Bogus stories can be easily spread through SMS and social messaging tools and apps, such as WhatsApp, WeChat and Line.

Here's what you can do when you receive suspicious messages:

1. Check the credibility of the message:
   - Is the information from a reliable source?
   - Is the author an authority on the subject?
   - Cross-check the information with mainstream sources such as newspapers, television and radio
   - Ask family members if you are still unsure

2. Look for tell-tale signs that the information is fake:
   - Incorrect URLs of websites cited
   - Grammatical or spelling errors
   - Sketchy information with few details on persons involved, time and places of incidents
   - Content appeals to emotions – be wary of offers that sound too good to be true

3. Think before you share:
   - Do not perpetuate false information unknowingly

4. Join the myth-busters:
   - Inform the sender of the message that the news is false