Hello!

I hope you are well and managed some sort of break at half term and had the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine. We are now embarking on the final half term of the academic year – one that would traditionally have seen the completion of the GCSE and A-level exams and fond farewells to those students moving on to the next stage of their lives. We would also have been welcoming our incoming Y6 pupils and engaging in some form of transition, as well as enjoying sports days and other activities. This year will be different – we are preparing to welcome back SOME students and many of us are adapting and refining our online teaching. I am sure that many of you will also be supporting your less technically confident colleagues; thank you.

One of the benefits of activity moving online is the fact that there’s so much to choose from. We are no longer bound by the limits of location and can join in CAS communities anywhere – so long as they fit with our other commitments. Find out what’s happening here: https://www.computingatschool.org.uk/

A few highlights:

Mon 8 June 12noon – 1.30pm Computer Science Café: A lunchtime collaborative chat for Secondary teachers and leaders of Computing to creatively solve problems and share solutions: https://community.computingatschool.org.uk/events/8018

Tuesday 9 June 4-5pm Barefoot Programming workshop: An interactive workshop introducing you to the Scratch programming environment and taking you through the concepts of sequence, repetition and selection through a series of camel related challenges. https://community.computingatschool.org.uk/events/7974

Tuesday 9 June 7-8pm Twitter for teachers: Twitter is a 'must have' tool for computing teachers to inspire them and navigate their way through the curriculum and their futures. Take a look at how to make the most of twitter, build your networks and share practical tips and advice on making the most of this vital social media network. https://community.computingatschool.org.uk/events/8107

Wednesday 10 June 3-5pm CAS Manchester Central Mixed Community Meeting Online computing resources 'off the beaten track'. https://community.computingatschool.org.uk/events/7328

Thursday 11 June 11-11.45am Webinar – Computing in the Early Years: With young children already spending a great deal of time on devices, how else can they be engaged in computing-related activities? What opportunities are there for teaching young children computational thinking and why is it necessary? Join Wendy MacLeod as she discusses this topic with a panel of Early Years Leaders https://community.computingatschool.org.uk/events/8005

Thursday 12 June 3-4pm CAS Cheshire East Online/Remote Learning Catch Up https://community.computingatschool.org.uk/events/7933

Obviously, we are very disappointed that the Manchester CAS Conference will no longer be taking place, but we are excited to announce the CAS Virtual Showcase – a fortnight of over 50 different sessions so there really will be something for everyone whatever phase you teach and wherever you are in your computing career. https://www.computingatschool.org.uk/news_items/918
One of the things about the current time, is the massive variation in individual circumstances – both personally and professionally. If you have the opportunity to take advantage of CPD, then it is all fully funded currently and may still attract bursary funding.

For primary colleagues there is a choice of remote and online courses, which count towards the Teach Primary Computing Certificate [https://teachcomputing.org/primary-teachers](https://teachcomputing.org/primary-teachers)

Don’t forget that (for state funded schools) when the first person from an institution completes a course, that school gets a bursary of £220 and there is no charge for the course. Primary teachers who are interested may also take the Computer Science Accelerator course – see below.

Secondary colleagues – there is also a choice of remote and online CPD available [https://teachcomputing.org/courses](https://teachcomputing.org/courses)

The Computer Science Accelerator programme enables you to select the courses you are interested in and to access the summative assessment after just one remote and one online course (although you may want or need to take more). Once you successfully complete the assessment – your school may be eligible for a bursary of up to £920 [https://teachcomputing.org/bursary](https://teachcomputing.org/bursary)

This programme is also open to trainee teachers and supply teachers so please spread the word. [https://blog.teachcomputing.org/computer-science-accelerator-programme-to-support-more-teachers/](https://blog.teachcomputing.org/computer-science-accelerator-programme-to-support-more-teachers/)

Just a reminder too about the NCCE’s other support:

Home-teaching [https://teachcomputing.org/home-teaching/](https://teachcomputing.org/home-teaching/) This series of topic-led activities and live online support is sorted by key stage and topic. There are regular timetables Q&A session staffed by experts who are on hand to answer pupil/student questions and suggest other activities and resources if required.

This is complemented by our home learning repository [https://blog.teachcomputing.org/computing-resources-for-home-learning/](https://blog.teachcomputing.org/computing-resources-for-home-learning/) which draws on the extensive set of lesson plans that were already available and adds in suggested websites, again sorted by key stage.

These are ideal if you are needing to set work for pupils/students to do at home.

As a Hub, we have been running our own remote training sessions – and the recordings of the sessions are available on our website here: [http://cheshirecomputinghub.org/webinars/](http://cheshirecomputinghub.org/webinars/)

Our Computing for the Terrified series included What is the Cloud? Shortcut keys that will change your life! And My digital footprint: Staying Safer online.

We are now inviting responses to determine the next stage of our programme: please do fill in our survey before Weds 10 June [https://forms.gle/mCazGdque4yQRuGX8](https://forms.gle/mCazGdque4yQRuGX8)

Please do spread the word widely and remember that we are here to help.

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