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Hello and welcome to our next curriculum newsletter, this time with a focus on Computing. Here you will find out some important information to help you keep up to date with all things related to Computing within school.

Thank you for taking the time to read it and if you have any questions feel free to get in touch.

Mr McFarlane-Majeed

Computing in the Curriculum

At Raddlebarn Primary School, we strive to offer a broad and balanced curriculum for the teaching of Computing that prepares pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand the world around them. Our aim is to equip pupils with high level skills in using ICT, preparing them to apply these across the curriculum.

We offer a Computing curriculum that prepares pupils: to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation; to analyse problems in computational terms and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems; to evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems; and to be fluent and creative users of a range of tools to best express their understanding. We hope that by Upper Key Stage 2 our children have the independence and confidence to choose the best tool to fulfil the tasks and challenges set by teachers.

We want our children to become responsible digital citizens who can live and use technology safely and respectfully, recognize acceptable/unacceptable behaviours and identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact.

We continue to value and embrace our role within the local community. Our aims are to provide opportunities to communicate and share best practice with the wider community. We will also continue to support parents / carers and give guidance about how to keep their children safe online and to use of a wide range of 'new technologies' responsibly.



Why do we use Purple Mash at Raddlebarn Primary School?

At Raddlebarn we use Purple Mash, which is an award-winning website for early years and primary school children. It enables children to explore and enhance their Computing knowledge in a safe, fun and creative way. It has been a very useful tool to establish a meaningful, productive cross-curricular link between the teaching of Computing and other subjects. As Purple Mash is online, children can continue their learning anywhere and anytime. Each user receives an individual login and password to save and retrieve their work.

Also, children can share their creative work and expertise to the wider audience in school and with members of their family.

Taught with Purple Mash throughout the year, online safety is a key part of the curriculum in each year group in our school.

We have been very successful using Purple Mash, not only for teaching Computing, but also for the remote online learning during the lockdowns due to COVID.



Top Tips for Parents and Carers

We are aware that many of our pupils were very lucky to receive new tablets and phones over the festive break and wish these lovely items comes increased risks and responsibilities!

As a parent or carer, you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online and with technology. You don't need to be an expert on the internet/devices to help keep your child stay safe. Advice and resources are available to support you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibility and positively. The main thing to note is talk about safety with your children and also monitor usage of these devices!

Have a look at the links below with some suggestions on how to get you started and help you to stay safe and positive online. You and your family can play your part in creating a better internet!

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022/advice-for-parents-and-carers>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Computing is taught once a week and builds skills as pupils progress through the school. Lessons are done using iPads or in our lovely dedicated ICT Suite. The lessons have a range of computing skills but also teach pupils about being safe online and when using technology.



Safer Internet day 2022

This week was Safer Internet Day. It is a day that is recognised nationally and give pupils the chance to examine and reflect on being safe online and how our actions can impact others. This year's theme is All fun and games? and is all about exploring respect and relationships online'. This is crucial with young people using technology more and more frequently in their lives.

From gaming and chat, to streaming and video, young people are shaping the interactive entertainment spaces they are a part of Safer Internet Day 2022 celebrates young people's role in creating a safer internet, whether that is whilst gaming and creating content, or interacting with their friends and peers.



Safer Internet Day linked activities and lessons: The classes will also be doing some activities and learning this week to help them think more deeply about their actions, how to be safe and how to care for each other online linked to our themed day!

Nursery and Reception: Are discussing with pupils who they would go to if they needed help with anything online. Learners will draw a picture of their trusted adults.

Year 1: The children will read some Digiduck stories about his adventures with technology and answer questions on his quiz

Year 2: Use discussion time and lesson resources to make a kinder internet spell to think about being safe online and how this could happen!

Year 3: Explore the concept of is everyone who they say they are online and consider online relationships and who can be trusted online

Year 4: Will design using an online tool their own quiz about being safe online thinking about the SMART rules that help us stay safe

Year 5: Are using their computing skills to create a presentation about all they know about the online word and dangers and how to keep safe.

Year 6: Discuss how they internet is a powerful and useful tool but also has a darker side by planning and holding a debate about whether being online is good or bad