

## **Saint Vincent de Paul Parish School Computer Class 2017-2018**

A note to all parents:

This year, all students will be using the typing program, Typing Agent, to practice their typing skills. Typing Agent uses a spiraling curriculum that reinforces common blends, grade-level words, and educational knowledge while preparing them for additional technology courses. This is a web-based program that can be used at home, in addition to the classroom. Students should be practicing their typing skills 2-4 times per week for 15-30 minutes each time. It is very important that students practice these skills at home in order to gain speed and accuracy. Parents will be receiving more information about the program and how to access it from home later this month. Students in Kindergarten will start this typing program after Winter Break.

Students will also learn about digital citizenship and how to safely navigate and collaborate online. Each lesson will include a parent tip sheet that help parents reinforce the ideas at home. A link to the tip sheet will be listed in the summaries below.

If you have not yet read and signed the Acceptable Use of Internet Policy, please do so now. A copy of the policy is [here](#). Please complete the Acknowledgement Form [here](#).

If you have any questions or concerns regarding computer class, please contact me at [asloan@stvincents-school.org](mailto:asloan@stvincents-school.org) or 801-527-2073.

Looking forward to a great year with your students!

Sincerely,

Alicia Sloan

### **September Summaries**

#### **Kindergarten**

Students will be practicing mouse control and learning how to navigate around the computer. Students will be using the website ABCYA.com to practice mouse skills while reinforcing ELA and Math curriculum. We will also start to discuss digital citizenship and how to do searches online. ([Parent Tip Sheet](#))

#### **First Grade**

Students will be concluding Star Testing by completing the Math test this Thursday (9/7) and next Monday (9/11). Students will also work on learning the basics of programming using

Code.org. This month we will discuss the topic of debugging. In the lesson, students will work to spot errors in a series of programming puzzles. Students will also use ABCYA.com to create an All About Me poster.

### **Second Grade**

Students will be concluding Star Testing by completing the Math test on Wednesday (9/6). This month's digital citizenship lesson focuses on "Going Places Safely." ([Parent Tip Sheet](#)). Students will continue to learn basic programming skills this year using Code.org. This month we will focus on persistence and the importance of planning by doing an activity related to building a foundation.

### **Third Grade**

Students will be concluding Star Testing by completing the Math test on Tuesday (9/5). The students will become familiar with Microsoft PowerPoint by creating a Four Seasons PowerPoint presentation. Students will continue to learn basic programming skills this year using Code.org. This month students will learn how to translate instructions into a program and recognize an algorithm.

### **Fourth Grade**

Students will be concluding Star Testing by completing the Math test on Tuesday (9/5). The class will do an activity in Microsoft Word that ties to religion and The Beatitudes. Students will learn different formatting skills and apply them to the project. Students will continue to learn basic programming skills this year using Code.org. This month students will learn how to translate instructions into a algorithm and how that plays a role in programming. The month's digital citizenship lesson will focus on what it means to take on responsibilities in both their offline and online communities as a way to learn how to be good digital citizens. ([Parent Tip Sheet](#))

### **Fifth Grade**

Students will be concluding Star Testing by completing the Math test on Wednesday (9/6). We will discuss poetry formats and create a Cinquain Poem relating to Fall in Microsoft Word. Students will practice their formatting skills in this activity. Students will continue to learn basic programming skills this year using Code.org. This month students will learn the difference between a detailed and general algorithm while playing with tangrams. This month's digital citizenship topic is smart searching. The students will learn strategies to increase the accuracy of their keyword searches. ([Parent Tip Sheet](#))\

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## **Middle School**

### **Sixth Grade**

Students will be concluding Star Testing by completing the Math test on Wednesday (9/6). The students will complete an assignment relating to the ancient civilization of Mesopotamia.

Students will take a survey related to their thoughts on Computer Science and begin a lesson on problem solving. This month's digital citizenship concept will focus search strategies and life with digital media. Students learn a five-step method for planning and carrying out an online search ([Parent Tip Sheet](#)). Also, students will be introduced to the 24/7, social nature of digital media and technologies, and gain basic vocabulary and knowledge for discussing the media landscape ([Parent Tip Sheet](#)). In this month's project, students will create a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet with graph based on their favorite activity to do in Fall. At the end of the month, students will research a "Wonder" from the website Wonderopolis.com. Students will answer questions and write a brief summary of the topic they researched. This activity will be done every month for the first two quarters to prepare them for the "Genius Hour" project in Q3.

### **Seventh Grade**

Students will be concluding Star Testing by completing the Math test on Friday (9/8). Students will take a survey related to their thoughts on Computer Science. This month's digital citizenship, students will be introduced to the 24/7, social nature of digital media and technologies, and gain basic vocabulary and knowledge for discussing the media landscape ([Parent Tip Sheet](#)). This month's project focuses on researching a topic related to access and equity of technology. Then they will create a project in Google Apps and present their findings. At the end of the month, students will research a "Wonder" from the website Wonderopolis.com. Students will answer questions and write a brief summary of the topic they researched. This activity will be done every month for the first two quarters to prepare them for the "Genius Hour" project in Q3.

### **Eighth Grade**

Students will be concluding Star Testing by completing the Math test on Friday (9/8). In this month's digital citizenship lesson, students will be introduced to the 24/7, social nature of digital media and technologies, and gain basic vocabulary and knowledge for discussing the media landscape ([Parent Tip Sheet](#)). This month, students will be completing a major project using Google Slides. Students will be divided up into groups to create an If-Then Adventure Story. This activity will increase their knowledge of Google Slide features and help them practice collaborating in groups. At the end of the month, students will research a "Wonder" from the website Wonderopolis.com. Students will answer questions and write a brief summary of the topic they researched. This activity will be done every month for the first two quarters to prepare them for the "Genius Hour" project in Q3.