March 25th 2020

Dear 3.32 Students and Parents,

 First, I would like to give a shout out to my students, I miss you. In fact, I miss each and every one of you. I woke up very early to try to pick the perfect lesson plan for your computer class work for this week of March 23rd. Well, my lovelies, I will do my best and you will do your best and we will see where that gets us.

 Now, a few words for my students’ parents, even though my husband and I don’t have children of our own, I have many nieces & nephews and several generations of students that number in the hundreds or thousands? I mention this factoid because please know that all of the people that teach your child so appreciate your support of not only your child, but also your child’s teachers. You all are amazing!

 Now, a quick switch to my suggested 3rd grade computer class work for this week of March 23rd. Please feel free to email if you have any questions related to this lesson. I am available from 9:00 – 3:00 am unless I have a faculty meeting on Zoom.

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| **Overview:**  As part of the *SJS*and diocesan curriculum, I start teaching formal keyboarding skills in the third grade. I currently use the *Dance Mat* website made up of twelve lessons to teach these skills. It has its downsides including not being able to save a lesson, but it has proven effective at teaching students not only the home row keys of a QWERTY keyboard, but also all of the other alphanumeric characters on it along with many of the function keys (i.e. Tab). **Computer Class Work:*** **Students should complete one specified lesson from the *Dance Mat* keyboarding program’s website.**
* **Students vary quite a bit on how quickly they pick up keyboarding. So, I would say at a minimum, have your child try to complete one lesson this week. (Because there isn’t the ability to stop midway and save one’s work, try to have your child type for only 15-20 minutes.)**
* **As part of my own way of teaching keyboarding, I have students do each lesson two to three times. The students keep track of their lessons on a personal progress sheet.**
* **I will also be attaching pushing out a version of this chart for students to use at home either today or tomorrow. For the time being, just keep track of or send me an email with the following information:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Keywords for *Dance Mat* Lessons** | **Number of Objects** **Broken in Lesson** | **Date Completed** |
| **Dance Mat Level 2 Stage 4****Full Screen** | **/18** | **03/ /20** |
| **Dance Mat Level 2 Stage 4****Full Screen** | **/18** |  **03/ /20** |

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| **A Couple of Technical Solutions and/or Tips:**Before I send off this file to Mrs. Johnson, let me just mention a few tricks to use with this website:* If the website locks up, try clicking on the colored parts of the screen to the left and right of the lesson;
* If you have any issues with Flash and do not know how to fix it, let me know and I will provide a free alternative website for your child to use.
* Scroll down to one more page and you will see three screenshots which will hopefully guide you through the process of finding & opening the correct webpage within the ***Dance Mat*** online keyboarding program.
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Well, I hope that this helps! Thanks for all you do!

Peace,

Maureen McNulty-Stephens

Saint James School Computer Teacher K-8th

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**Step 1: Go to a web browser like *Google Chrome*. Then type in the following keywords 🡪**

**Dance Mat Level 2 Stage 4 Full Screen**

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**Step 2: After typing in these keywords, you will get a list of hits and the first one should be the correct version of this webpage.**

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**Step 3: When you click on this particular hit, it should look like the following image on this page.**

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