



## Mrs. Stefano TECHNOLOGY

Ashley Falls & Del Mar Hills  
Technology Newsletter



"I am playing outside,  
Mom — look at the *graphics*."

October 2011

Issue 2: The Power of Technology



## Steve Jobs

"Apple has lost a visionary and creative genius, and the world has lost an amazing human being. ... Steve leaves behind a company that only he could have built, and his spirit will forever be the foundation of Apple."

## Typing Tutors *Keyboarding ABC's*

Each and every class enters the lab to conduct 5-15 minutes of keyboarding basics and practice. Using free resources such as [DanceMat.com](http://DanceMat.com) and [learninggamesforkids.com](http://learninggamesforkids.com), students are able to learn the alphabet, keyboarding strokes, and functions of the almighty keyboard.

Wanting some typing practice of your own? Retailers like Best Buy and Target sell decent typing software. You can also visit [Scholastic](http://Scholastic) to receive information about accredited computer software for keyboarding, reading, math, and science.

If you would like to suggest particular areas of interest or have a question, please email me at [amorris@dmusd.org](mailto:amorris@dmusd.org).

## Shortcut of the Week

Mac: COMMAND + Z  
PC: CTRL + Z

*Undo* is a useful command when you are quickly working on a project and want to see a mistake changed. By using Command or CTRL Z, you are telling the computer to go back a step in your process. Be cautioned that every time you save, that is your new starting point.





# Kids and the Internet

## Parade Magazine's Born to be Wired

In local *Parade Magazine*, an article titled *Born to Be Wired* will be featured, discussing an in depth research and look in regards to kids and the Internet. As a parent or educator, how do you help them make smarter choices when using the Internet and online resources?

Featured on Sunday, October 16's issue, the article discusses ways to cope with the Internet and digital age. The article will feature:

*"For today's youth, being wired is a way of life. The average teen sends more than 50 texts a day; younger children spend over 10 hours a week playing video games; and the amount of time all kids spend online daily has tripled in the past 10 years."*

- **Monitor Your Kids' Facebook Pages**
- **Texting vs. Talking**
- **How Many Hours Does Your Child Spend Gaming?**
- **Parenting in the Internet Age** and much more!

An additional article titled *Generation Wired* provides a "What Kind of Internet Parent Are You?" quiz, establishing how you as a parent can help make the Internet and all digital technology a positive place for kids.

The age old question of Technology being the friend or frenemy is also addressed, comparing cell phones from 10 years ago to smart phones now – where they only ever were able to just make a phone call as opposed to now organizing your social, personal, and gaming life all at once. It makes you ask the question, is your family ready to handle it? Do they really need such handheld devices at their age?

The article in itself is just fascinating and while it holds no opinion towards one side or another, it provides a safe moment in time to agree with both and reflect on this digital age.



Click here to see article



### Top Educational Apps:

The following apps are recommended

**1 Drop Box**  
*This app available on all smartphone devices provides connection of your files and child's homework from the home computer to your cell phone! Did the digital dog eat their homework?*



**2 Google Docs**  
*Being used within the intermediate grade levels, Google Docs is a safe way to integrate technology by using forms, spreadsheets, and even published writing, that is shared with classmates and teachers. There is no need for an email account, which provides full productivity.*



**3 BrainPop**  
*As an educational tool about a robot named Moby and a boy named Time, answering the mysteries of life, this free app provides one free video a day along with quizzes, activities, and vocabulary that make learning fun!*



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