7th October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to let you know that this week our pupils have been set their first piece of IT homework for the year. Rather than setting homework every week we set a more significant homework project each half term and give pupils a couple of weeks to produce a high quality piece of work for us.

All IT homework in Years 7, 8 and 9 are set using a website called Google Applied Digital Skills and we have a specific sequence of homework tasks planned for each homework phase right the way through Key Stage 3. Google Applied Digital Skills is a platform most pupils will be familiar with using.

The lessons themselves include step by step demonstration videos and in many cases will combine some useful IT skills with some other useful life skills. Links to these lessons have been posted to pupils' Google Classrooms in the usual fashion and clearly titled as homework. Completed work should be attached to that same assignment post and handed in.

I would recommend pupils are encouraged to make an early start to the homework task and avoid leaving it until the last minute due to the scale of the tasks. Pupils should also be encouraged to watch the demonstration videos in full rather than reading the title of the lesson and assuming they know what to do, in many cases these lessons demonstrate discrete skills that are only clear to pupils who have taken in the demonstration videos.

I am also aware that some pupils will struggle to access a computer at home to complete these tasks, **as a department we will be offering computer access in our IT rooms on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after school for any pupil that needs to make use of them.** Teaching staff will be on hand to lend support in these sessions and reminders will be given each week in addition to the resources provided on the learning platform. Please note whilst it may be possible to complete tasks on some tablets and smartphones, often these are restrictive and fiddly to complete some aspects of some lessons and I would recommend pupils use a computer or laptop where possible, either at home or in the after school availability mentioned here.

As many of you will already know, our school-wide reports require homework to be completed to secure an 'on track' or better mark for overall progress so it is important that pupils complete these projects to support their progress overall.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mr G Bogoje
Head of ICT/Computing

Springfield School
Central Road, Drayton, Portsmouth, PO6 1QY

Headteacher Ms S F Spivey BSc, MA

Tel (023) 9237 9119
Email contact@springfield.uk.net
Web www.springfield.uk.net
Twitter @SpfldUK