BLUE EAGLE BYTES:
NURTURING THE FUTURE WITH TECH

KINDERGARTEN iPADS HEADING HOME!

On Monday, December 11th, Kindergarten students will begin to bring their iPads to and from school. Teachers have been working with Kindergarten students on how to log in and out of Clever, its applications, and how to care for their iPads at school and home properly. Scan the QR Code to view a <u>video</u> from the technology specialists on how to care for the iPad. Please don't hesitate to email us with any questions on the iPad.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Melissa Whitman & Miss Shawn-Kimberly Kocher

Technology Integration Specialists

SANTA SITES

There are some great sites for families to visit during this time of year. There are games, Santa contact info, Santa tracking for December 24th, and much more!

- <u>NORAD Santa Tracker</u>
  - https://www.noradsanta.org/en/
- <u>North Pole</u>
  - https://www.northpole.com
- <u>Portable North Pole</u>
  - https://www.portablenorthpole.com
- <u>Who is St. Nicholas?</u>
  - https://www.stnicholascenter.org
- <u>Santa Claus Office</u>
  - https://santaclausoffice.com/
- <u>Claus.com</u>
  - http://www.claus.com/index.php

Resource for Parents

- **<u>Be Internet Awesome</u>** is a site provided by Google
- The Be Internet Awesome Family Guide gives families the tools and resources to learn about online safety and citizenship at home.
- Digital Wellbeing Family Guide is a conversation guide to help you tackle the tough tech questions and navigate the digital world as a family.

What's Up with that App?

Sketches School is a free sketching app targeted for a younger audience, with a specifically designed interface making it very accessible to kids. It is user-friendly and has a large toolbox to help bring out the artist in your child. Great app to do with your child to have them create holiday art, snowmen or draw family members!

Learning About Winter

Winter begins in the evening of Thursday, December 21st. Once the snow falls and the kids are done playing outside in the snow, grab a cup of hot chocolate and watch this curation of 25 winter videos on the We Are Teachers website. Go on a field trip to Anartica; learn about animals that have winter coats or about blizzards; check out winter sports; watch snowplows in action; see how snowflakes are formed; listen to the many read alouds and much, much more!

*Website: https://www.weareteachers.com/winter-videos-for-kids/

Tips on Setting Screen Time Limits

To set limits, parents can consider doing some (or all) of the following:

1. Set a "screens off" time each day.
- During "Screens Off" time, all devices are put on the kitchen counter, plugged in to recharge, and unavailable until the next day. For this strategy to work, it must apply to ALL screens (including Moms and Dads)!

2. Don't allow screen time during mealtimes and family gatherings.
- Turn the TV off, put phones on the counter, and work to engage in healthy conversation.

3. Set limits on how much screen time your child can have during the day.
- Checkers or marbles work well for helping children keep track of screen time. If your child has four checkers and each can be "cashed in" for fifteen minutes of screen time, they can choose when they use their time while parents still control how much time they have.

4. Use screens in common areas of the house.
- Placing screens in open areas of the home where you will pass through frequently provides an opportunity to check on kids and the websites, video games, or TV shows they are accessing.

5. Be aware of what your child is watching and ensure it is appropriate given their developmental stage.
- Every TV show, video, and game is teaching your child something. You can start conversations with your child to help him or her think about what is happening and critically evaluate their beliefs around it.

Info from pinerest.org

LET US KNOW!

We want to make sure to cover important information and questions about technology and your child in this newsletter.

Please provide any suggestions or feedback on this Google Form or scan the QR code below.