

## December Technology Newsletter

Seasons Greetings! We hope this month has found you healthy, happy, and in good spirits. Students continue to amaze us with their creativity, perseverance, and cooperation each day!

### SAVE THE DATE!

February 27th is **Digital Learning Day!**

Activities 5-7pm here at JJIS



### Third Grade:

Students in all third grade classes have edited and received their informative Internet Safety rules posters to bring home in hopes of practicing what they have learned. We have begun to learn more about Destiny, our electronic card catalog system, to find fiction and non-fiction books. Students have toured the library, identified specific places to find books they are looking for, and learned strategies to more easily locate books. Destiny can be reached by students at home by visiting [destiny.colchesterct.org](http://destiny.colchesterct.org). On the "Home" tab of Jack Jackter Intermediate School's page you will find e-books and other resources that students have access to from home.

In the coming weeks, students will apply their understanding of Destiny by participating in a cooperative Scavenger Hunt to find and locate books throughout the library. After the new year, students will begin their first research project using the Stripling Model of Inquiry. We can't wait to share more information with you in the coming weeks!

### Fourth Grade:

Students have worked hard the last several weeks to earn their trimester one digital badges. These badges included the Get To Know Me badge, Internet Safety badge, Destiny badge, Identifying Scholarly Sources and Keyword badge, and the Citation badge. If students have not earned all five of these badges, know that they are encouraged to work at their own pace from home. Students simply visit [classroom.google.com](http://classroom.google.com), click on our classroom, complete their assignment(s), and turn them in.

In the coming weeks, students will learn about a new questioning technique called the "Question Formulation Technique." This technique will allow students to develop research worthy questions to guide our first research project. Our investigation will focus on helping students to use keywords to find information from scholarly sources, answer their questions, cite their sources, and evaluate their projects using a rubric.

## Fifth Grade:

Students continue to explore collaborating electronically to write an interactive Choose Your Own Ending story. They are receiving instruction through a Digital Academy and Google Instructors. They are learning the capabilities of Google Docs, Google Slides, and Shared Google items.

Moving forward, students will be working with Primary Sources to utilize during research and becoming familiar with the Library of Congress FREE resources.

<https://www.loc.gov/>

## Hour of Code

Last week students participated in an event to help them learn more about coding. Digital resources will continue to be available in your child(ren)'s Google Classroom for the remainder of the school year. Students also had opportunities to play with the Code and Go Robot Mouse game, as well as the Osmo Coding games.

## Problem-Solving Playdates

This month students were transformed into Nasa Engineers for the "Space Travel Challenge!" Students were responsible for designing a rover weighing less than 1,000 kilograms using a Lego robotics kit. Each colored lego piece was assigned a specific weight. The challenge was differentiated by grade level.

Grade 3 students - calculated how much their rover weighed in kg.

Grade 4 students - calculated their rover's weight on Earth in kg., as well as on the Moon (that has 1/10 of the Earth's gravity)

Grade 5 students - calculated their rover's weight on Earth in kg., as well as on a destination planet of their choice

*Please find more information and artifacts on our website, [jackjackterlibrary.com](http://jackjackterlibrary.com) in the "Problem-Solving Playdates" tab.*

## Typing

In an effort to improve and strengthen their keyboarding skills, we encourage students to use [typing.com](http://typing.com). With your permission, students can click "Student Login" at the top right and then "Sign in with Google."

## How can I connect to JJIS to find additional information?

- Our **website**, [jackjackterlibrary.com](http://jackjackterlibrary.com), has been **UPDATED!** See resources, access our library catalog, check out artifacts from our "Problem-Solving Playdates," and read our "Technology Newsletters."
- **Email us:** [bajohnson@colchesterct.org](mailto:bajohnson@colchesterct.org) or [khebb@colchesterct.org](mailto:khebb@colchesterct.org)
- Follow us on **twitter:** @technojohnson and @k\_hebb to see what we're doing in our classes!
- Subscribe to our **youtube channel** by visiting [youtube.com/jjislmc](http://youtube.com/jjislmc) to view learning events, Town Meetings, and other special activities taking place at JJIS.