visited the Dolphins' webpage dedicated to Internet safety.

The Miami Dolphins are dedicated to making the community a better place for everyone. Their community initiatives include reading programs, toy donations, fitness programs, hunger relief and drug use prevention. The FBI-SOS program is honored to be one of the select educational programs supported by the team and would like to thank them for helping score some points off the field.

2006-2007: A Look Back

Thanks to the dedicated teachers, school administrators and FBI community outreach specialists, the FBI-SOS program was implemented in 10 states last year and more than 8,200 students participated.

Congratulations! 2006-2007 Winners

St. Francis de Sales School, Pennsylvania - October 2006
 West Miami Middle School, Florida - November 2006
 Aventura City of Excellence School, Florida - December 2006
 Emerson Middle School, Ohio - January 2007
 John F. Kennedy Middle School, Florida - February 2007
 Emerson Middle School, Ohio - March 2007
 St. Laurentius School, Pennsylvania - April 2007
 Winston Park K-8 Center, Florida - May 2007



February 2007 winners with Special Agent Cathy Koontz and Jeff Greene from the Miami FBI Office

FBI Citizens' Academy Alumni Help FBI Educate Students about Internet Safety

Approximately 400 Ohio middle school students participated in last year's FBI-SOS Internet Challenge where they learned valuable Internet safety tips. Colleen Brown, FBI Community Outreach Specialist in Cleveland, and Special Agent Gail Thomas had the honor of presenting the National FBI-SOS Trophy twice to Lakewood's Emerson Middle School. Students from the Cleveland middle school won the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge in both January and March 2007.

During the summer of 2007, Ms. Brown spread the word about the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge by introducing the program to teachers and administrators at Ohio middle schools. With the help of the FBI Citizens' Academy Foundation of Cleveland, she sent letters about the FBI-SOS program to local schools encouraging them to participate.

The FBI Citizens' Academy Foundation of Cleveland will again partner with the Cleveland FBI this fall to promote the FBI-SOS program in their region. The alumni group will be donating their time and resources to conduct a mass mailing to middle schools in Ohio with the goal of increasing the number of Ohio students participating in the FBI-SOS program.

Since the FBI Citizens' Academy Alumni groups are made up of business, civic, and religious leaders, their community support is invaluable to the FBI-SOS program. Through their efforts, Ohio school administrators will learn of the free Internet safety program and many more students will learn how to protect their privacy and stay safe online.



Colleen Brown, FBI Community Outreach Specialist, and Special Agent Gail Thomas award a middle school student in Cleveland

“Since the FBI Citizens' Academy Alumni groups are made up of business, civic, and religious leaders, their community support is invaluable to the FBI-SOS program.”



Check your online profile and make sure it doesn't include any personal information (name, address, telephone number, mobile number, private email address, picture).

How Can You Help?

1. Implement the Program at Your School

Log on to www.fbi-sos and register your school today!

2. Sponsor a page on the FBI-SOS Scavenger Hunt

Tens of thousands of students will be directed to your website to pick up an Internet safety tip if you sponsor a Scavenger Hunt page. For more information, contact Daryl Hulce at 954-262-8533 or hulce@cksf.org.

3. Help Spread the Word

Organize a mass mailing to schools in your area informing them about the program, tell teachers and administrators how they can participate, forward potential sponsors to hulce@cksf.org or contact us for additional ideas.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Without the support from our sponsors, the FBI-SOS program would not have become what it is today. Through generous donations of time, money and resources, the following sponsors have helped us in our mission to educate our children about the dangers of Internet predators:

- ◆ The Fischler School of Education and Human Services at Nova Southeastern University
- ◆ Miami FBI Office – Crimes Against Children Unit
- ◆ Time Warner Telecom
- ◆ Miami Dolphins
- ◆ The Enlightenment Foundation
- ◆ Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation



Report illegal online behaviors to the CyberTipline hosted by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at www.cybertipline.com



FBI-SOS

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Questions or Comments?

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Joanne Santivasci
Program Coordinator

Taking action to prevent crimes against children



Photo Gallery



1. Special Agent Mike Clemens, Dolphin's linebacker, Zach Thomas and Special Agent Jim Lewis present certificate to teacher Diane Alvarez 2. St. Francis de Sales School students, October 2006 winners 3. Dr. Singleton, Provost, NSU Fischler School of Education and SAC Jonathan Solomon at the Miami FBI Office 4. 2006 Wharton team awarding students at Friends Central in Philadelphia 5. Special Agent Jim Lewis awarding students in Palm Beach County Florida

The History of the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge

At Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, FL, the Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation (CKSF) at the Fischler School of Education and Human Services was established to create and implement fun, educational, competitive online programs for students of all ages and award scholarships to students based on what they know. In 2004, CKSF's online quiz mechanism, traditionally used to select scholarship winners, was expanded to test and increase elementary and middle school students' knowledge about online safety upon the request of Jeff Greene, FBI Community Outreach Specialist and Special Agent Jim Lewis from the Miami FBI Crimes Against Children Unit.

With the help of corporate sponsors, CKSF and the FBI were able to launch the FBI-SOS (Safe Online Surfing) Internet Challenge in 2005. Originally a resource for middle schools in South Florida, the FBI-SOS program grew in popularity and was forwarded to FBI headquarters in Washington D.C. Impressed with the effectiveness and potential reach of the program, FBI headquarters shared FBI-SOS with all 56 FBI field offices and recommended implementation in

each community to help teach students about protecting themselves from online predators.

Since the program's inception in 2005, more than 10,000 middle and elementary school students from 13 different states have completed the FBI-SOS Internet Challenge. As an incentive for participants, instead of scholarships, winning schools are awarded FBI-SOS Trophies and receive congratulatory visits from FBI Agents.

The program's success is attributed to the dedicated teachers, administrators and FBI Community Outreach Specialists who implement the FBI-SOS program in their classrooms and communities.

For information on other CKSF programs or to learn more about scholarship opportunities available to high school and college students, please visit www.cksf.org.



Special Agent Jim Lewis and Community Outreach Specialist Jeff Greene award a middle school student

