St Stephen's Coding Day
February 1ˢᵗ 2022

Coding Day was kicked off by noted tall and bald person Mr Faith, who led a whole-school assembly that went over the importance of computing in the modern world. He also relaunched our 'Digital Leaders' initiative, with prospective candidates to be interviewed and appointed the week beginning February 28ᵗʰ. Exciting times lie ahead!

Computing expert Belinda Evans, from our Computing curriculum partners, Strictly Education 3BM, joined many of the classes on Coding Day, leading them through a range of fun activities.

Here are some of the highlights from Coding Day 2022:

Year 1

The Year 1s had a visit from Belinda Evans and also enjoyed completing two different activities on the school Chromebooks – 'Beaver Achiever' and 'Code Disco!'

Year 2

The Year 2s learned the meaning of an algorithm, then used their understanding of instructions to direct a person around a dancefloor. The children learned through trial and error that instructions need to be clear and in the right order for them to work! Pupils also enjoyed using the Bee-Bots to practise their instruction giving skills.

Year 3

Year 3, in learning about the principles of programming, created eye-catching 'binary bracelets' and enjoyed their own separate 'Hour of Code' activities.

Year 4

Year 4 completed an 'unplugged' activity, following an algorithm for drawing a shape made from 2D shapes (mostly made up of polygons.) Pupils also created their own versions of the popular game 'Flappy Bird.' In doing this, they were reminded about the sequencing of 'blocks' and encouraged to use different sounds and move quickly through the different levels.

Year 5

In Year 5, pupils explored some of the different ways coding is applied in everyday life (such as jobs, mobile phones etc.) and then had some fun on their own 'Hour of Code'-related tasks.

Year 6

Year 6 used Coding Day to explore all the different ways we use Computing (Computer Science, Information Technology and Digital Literacy) in and around school. We used the 'Hour of Code' website to practise our coding skills, and Belinda Evans taught the classes an 'unplugged' session.

Thank you very much for reading; we look forward to Coding Day 2023: The Return next year. Hopefully, the 2023 event's resulting newsletter will have a shorter turnaround than this one due to the author's son finally learning how to go to bed at a sensible hour…

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