Education Scotland
Foghlam Alba

BLOG

NEW DEER

Favourite apps

iMOVIE

Do Ink Green Screen
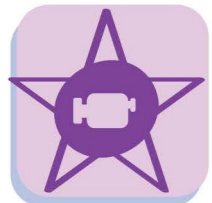

GARAGE BAND

istopmotion

BOOK CREATOR

NEW DEER
PRIMARY SCHOOL

I like to think of our progress in using technology as a series of 'LIGHTBULB MOMENTS'.
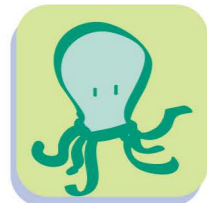
My personal journey and development really began five years ago when I took over the position of Primary five teacher at New Deer. I was delighted to discover that there was a set of five iPads and that each teacher had their own iPad. Great! No battling with desktops with aging systems and finding the whole trolley of laptops out of charge or acquired by another teacher at short notice.

As part of the initial arrival of iPads and Apple TVs the local authority technology 'gurus' Jim and Susan were invited in to support the staff development – fantastic. I made sure to corner them quickly and quiz them as to how I could print my typed-up pieces of writing from the Word app, after all, technology was for typing and editing written work wasn't it? Instead of shaking their heads in horror they worked with my class for a morning. Within a short space of time my written pieces were still not printed. They were brought to life through the medium of film; using iMovie, Green Screen and a whole host of other apps to manipulate their work so it could be shared on the big screen (the Apple TV, of course).
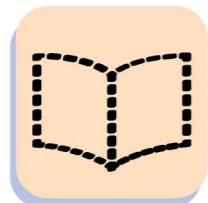

Working TOGETHER to achieve THE BEST
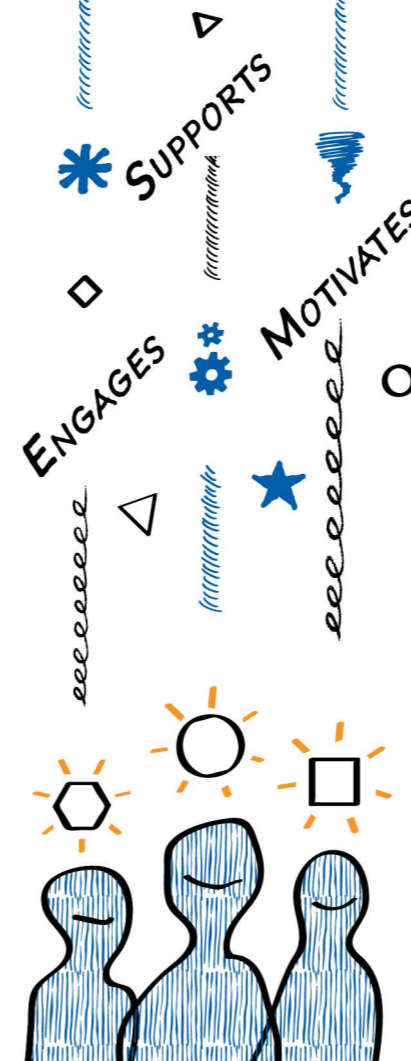RESILIENT & MOTIVATED learners

SUPPORTS
MOTIVATES
ENGAGES

June 2019

This inspired me to endeavour to incorporate digital technologies into my classroom practice in a more creative manner and with the encouragement of the Head Teacher off I set on a mission to develop my own skills so that I might share this 'wisdom' with my class.

Another lightbulb moment was a normal day. As a maths lesson drew to a close, I grabbed the iPad with the intention of using it to set a plenary question for the class via a quiz app. However, when the screen was revealed everything was wrong; the colours had gone haywire on my screen and I was clueless. As panic set in, a small hand reached across my iPad, triple clicked the home button and with only a slight roll of his eyes normality was resumed. At this point I realised you don't always have to be one step ahead; that embracing the plethora of skills and experience in using technology that many pupils arrive with and working to enhance those was key to motivating and engaging learners in using technology to enhance their learning. This is where the role of pupils as Digital Leaders became apparent.

As a school we now have a wide range of portable and programmable devices at our fingertips and as a staff we continue to share further lightbulb moments; using them to drive the creative use of technology throughout the curriculum.

Emily Baker-Patch,
Teacher New Deer

Highly effective practice identified through inspection