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or visit bit.ly/KeepMeIn. A change in data protection law means that I need to ask you this to stay in touch. There are just two simple questions: name and email address!

Hellens Poems – Much Marcle CE Primary School and Ledbury Poetry Festival

A personal highlight of last term for me was working with Laura Evans and class three at Much Marcle on a project supported by [Ledbury Poetry Festival](#) with the wonderful poet Sara-Jane Arbury at the stunning [Hellens Manor](#).

The class worked with Sara-Jane to write poems inspired by visits (on what seemed like the coldest days of the last decade) to nearby Hellens Manor. I then went back with the children to Hellens and we turned their wonderful poems into films. They're all on a [dedicated website](#) where visitors to Helens can scan use the wonderful work the children have produced as a guide to the house. QR codes are also available via a leaflet we've produced and small posters in each of the rooms. It's well worth a visit to Hellens to take it all in. Or at least click the link here to see their work – don't get too spooked by the Hetty's Room poem!

Similar projects have so far taken place at [Ledbury Primary School](#) and [Bosbury Primary School](#) with others planned for Leintwardine, Eastnor and Brockhampton and another one this term at Ledbury.



Where have you taken your class lately?



I've been visiting all kinds of places with classes of children from R to Y6. It's cost nothing, travel time has been zero and the quality of learning has been great. We've been to Ancient Egypt, inside volcanos, under water around the Galapagos Islands, out into the Solar system, inside the human body and to the North Pole to learn about the Northern Lights. This morning I've even been down the loo with a reception and Year 1 at Ivington on an exhibition entitled "What happens to your poo when you flush the loo?" These Y2 children at Trinity Primary are looking for meerkats in the Kalahari Desert. All of this is thanks to [Google Expeditions](#). I've been traveling around with a half set of phones and VR headsets and there's no doubt that brings a certain wow factor to a session and the excitement is palpable, even deafening!

The other half of the class use iPads, and as the lesson progresses we drop the headsets and get down to some serious work on iPads. By capturing images as our virtual fieldtrip progresses there is a huge range of pupil outcomes, adjustable, by age and ability that you can get your children to engage in from a simple postcard of favourite images created in Pic Collage, to a documentary style film with a narrated sound track bursting with facts the children picked up as we discussed the trip.



You can do all this for free, and while I'm very happy to come in with the kit, a class set of iPads and the free Google Expeditions app is all you need (although some schools' WiFi needs a bit of a tweak to make the app work). You lead the expedition on your iPad, the children follow.



Why not [download the app](#) and search through the hundreds of possible expeditions to see where you might take your class this term? If you have a team of digital leaders in your school we've looked a bit at VR in the last two pupil conferences and they'll be delighted to help you.

If you're still not convinced, [here's a recent news item on the BBC](#) reporting East Renfrewshire's £250k spend on sets of headsets for all their schools. The report comments on how learners are engaged by the immersive experience resulting in better learning. From my own experience with children over recent months in Herefordshire, I'd certainly agree (and I have to confess to having been a little sceptic when I started in September).

Happy Birthday iPad! Let's have a party: digital leaders' & coordinators' BIG BASH



The summer term of 2013 was when we first started promoting the use of tablets in primary classrooms and many school iPad purchases began then. To celebrate these five years (and two years of the digital leaders programme) I'm working with [Albion Computers](#) (Hereford iStore) to organise a big celebration exhibition event that will showcase what's been achieved in Herefordshire primary schools over that time and where we might go from now. It will

happen on **Friday 6th July** at the **Three Counties Hotel, Hereford**. The morning will be a big digital leaders' conference and will culminate in a large exhibition style conference around lunch where each team will be invited to showcase what they've been up to and how the iPad has helped to improve the learning experience in their school. The conference will then move on to look at the future and will be aimed at coordinators and senior managers. There will be an agenda and more information shortly but in the meantime, please talk with your digital leaders about what they might showcase in this exciting event.

Online Safety Live Update - resources

If you are one of the 150 people who came along to this excellent session in January, well done! I promise to continue to get the team back to Herefordshire periodically for ongoing updates. My thanks to Holmer Academy for hosting it.

A number of delegates didn't receive the link to the resources from the session after completing the feedback form. If that has happened to you please contact the Online Safety Live team at SWGfL esafety@swgfl.org.uk



Digital Leaders: What have they been up to?



The Herefordshire Digital Leaders' programme continues to be hugely popular with more schools joining each time I run the conferences.

It's great to see so many teams of children growing in confidence as they lead on the development of technology in their schools in so many ways. You can see more of what's been going on both inside schools and at the conferences by taking a look at their public facing Seesaw blog: <https://blog.seesaw.me/hfdsdigitalleaders>

This item is going to be a regular one in these newsletters from now on because it's important that these teams of wonderful children get a chance to spread their learning around your school. So in the pupil conferences at the end of the spring term we looked at:

- Simple coding projects for KS1 for lunchtime clubs or use in KS1 classrooms

- Some ideas for running online safety sessions either in lessons for KS1 or perhaps assembly
- How virtual reality (VR) might be used to support topics across the school (see the item on this newsletter)
- Simple tasks they might do on a regular basis to keep your iPads in tip-top condition (with clear instructions that teachers and perhaps ICT engineers need to be consulted first)!

This term we're not holding the usual regional conferences but please book a place on the *BIG BASH* exhibition conference above when booking goes live very shortly. I'll email coordinators in due course.

Updates to Seesaw and how to take this further in school

If I had to recommend one digital tool for primary schools to use it would be [Seesaw](#). It's the most fantastic free resources ever offered, they give far too much away for free (and you can pay for more). There have been a number of really useful updates to the platform this academic year, I won't bore you with them here, I'll just say once more that if you have access to tablets in your classroom and you don't use this then then you should. I'm more than happy to come in and introduce you and your class to some of what Seesaw has to offer.



It's been particularly good to work with a few schools recently to look at how it can be used safely and effectively as a home / school platform. I've enjoyed watching all the great stuff that's been going backwards and forward between Barry Thompson and his Y6 pupils at Bosbury over the Easter break as they prepare for that particular week in May!

Is your school ready for GDPR?

Herefordshire Computing Support - Learning and Achievement Service
Online Safety Policy for Herefordshire Primary Schools
 A template for school based discussion



This document can be downloaded from www.herefordshirecomputing.com



This is a bit boring but actually a big question and your school will not have been short on advice on the subject; I'm therefore not going to offer much here. EU and therefore UK data protection law changes on 25th May. A simple Google search will yield much support. GDPR stands for *General Data Protection Regulation* and has implications for the way you collect, store and process personal information in school. In short, it gives every individual many more rights over their personal data.

I've recently updated the primary school template online safety policy to reflect this change and others. You can download it (and find pointers towards other people's resources) [here](#).

Oh, and on the subject of GDPR if you haven't already pressed the **big orange button** at the top of this newsletter [please do so](#) that I can send you the next one!

Is it still OK to use Seesaw, Google Suite for Education, Tapestry ...?



I've been asked this question by a couple of schools recently and it's a question brought on by GDPR (above). Behind the question lies the issue of where data is stored. This is an example of how new regulation is causing us to look again at what should already be established practice, as there is no change here. It's enshrined in the current Data Protection Act (1998) that any personal data stored by public bodies should be stored on servers that reside broadly inside

the EU. If this is not the case it needs to be just as secure and this is achieved through the [Privacy Shield](#) agreement (please click the link if you want to know what that is, I won't explain here). Seesaw adheres to these principles. Google stores all data for Suite for Education subscriptions within the EU anyway and have [certified themselves with the DfE](#) for the purpose of providing services for UK schools, the same is true for Microsoft.

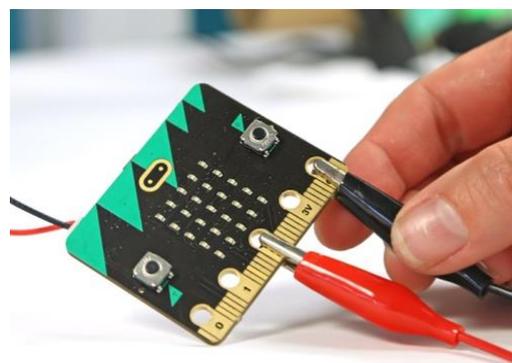
You also need to check to make sure that any data storage solutions you use are going to be GDPR compliant by 25th May. You can read all about this [here for Seesaw](#) please do your own searches for Seesaw privacy policies, they have very thorough and quite readable statements on their website. Tapestry have created a [forum on GDPR](#) and you can read their general [privacy statement here](#).

This might be a good point to remind ourselves that it is now a requirement of Seesaw's terms and conditions that schools gather parental permission before using Seesaw. There are sample letters for this [on my website](#) where you'll also find more on privacy etc.

But don't get too bogged down in all those hyperlinks for now – please read on; there's more excitement to come!

micro:bit

[This is the little device](#) that the DfE gave to all Y7 pupils last year. It's being supported by a team from the BBC with 30 partner organisations. There is considerable potential for coding / D&T projects certainly for upper KS2. A key advantage here over many similar devices (Raspberry Pi, Crumble, Makey Makey) is that it will work with iPads very well. I now have a class set (30) + various components to use with them and would be pleased to bring them along to work with classes and then leave them with you to carry on and investigate further.



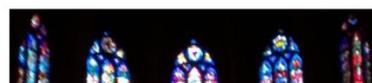
Herefordshire Life through a Lens – Film project 2018



The workshops for this year's film project, which is again focussing on the photographic archive of Derek Evans, are now almost complete. A highlight this year has been a workshop at HARC (Hereford Archive and Records Centre) where children are able to handle Derek Evans' original photos, digitise them from negatives and to see what goes on generally with a VIP tour of this superb building. If you're signed up for this project and haven't booked a place on this workshop (there are still three schools) there's still one to come on **Thursday 10th May**. We had some great films last year and the Hereford Odeon is already booked for this year's fab celebration event on 11th July. There will be another opportunity to take part next year.

Windows on our Communities

This is a media project that is running county-wide now and on into the future. It will be particularly attractive to Church schools and is based on the idea of linking images in stained glass in your local church to real life projects that happen in your local community and



celebrating them. Two schools, Leintwardine and St Michael's Bodenham piloted the idea with me last year and their films can be seen on the project [website](#) with a fair degree of background and a number of resources to get you going; you might like to take a look. Please let me know if you'd be interested in taking part, you can start when you like, and there are already a couple of schools in the diary for this term but it will launch properly in the autumn term.

And if you missed it at the top and you'd like to keep receiving this newsletter?

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Herefordshire Computing Support is ...

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