

Opportunities to celebrate Computing in our school.

Every year at St Brendan's, we celebrate national Safer Internet Day. An assembly is led by our Online Ambassadors, who are a group of KS2 children with a keen interest and key skills in Computing and Online Safety. All of the children are invited to enter a different competition each year linked to the key SID message. In addition to this, the Online Ambassadors meet regularly to discuss ideas and try out any new programmes, which they can then use to support others within school. Our ambassadors also meet with our trust schools' ambassadors, which allows them to work collaboratively with those outside of our school. We also have external visitors who come into school to further support children with their online behaviour and safety skills.

Why is Computing important to learn?

At St Brendan's, we are determined to provide children with the essential computing skills to aid them in today's modern lifestyle. Computer Science introduces children to understanding how computers and networks work. It also gives all children the opportunity to learn computer programming, from simple programmable toys to decoding complex codes. Information Technology focuses on the use of computers for collecting and presenting information in a range of ways including Word, PowerPoint and Excel, and using search technology safely and efficiently. Digital Literacy is about the safe and responsible use of technology, including recognising its advantages for collaboration or communication as well as being a responsible digital citizen.

Computing lessons let us explore new programmes and learn how to use these to share our work in different ways, I really like using the Green Screens!

Computing at St. Brendan's Catholic Primary School

What does Computing look like at our school?

There are three main strands of the Computing curriculum, which are built into the schools long-term plan. The plan is progressive in its approach developing key skills for our EYFS to Year 6 children. At St Brendan's, we use NCCE plans to support the learning of each strand of the computing curriculum. The three main strands are: Computer Science, Information Technology and Digital Literacy. The use of technology is also used to enhance learning across the whole curriculum. Children have access to a range of resources to support the Computing curriculum such as laptops, iPads, Green Screens and programmable toys. During all lessons, the children are exposed to, and encouraged to use, subject specific language to enhance their vocabulary and communication skills.

Online safety lessons help us to understand the importance of keeping ourselves safe online. We learn about how some websites can show fake information and how to identify sites which are safer for us to use.