

## Computer Lab News

Time always flies in computer lab as the children so much enjoy working on the computers!

- ☞ Typing practice is encouraged at home, especially for younger grades. Just like any other skill, more practice is better!
- ☞ For those interested, Spongebob Square Pants typing software can be purchased through Amazon, Target online (you might want to call our local store to see if they carry it). Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing is sold at Office Depot online.
- ☞ A free online typing game is Dance Mat Typing: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/>
- ☞ A nice phonics/reading website especially for 4K, 5K is: <http://www.starfall.com/>
- ☞ A site we use in the lab: <http://www.earobics.com/gamegoo/goeey.html>

Things we are working on and will be working on:

- 4K
  - ☞ learning 5 parts of computer – mouse, keyboard, headphones, monitor, computer tower
  - ☞ introduction to using computer (i.e. how to hold the mouse)
  - ☞ learning a program called 2Simple (painting, graphing)
- 5K
  - ☞ computer terms: password, enter key, maximize, scroll wheel, exit, icon
  - ☞ 2Simple
  - ☞ JumpStart Kindergarten
- 1<sup>st</sup>
  - ☞ practicing typing with a program called Spongebob Square Pants Typing
  - ☞ focusing on the home row keys and forming good typing habits for the future
  - ☞ JumpStart First Grade
- 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - ☞ practicing typing with a program called Spongebob Square Pants Typing using speedskins (these are covers that hide the keys).
  - ☞ Microsoft Word
- 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - ☞ practicing typing with a program called Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing using speedskins - this is the students' first year using this program.
  - ☞ Microsoft Word
- 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>
  - ☞ practicing typing with a program called Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing with speedskins.
  - ☞ Microsoft Word

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