

# RPCS Technology



## Technology Curriculum

All Lower School students have technology classes. Grades K-5 have computer class twice a cycle. Each class session is 45 minutes long. All students prior to entering Sixth Grade are expected to have opportunities to demonstrate mastery of the following Technology standards:

1. **Creativity and Innovation:** Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology .
2. **Communication and Collaboration:** Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others .
3. **Research and Information Fluency:** Students apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information.
4. **Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision Making:** Students use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources.
5. **Digital Citizenship:** Students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior .
6. **Technology Operations and Concepts:** Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems, and operations.

All the standards are from the International Society for Technology in Education(ISTE).

# Keyboarding

Proper keyboarding posture and finger placement is taught in 2nd grade and reinforced in 3rd grade. Being able to be an effective typist is a critical skill that the girls will need as they move up in grades and then into the career world. While we do address keyboarding in my class, in order to become an effective typist, practice is needed. I would recommend that your children practice their keyboarding skills at home about 15-30 minutes a day. There are several keyboarding resources on my website under the For Students section.



## Key curriculum skills and focus by grade:

### K-1

- ◆ Mouse manipulation and control
- ◆ Use of developmentally appropriate multimedia resources (e.g., interactive books, educational software) to support learning in the core subjects including language arts, mathematics, and social studies.
- ◆ File sharing and retrieval

### 2-3

- ◆ Keyboarding
- ◆ Data collection, entry
- ◆ Paragraph and document formation
- ◆ Use of productivity tools to prepare publications and produce other creative works.
- ◆ Cyber-communication/citizenship

### 4-5

- ◆ Intellectual property/copyright rules and regulation
- ◆ Identifying valid and invalid websites for research
- ◆ Effective use of search engines
- ◆ Programming skills
- ◆ Cyber bullying/ Cyber security

# *Internet Safety*

The Internet is a very powerful and useful tool. There are, however, some dangers that all students should be aware of when they are “surfing” the net. At RPCS, Internet Safety issues are taught beginning in grades 3-5. Topics that the girls learn about include but are not limited to: online communication, malicious code( viruses, worms, etc), and cyber bullying. Teaching students to be advocates and that they have a voice is an internal part of the Internet Safety curriculum. At the end of our Safety units, students are given opportunities to teach younger students about the topics. Examples of some of the projects the girls will complete include creating posters, newsletters and websites about Internet Safety issues.



## *Tablet PCs*

Roland Park Country School is a laptop school. All students starting in Grade 7 purchase a tablet laptop, which they will use every day during their instruction. To prepare our students for the use of these laptops, all students in the Lower School have access to a traveling laptop cart. The cart provides mobile classroom instruction. Students in all grades in the Lower School use the tablet pcs at some point during their regular technology classes.

## *Fifth Grade Online Component*

In addition to their in class instruction, the Fifth Graders are also responsible for completing some lessons online. All Fifth Graders have a computer folder in which they write down all their weekly assignments and due dates. Paper alternatives and extra instructional time in the lab is provided for students who do not have Internet access at home. Students, parents and caretakers can access the lessons and materials from the Fifth Grade online section on my website. My website address is: <http://sp.rpcs.org/faculty/torresw> .