the Click IT! News

Parent and Nursery Edition

Justine

Launch of our new website...
www.clickit-kids.co.uk

Dear Parents, Nursery Staff and Nursery Owners,

We are thrilled to be launching our new Click IT! website. It's easier than ever for parents to find out more about our Click IT! classes. Our new feature allows parents to find out where our classes take place, with nursery listings and links. We also have a new parents page for links to lesson plans and activity leaflets.

www.clickit-kids.co.uk/infoforparents. *Password: technology*

Check out our News page for the latest news, lesson information, articles, picture gallery and key dates.

It's easy to enrol and pay too: www.clickit-kids.co.uk/enrolpay

Happy Holidays and see you next term!

The Click IT! Team

Click IT! Learning with technology

HOME | MEETING EYFS | WHERE WE ARE | ENROL & PAY | WORK WITH US | NEWS | CONTACT US

What we do
Click IT! provide pre-school computer classes in nurseries. Classes support the EYFS curriculum, yet our main objective is to enable the learning of technology in a fun and exciting way. Classes will fully prepare your child for today's technology environment.

Read more

Where we are
The Click IT! team consists of area tutors, based in children's nurseries, mainly within the M25 and its perimeter. We offer computer classes in Harrow, Blackheath, Ealing and Croydon nurseries – in addition to many more locations. Click-through to see if we are near you.

Read more

Enrol Now!
Enrol & Pay

Like us on Facebook

Click IT! Areas

Wendy Petersen – Founder & Harrow, Ealing, Barnet
Jane Philalithis – Blackheath
Lynn Howard – Cheam
Joanne Horner – Southfields
Raj Patel – Hemel Hempstead
Marion Grant – Croydon
Jayshree Hawkins – Uxbridge
Jackie Wilson and Kay Munday – Broxbourne and Upminster
Kim Maxwell – North Cheshire
Alex – Diggers Nursery, Hampshire

For more details about our classes and contact details for the areas above, please visit our new website: www.clickit-kids.co.uk
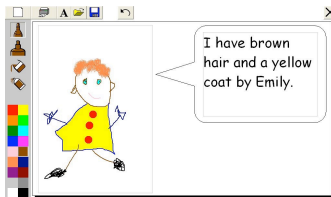
Spring Term Dates 2016

10 weeks: 8th January – 24th March
Half term break: 15th – 19th Feb

Click IT! Computer Club - Spring

Computer Art!

In our first project this term **'All About Me'**, the children will be creating a self-portrait. Firstly, they will be using a mirror to study their mouth, nose, eyes, eyebrows nose and ears. To help with cursor control, the children will be using a graphics pen or very young children may be able to use a touch screen. They will be encouraged to draw their head shape first and then add eyes, nose and mouth. To complete their picture, they will draw on some hair with the graphics pen in the colour of their choice. As a group they will look at each other to describe their characteristics and then talk about the picture they have created.

In our second project your children will be creating their very own **'Spring Handprint Flower'** picture. This project is the ideal opportunity for the children to learn that Spring is one of four seasons and marks the end of winter. The trees start to have leaves and flowers start to bloom. Using the graphics pen and tablet they will trace around their fingers to create a hand print outline, helping to develop their fine motor skills and improve hand/eye coordination. They will be able to choose different colours and a variety of stamp sets to decorate their hand picture.

The children will be using a variety of stamp sets to add flowers to their hand prints and will be able to change the size of their stamps to small, medium or large.

Spring Themes…

'At The Garden Centre' - Your children will enjoy completing activities about fruits and vegetables, plants and flowers. In **'Fruity Segments'**, the children will be completing activities relating to quarters, thirds and halves of fruit segments. In **'Sort the Veg'** the children will be sorting vegetables that grow under, on or above the ground.
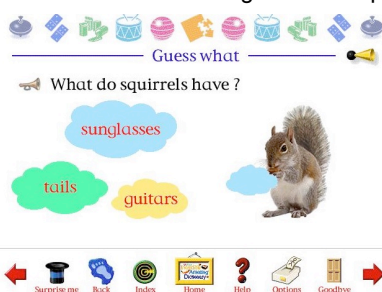
Improvers

Caring For Animals: Animals are irresistible to most children and in our short video clip the children will learn how to treat pets with kindness and respect. **In 'Helping Farmer' Giles'**, the children will be clicking on objects that the animals need to be healthy and safe in their environment. In our second activity they will be choosing a pet they would like to look after. Will they choose a goldfish, rabbit, hamster or a cat? What objects will they click on to help look after their pet?
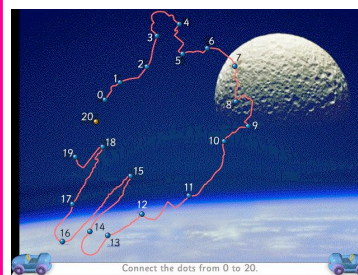
Explorers & Beginners

Explorers: In **'Hide and Seek'**, the children will be practicing mouse skills by using the mouse to click on the balloons to find where Mike Monkey is hiding. The children will be making choices in **'Bo Likes to Wear'** and will be using the mouse to click and choose Bo's clothes such as a dress, tie, hat, shirt, trousers, top or boots. Our Beginners will be working with an interactive dictionary in **'What's that noise?'** where the children will be matching sounds to pictures. **'Guess what?'** asks questions such as "Does a zebra have stripes, wings or spots?" or "Do pelicans have drills, caps or beaks?" They will enjoy watching the silly animation if they select the wrong answer!

Intermediate

In **'Dot to Dot'**, the children will start by finding zero and then click on all the dots up to 20. Once they have connected all the numbers together in sequence, they will enjoy watching the picture animate into a photograph. Can they guess what it might be?

Flowers: In this mathematical activity, the children will be sharing flowers equally between a number of vases shown. They will be using the mouse to click and drag each of the flowers to place them into the vases.

Advanced & Whizz Kid

Word Robot: In 'Word Robot' the children will be using a word bank to build simple sentences. They will be dragging the words into a grid and pressing the play button to hear the robot says the words. They can even use the microphone to record their own words to use in the word bank. Our Whizz Kids are competent with counting and will thoroughly enjoy

our simple addition activity, **'Pirate White Beard.'** They will be adding numbers to up to 5 using objects to help explain this concept and at the same time, racing to beat Pirate White Beard's ship.

ICT – is not just about iPads & computers!

Introducing ICT to your children at home

ICT or 'Information and Communications Technology' relates to a hundred different devices including mobile phones, computers, digital cameras, DVD players, microwaves etc. The one thing that is common to all these devices is that they all carry a microchip which is a tiny circuit board which programs something to make it work. Children take these things for granted in this technological world and there is a lot that parents can do to help their children explore different technologies inside and out the home to see why things happen and how things work.

Babies and ICT - Babies will begin to experience ICT as they see technology being used by the people that they know around them. As babies are so inquisitive they will enjoy pressing buttons, watching lights flash and listening to the music of a simple electronic toy. Be careful to make sure that all toys are safe and specially intended for them.

Toddlers and ICT – there are so many household appliances where toddlers can get actively involved – with supervision of course! From a microwave to a washing machine – they will enjoy programming these devices which will not only encourage their curiosity, but also help them with numbers and words. When you are out and about with your child, take note of the technology all around them for them to explore such as pressing the button at the pedestrian crossing or looking at the digital screens at the supermarket, airport and the train station.

As toddlers are so fascinated by sound and music, they will love playing with interactive musical instruments such as a simple electronic keyboard, which will give them hours of fun learning to create different sounds and tempos.

Be mindful of buying toys such as vacuum cleaners, drills or food mixers because of their limited play value. As they only do 'one thing' the novelty may wear off quite quickly. They also use batteries, which can be costly to replace. One option is to give the toy without the batteries, so that your child can use their imagination to make the sound effects. You can always add the batteries at a later date so that it becomes a totally new toy again!

ICT for young children - Technology can provide a rich learning tool for children to use. Children love its 'magic' qualities, where things can happen at the touch of a button. It also gives them a sense of control, something that is very powerful when you're a small person in a big world.

Exploring ICT at home

Without it costing too much!

- Children are fascinated by **machines in the home**. Encourage them to recognise numbers, read the on/off switch and tell one sound from another.
- **Help them to load DVDs and CDs**. This will develop their curiosity and their skill with small movements. It also teaches children how to treat equipment correctly and with respect.
- On local trips to the shops, children love to catch sight of themselves on **closed-circuit TVs.**
- Pressing the buttons at the **pedestrian crossing** or seeing how scanners and tills operate.
- Help with the shopping by using the **digital weighing machines** and reading the results together with you.
- ICT in **outdoor play**. Metal detectors, walkie-talkies, CD players, remote controlled cars can all be used outdoors.
- **Digital stopwatches** and heart monitors help children to see the effects of exercise on their bodies.
- A child's **cassette player**, can be played with for years. Children can dance, record, tell stories and nursery rhymes and use the karaoke feature for performing. Parents can record favourite stories for bedtime and children can listen to a story over and over again. Young children can easily work the machine themselves if they are shown how.
- If you own a **digital camera, a scanner** or a **digital video recorder** you can have lots of fun with children. A four year old is perfectly capable of taking digital photos and printing the results with supervision.
- **Scanners** can be used to take copies of children's paintings, drawings, writing, weaving or needlework, then make posters or books.
- Children love to be **videoed** as they dance, sing, tell a story, dress up, play with friends or make a cake. They will enjoy videoing you too!

And finally... Introducing young children to technology now, means that they will develop the confidence to use it to their advantage in the future.