



Odyssey Computing Hub

Teach

Computing

May Newsletter

CELEBRATING OUR TEACHERS



Teachers across the country are going the extra mile at this time and it's always lovely to be able to publicly celebrate their creativity and commitment to their pupils.

Lauren Jenkins from Coalway Junior School has been using the software highlighted in a recent course to inspire her pupils during lockdown. It was such a treat to hear from Lauren who said *'I recently did some training with you and you introduced me to PIXLR and I just wanted to say thank you! I used it in school with some of the key worker's children to make postcards and now we are going to upload a 'how to' to our website for all children to try!*

It really is great and something I think the children are going to love so thanks again!

Lauren has used PIXLR (which enables you to easily combine images) to create a postcard picturing her drinking tea in an exotic location. She is using this idea to encourage her class to do the same as a way of keeping in touch with loved ones that they are missing due to the lockdown.

CPD FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENT TEACHERS

Remotely Delivered Courses

Lots of work has been going on behind the scenes at Teach Computing to adapt all face to face courses to make them suitable for remote delivery. If you are looking to take part in some CPD activities during lockdown, this is a fantastic opportunity for you to do so. Friendly live sessions, which are hosted by a Computing Hub facilitator, can be accessed without you having to leave home. You will be able to engage with the course tutor and other attendees via a chat facility and will be supported before and after the sessions in a community group. Completing these courses will set you on the path to attaining your computing certificate, a nationally recognised qualification. CPD courses are available for both primary and secondary teachers and, in order to support teachers at this time, the courses are being made available free of charge. To find out more and take advantage of this opportunity sign up through [Teach Computing](#).

Online courses

[Teach Computing online courses](#) differ from those that are remotely delivered in that they are not live or facilitator led, instead you are guided through the training by watching videos and completing practical tasks. There are a number of online courses at both primary and secondary level.

HOME LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Barefoot

have produced weekly sets of unplugged activities for primary school pupils. These resources can be accessed by parents without needing to log in to the site. The activities are designed to support pupils with developing computational thinking skills. If you are looking for [home learning opportunities](#) for computing, but away from a screen, you might find these a useful resource.

The Raspberry Pi Foundation

The Raspberry Pi Foundation have a range of '[digital making at home](#)' projects for KS2 children. Ranging from coding music to creating your own 3D bug, each project has video guides and three levels of difficulty and are suitable for beginners through to advanced coders.

Isaac Computer Science

[Isaac Computer Science](#) provides a freely available online platform to support students, primarily with Key Stage 5 content. There is also a GCSE transition section and live training events aimed at A Level Computing Science students and teachers.

HOME TEACHING

Teach Computing

Teach Computing and its partners have produced high-quality, free, [computing activities for students](#) of all ages.

If you are looking for supported home learning opportunities for your pupils, Teach Computing have a range of lessons for pupils to engage with. These have been organised into weekly topics and include an opportunity to join a live Q&A session to respond to any queries from students relating to the activity.

E-SAFETY

Internet Matters

Many teachers will be concerned about e-safety at this time when children are at home spending more time online. [Internet matters](#) has a vast range of resources and guides for parents with helpful advice from how to use parental controls to how to converse with your children about their online activity.

BBC Own It

[The BBCs 'Own It' site](#) is a fantastic resource for both primary and secondary aged students. With content aimed at children rather than parents (it even has a section on 'managing parents'!) it is presented in a really appealing format and includes advice on a wide range of topics. Well worth signposting parents to.

Childnet

Childnet has made a number of [resources available for home learning](#), organised by age group they have activities suitable from age 3 to 18.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

CAS

If you aren't already a member of [Computing At School](#) (CAS), then do join and take part in remotely hosted CAS meetings. Like remotely delivered courses, you are no longer limited by geography when considering which meeting to attend. There are many meetings currently taking place covering a wide range of interesting and useful topics and would be of interest to both teachers and subject leaders of all key stages. If you have a question or want to get in touch with other computing teachers, the discussion forums are a friendly, supportive and helpful source of information and advice and are well worth engaging with.

Teach Computing News and Updates

From the Teach Computing website you can [access news](#) relating to all things computing education in a variety of formats. News articles, blog posts, podcasts and Pedagogy Quick Reads are all featured and provide information on a range of topics that would be of interest to subject leaders, teachers and students.

Odyssey Computing Hub

Thank you for reading our newsletter.

We are keen to provide you with a newsletter which is a useful source of information. Please get in touch with any suggestions for content and any feedback on how we can improve. We would also love to hear about what you are doing. Stay safe and do keep in touch.

All the best Cara, Sarah and Barry

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