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Dear Parents / Carers,

Technology has fast become an integrated part of everyday life, impacting on everything from communication to shopping, from networking to gaming. As a result of this, ICT has become a large part of children's learning, with an expectation that children begin to learn computer programming at a primary school age.

At Braybrook Primary School, to help our children to develop their skills in computing and to use ICT to aid their learning in the other subject areas, we have recently subscribed to 'Purple Mash'. This is a website that has a variety of games and templates for children to use. Braybrook has their own 'Purple Mash' portal and each child has their own login details (see overleaf). The children will also be using these logins in school and they have their own folder to save their work online, which can also then be accessed at school.

'Purple Mash' has been designed with the children's safety at the heart of it - there are no 'pop-up' adverts, there is no contact with people online and children are not able to make financial transactions!

Although originally created for laptops or desktop use, 'Purple Mash' is also accessible through tablets and iPads. However, please be aware that some areas are still in the process of transferring across.

What can you find on 'Purple Mash'?

Games: This tab can be found at the top right corner of your screen and has a variety of games, particularly focused on maths and literacy.

2Code: This section develops computer programming skills. It has video explanations and a variety of challenges to complete, from writing an algorithm to debugging a programme! (Be sure to find the right programme for your child's age.)

2Animate: Children can create their own short animations.

2Paint: Use the tools to create pictures, but remember to save your work so that you can share it with your friends at school!

There are a vast number of activities to be found on 'Purple Mash', so you'll need to use the search bar to help you to explore - just type in a word and see what comes up!

WARNING: *Please remind your children to take regular breaks from the computer / tablet and also to make sure that they are using the technology in a comfortable position, without causing strain to the back and neck.*

At the end of the year we would like to send out a questionnaire to parents and children, to know gauge your thoughts on 'Purple Mash'. However, if you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please inform your child's class teacher and they can then pass them on to the Computing Co-ordinator or technician.

Kind Regards

Miss J Jensen
Computing Co-ordinator

