Phew!

Every morning that week Dan had rushed quickly to the kitchen as soon as he awoke. He peered at the calendar and ticked off each day as it arrived. Friday was the day Dan was really looking forward to, it would be his eighth birthday! Although Dan had requested a tablet computer each time a birthday or Christmas came round for the last couple of years, he had so far been unlucky. Finally, he was in luck! After a few tough negotiations about the length of time he would be able to spend using the machine, his parents had given in and his new tablet would be here on Friday!

Friday the 8th of July dawned bright and sunny. Dan was awake with the lark but had to wait patiently for his parents to wake up before he could open his presents. It was a family tradition, everyone had to open their presents at the breakfast table. Dan's mother had cooked his favourite pancakes as a special treat. Tearing eagerly at the wrapping paper, Dan was eventually able to admire his new tablet computer. It rested in its box, sleek and shiny. As his little sister Susie made a grab for his present with sticky fingers, Dan snatched it away quickly.

"Leave it alone, Susie!"
"Don't worry, Dan, I will keep it safe and have it all set up and ready to use by the time you get back from school." Dan's father told him.
"Thanks Dad, I really want to try the Hareham United chatroom so that I can talk to all my mates about football." Dan called over his shoulder as he headed out of the door.

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The day at school seemed to pass really slowly. Even the football game against another class on the field at lunch seemed to drag. Dan gazed longingly out of the window during his lessons, getting himself into trouble. All he could focus on was his new computer waiting for him at home!

When 3:15 arrived at last, Dan dashed for the gate. He shouted to his friend Joe, "Come round later if you would like to talk to some other Hareham fans in their chatroom!"
"Ok," responded Joe, "see you later!"

Dan's father had been as good as his word, so when Dan arrived home, he was able to start using his new computer straight away. After blowing out the candles on his cake to keep his little sister happy, Dan rushed upstairs to his bedroom to log on to his new machine.

Wrapping his blue and white Hareham scarf around his neck, Dan found the chatroom for Hareham United fans and typed in his name. He chatted briefly for a few minutes to some people he knew about Saturday's game.

Then a new name appeared in the chatroom, Freddy joined in the conversation about the game and seemed friendly and funny. Dan's friends left the chatroom, leaving him chatting to Freddy. Following more chat about Hareham, Freddy started to ask Dan some questions about himself, like how old he was, where he lived and which school he went to. Just as he was about to respond, the doorbell rang and Joe arrived. He immediately ran upstairs to see what Dan was doing.

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"Hi Joe!" exclaimed Dan. "Look at this, I have just made a new friend called Freddy in the chatroom for Hareham fans. He seems really nice and friendly."
"Do you know anything about him?" asked Joe. When Dan shook his head, he carried on. "We had a lesson in school today about E-Safety. Our teacher said we should never give out personal information to any strangers online because they may not be who they are pretending to be. Freddy could be a bad man."

"It's really good that you warned me," said Dan. "I was just about to give Freddy lots of information about myself!"
"It's always safer to use a nickname when chatting online and don't give out any personal information that would help a stranger track you down," said Joe.
Joe showed Dan all the internet safety rules he had learned in school and Dan pinned up a copy on the bedroom wall.
"I will definitely take care to stay safe in future. I nearly made a bad mistake today. Phew!"
Just then Dan's mother called up the stairs, "Time's up!"
"Ok, mum!" Dan replied. The boys grabbed a football and hurried outside for a game before it started to get dark.

By Jane Harvey

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Phew! – Oral Teacher Questions

Which football team did Dan support? (AF2) Hareham United

Why did Dan not want his sister to touch the computer? (AF3) Because her hands were sticky.

Do you think the story is fiction or non-fiction? Why? (AF3/AF4) Fiction. There is no team called Hareham United but events *could* happen.

Why did Dan wear his scarf when using the computer? (AF3) To feel part of his football fan group.

Which adjectives did Dan use to describe Freddy? (AF5) Nice, friendly.

What was Dan's birthday breakfast treat? (AF2) Pancakes.

What do you think is the moral of the story? (AF6) Follow internet safety rules to keep safe.

How do you know that this is a modern, up-to-date story? (AF7) Because a tablet computer is included.

Why did Dan say "Phew!"? (AF3) Because he was relieved that he had not given away his personal details.

Which words in the story show what the weather was like on Dan's birthday? (AF2) Bright, sunny.

Why did Dan put up the internet safety rules in his room? (AF3) To remind him to stay safe on the internet.

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Phew! Follow-Up Work

Which football team did Dan support? (AF2)

Why did Dan not want his sister to touch the computer? (AF3)

Do you think the story is fiction or non-fiction? Why? (AF3/AF4)

Why did Dan wear his scarf when using the computer? (AF3)

Which adjectives did Dan use to describe Freddy? (AF5)

What was Dan's birthday breakfast treat? (AF2)

What do you think is the moral of the story? (AF6)

How do you know that this is a modern, up-to-date story? (AF7)

Why did Dan say "Phew!" ? (AF3)

Which words in the story show what the weather was like on Dan's birthday? (AF2)

Why did Dan put up the internet safety rules in his room? (AF3)

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Phew! – 2b – Follow-Up work

Phew! Vocab 1

Write a describing word before these nouns.

noisy children

_____ scarf

_____ pancakes

_____ ball

What do the words in purple mean? (AF2)

requested _____

negotiations _____

dawned _____

tradition _____

eagerly _____

longingly _____

personal _____

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