

## Curriculum Newsletter 8: COMPUTING

WHAT'S  
IN A  
NAME?

### What is Computing?

Under the New Curriculum we saw the change from ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) to Computing. With this saw more than just a name change. The

Government want children to be better prepared for entering the workplace in this new digital world and so they have placed greater emphasis on learning skills such as computational thinking and creativity to understand the world around them.



### Computer Science

To cover this part of the curriculum children are learning about algorithms (specific sets of instructions), how to find patterns, how to debug problems (spot errors and correct them) and how to think for themselves. This is lucky as the new curriculum leaves a lot of

teachers feeling rather nervous – but we have decided that it is good to learn alongside the children and on occasion let the children take the lead!

### Digital Literacy

It is still essential that children know what is possible when using any digital device and so we continue to teach them how to use the various Microsoft Office applications and how the internet and networks work.



### Keeping Safe

E-Safety remains a very key part of the Computing curriculum. With more and more children active on devices (tablets, mobile phones, laptops etc.) attached to the internet it is essential that we help to equip them to be good digital citizens. We hold a whole school E-Safety event every year as well as promoting E-Safety whenever children use the internet at school and doing regular in class E-Safety lessons.

The main message to the children...

**Who can keep you safe online? YOU!**



 LearnPad



### Equipment

We have a bank of laptops that the children use at least once a week for their Computing lesson but teachers often use them within other lessons too. We also have a bank of LearnPads – educational tablets that the can be used for any subject and the children love to use them.

### Website and Blogs

The school website is kept up-to-date with information we feel will be of use to you. If there is something you feel is missing we would love to hear from you.

As well as the website, each class has a blog and the teachers try hard to keep these up-to-date – their purpose being to give you a glimpse into your child's classroom and so into their education. Not only does it give the children an opportunity to comment upon their education it can serve as a useful conversation starter for parents; particularly for any of you, who like me and many others when asking, 'What did you do today?' get the response, 'Nothing!'

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter and should you have any comments, queries or concerns about any aspect of this subject, or indeed have any expertise that you would like to share, please feel free to contact me.

*Mrs Helen Pentecost*

Year 3 Teacher / Computing Leader / Governor

