



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

The Cabinet Office

Department of Communication and Information

Malika Musson

Public Affairs Officer (Acting)

Phone 294-2795

Email: mdmusson@gov.bm

January 14, 2009

5:15 pm

**Protecting Children on the Internet
Presentation and Tips for parents at Somerset Primary PTA**

Last night, Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and E-Commerce, the Honourable Terry Lister JP, MP, attended a PTA Meeting at Somerset Primary School and spoke to parents on the importance of Internet Safety and protecting children from the potential perils of the online environment.

In May 2008, online child protection and anti internet luring legislation came into force to protect our children from becoming victims of exploitation and to promote online safety. The Ministry of Energy, Telecommunications and eCommerce, in partnership with the telecommunication carriers and the Bermuda Police Service, have launched a website, www.cybertips.bm, to provide information and resources about internet safety to parents, children and the public.

Minister Lister stated, "In this age of advanced technology and where the flow of information is readily accessible to the majority of our community, it is important now more than ever to ensure the access to information and the outlets of technology are safe for our children."

Efforts to promote online safety have not stopped with the development of the Cybertips web site but are ongoing. The Ministry has made a commitment to visit every school on the island to give presentations on online safety to the students and to parent groups, such as the PTAs, as well as to other youth based organizations. The Ministry is joined in this effort by colleagues from the Bermuda Police Service, the local ISPs and other stakeholders in the field of child protection, many of whom are taking their personal time to speak on this issue.

If your school or organization would be interested in receiving this important presentation please contact Coral Wells at 505-3677 or via email at cwells@gov.bm. In addition you may call Tina Ming at 295-5151 ext. 1944.

-ENDS-