INNOVATING EDTECH

Welcome,

Hi there and welcome to the first issue of the Innovating EdTech monthly newsletter from @MrJSmithson_Edu. This newsletter will be released on the 20th of each month and will contain the latest information regarding technology in education, useful traning, guidance, resources and much more. Now, I must point out that I am no guru but by bringing useful information and guidance into a central place. I am to empower as many people as possible to achieve more through technology both in schools and at home.

Useful Resources

Since the new year I have been able to launch a new website containing lots of information and useful resources for everyone involved in the world of education and to support parents/carers at home as we move towards a new digital age. Technology has become engrained in our everyday lives and I want to help as much as possible to empower everyone to achieve more.

To look through the useful resources or to share some of your own, head over to my social media @MrJSmithson_Edu or check out my website: www.mrjsmithsonedu.wordpress.com

Safer Internet Day 2022

I am pleased to announce that both @MrJSmithson_Edu and my school will be supporting the Safer Internet Day 2022 on the 8th Febuary this year. This years theme explores respect and relationships online and aims to celebrate young people's roles in creating a safer internet.

Want to find out more or keep up to date with useful resources and how we are celerating. Head over to the UK Safer Internet Centre or to my website/social media and look for the Safer Internet Day page.

www.saferinternet.org.uk

Monthly newsletter by @MrJSmithson_Edu

Education IT Support Manager, Microsoft MIE Master Training and a SBM in training. Many hats, one goal. To empower everyone to achieve more through technology

Cyber Security Headlines

As part of the every growing world we living being even more accessible through tech. Cyber security has become the main focus for many schools, colleges and univeristies over the past 12 months. Here are some of the key headlines from the Nation Cyber Security Centre(NCSC) weekly threat reports.

Password protection and recommendations. Due to a number of compromised websites, password data is becoming more and more easily accessible to the wider internet. Ensuring you have a strong/secure password for all of your accounts is important. Luckily, the NCSC has produced some clear and simple guidance to support you with that. The guidance can be found on the NCSC Cyber Aware site or by going to

https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home

More information and supporting guidance can also be located on my website under Online Safety.

Microsoft Security Updates. Microsoft have released an update for their Janurary 2022 security which fixes several security vulnerabilities. The NCSC recommends following vendor best practice advice in the mitigation of vulnerabilities. Please view the Microsoft website for more information.

For those schools using the SonicWall equipment please be aware that there are a number of vulnerabilities affecting some SonicWall appliances. Please check the NCSC website and speak to your IT support teams to ensure these are mitigated.

For more information or guidance on any of the news items highlighted above. Please head over to the NCSC website or feel free to contact me via social media or email. www.ncsc.gov.uk/

This Month's Champion Websites and Resources

1. National Cyber Security Centre - https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/
2. UK Safer Internet Centre - https://saferinternet.org.uk/
3. NCSC Cyber Aware - https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home
4. The NSPCC - https://www.nspcc.org.uk/
5. Net Aware by The NSPCC - https://www.net-aware.org.uk/
6. CEOP - https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/
7. ThinkUknow - https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
8. Microsoft Learn - https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/

Are you Social Media S.A.F.E?

Sharing . Access . Friends . Expectations

Social media has become one of the largest communications spaces in the world, with over 100+ different platforms available to everyone of all ages.

With younger generations now having easier access to digital devices and the global internet we need to be safer than ever with what we share and how has access to our information.

To support everyone I have put together S.A.F.E which breaks down the concept of social media into 4 key areas with useful resource, guidance and further information on how you and your children can be Social Media S.A.F.E

Want to find out more and stay up to date with the latest guidance and recommendations to ensure you remain Social Media S.A.F.E, head over to my website using the link below.

https://mrjsmithsonedu.wordpress.com/social-media-s-a-f-e/

Up-Coming Training and Events

One of the favourite parts of my jobs is leading staff training/CPD sessions. Being a Microsoft MIE Master Trainer I have been lucky to work with over 130+ schools nation wide and working with over 400+ members of school staff. Along with my Microsoft MIE status I am also an Online Safety lead for education along with my general knowledge of the industry. Together we can improve the use of technology throughout education and at home.

At current there are no up-coming traning planned due to working in schools and the joys of the COVID-19 pandemic, however make sure you keep an eye out on my social media and on my website under 'Training & Events' for any updates.

Want to view some of my previous work?

Head over to my website where you will be able to see live session recordings from past training sessions as well as useful resources plus much more!

Want to arrange some training for you or your school?

Email me via j-smithson@outlook.com to discuss your possibilities.

What To Look Out For This Month

Well that just about brings this first issue of Innovating EdTech to a close, I just wanted to pass on my thanks for reading and for supporting my journey to empower others.

As the world of technology and EdTech are constantly evolving, here are some of the things to watch out for this month across my social media and website.

Here are some things to watch out for this month!

1. **Cyber Security Basic for Edu Staff**
2. **Updates to my Social Media S.A.F.E**
3. **Facebook live Q&A sessions for all**
4. **Further resources for KS2 and KS1 pupils**
5. **Safer Internet Day 2022 resources and session ideas**

And much, much more. Stay Tuned!