

Stillness Junior School Special Edition Newsletter Computing

March 2024

Welcome to our Special Edition Computing Newsletter.

This year is very exciting for Computing at Stillness Juniors. We continue to use the Chrome Books for one day per week in each year group. This enables children to not only complete their Computing work but they are also able to use the Chrome Books for cross curricular lessons enabling them to practice some of their Digital Literacy skills.

Curriculum



In the Summer term we will be launching a new Computing Curriculum. The Teach Computing Curriculum has been developed by subject experts, using the latest pedagogical research and teacher feedback and is fully funded by the DfE. It was developed by the Raspberry Pi Foundation on behalf of the National Centre for Computing Education. The Curriculum is built around an innovative progression framework where computing has been organised into interconnected networks. It is a spiral curriculum which means that themes are revisited regularly to consolidate and build on prior learning.

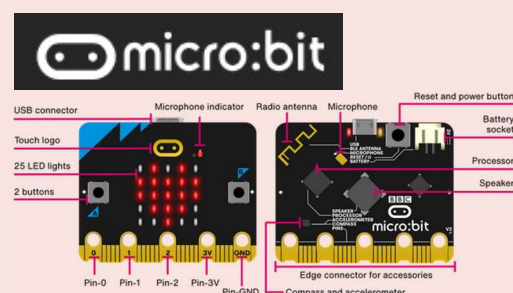
The National Curriculum for Computing is split into three key areas:

- Computer Science – the study of computers as machines and how they operate including programming, algorithms, variables, sequence, selection and repetition,
- Information Technology – the ability to create, retrieve, combine and manipulate digital content. The understanding of computer networks, the world-wide web and the internet and how they operate,

- Digital Literacy – the skills you need to live, learn and work in a society where communication and access to information is increasingly through digital technologies like internet platforms, social media and mobile devices. This includes being knowledgeable and responsible users of technology, using the internet and other platforms safely and respectfully.

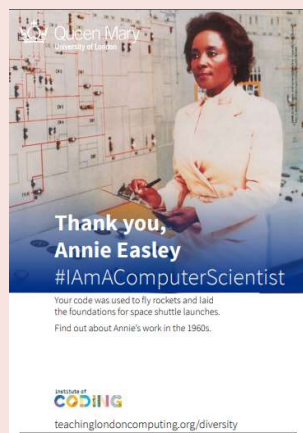
Online safety work will be underpinned by the Education for a Connected World Framework and will continue to be an integral part of learning.

As part of the new curriculum we will also be looking at more physical computing. We have a class set of Micro:bits and are looking at investing in a class set of Crumbles to facilitate this. A crumble connects to a computer through a usb cable and you can attach components like LEDs, buttons and motors to the Crumble using crocodile leads and you can program the Crumble using free software.



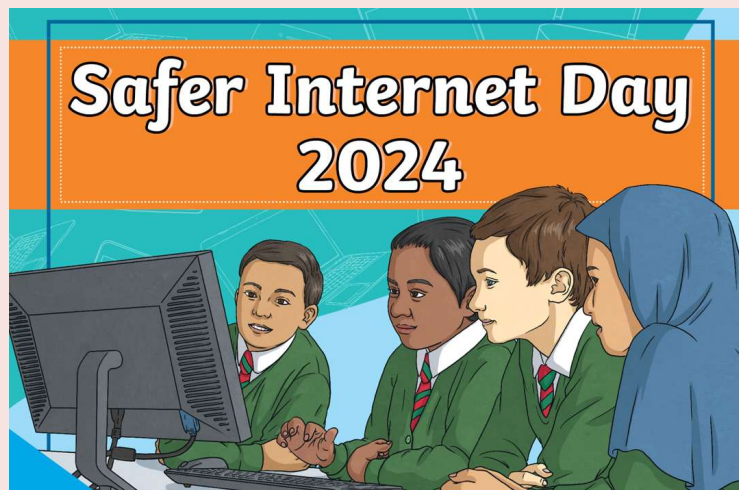
More information about the new curriculum will be available on the School Website shortly.

It is important that children are able to see adults from all walks of life who are using aspects of the computing curriculum in their work. A suite of posters showing inspirational people from the world of computer science will be displayed around the school in order to show our children the people behind some of the developments we rely on every day.



If any of our parent body work in any connected areas and would be interested in coming in to talk to pupils about their work please contact Mrs Renner-Thomas.

Safer Internet Day



On Monday 5th March, Mrs Renner-Thomas led a whole school assembly on Safer Internet Day. The theme for this year's Safer Internet Day was **Inspiring change? Making a difference and navigating change online.** During our assembly we discussed changes we would like to see in the online world and how we might be able to make those changes. We discussed cyber bullying and the ways that children can make themselves safer in an online environment.

For parental support for your children online visit:
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Pupil Voice

Here is what some of our pupils feel about Computing and Chrome Book Day.

'I like that I learned how to insert pictures into a Google Slides document.'
 Y3 pupil

'I like learning how to type.'
 Y3 pupil

'Chrome book days are great because I think we need to learn how to use computers properly. In the future there will be more computers so we will need to know how to use them. We have just finished learning about coding. I found it fun to make a quiz and quick games using different block coding.'
 Y4 pupil

'Chrome book day is good and fun. I like using the computers because it feels more independent and I feel more focused. I love computing as they are varied and fun – my favourites were Scratch and Twisted Waves. I especially liked Twisted Waves as we got to do a podcast where we chose our own music and recorded ourselves. I now feel confident to use the app.'
 Y5 pupil

'In Computer day we have learned how to use several websites like Sketch Up. We have also learned how to use spreadsheets to add, multiply and divide. We do online quizzes on Kahoot! with a prize for the winner – there is a podium and you have to try and get to the top by answering question on a set topic. We use Duolingo to practice our Spanish and Times Tables Rockstars to perfect our times tables. We have learned how to code on Scratch. We have also done several online safety lesson which have showed us what to do and what not to do on the web.'
 Y6 pupil

Here are some safety tips to remember when you are using the internet:

- Don't give anyone your password, name, address, the name of your school or any information about your family
- Don't talk to strangers on the Internet
- Don't agree to meet anyone in person that you've met online
- Don't fill in a profile that asks for your name and address
- Don't visit a chat room without an adult's / parent's permission
- Don't stay online if you see something you think your parents won't like
- Don't post pictures of yourself without your parents' permission
- Do not download or install anything on your computer without your parents' permission
- If you have any questions about something you read, ask your parent or guardian
- If you are talking to someone online and they make you uncomfortable, remember you don't have to talk back to them