

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new 2025- 2026 school year. My name is Ms. Harvey and I have worked at PS 131 for 25 years. I was a 4th grade teacher for 10 years and I'm going into my 15th year as the Technology teacher. The general Technology program is centered around providing students with a well-rounded education anchored by the ISTE Standards- International Society for Technology in Education.

Throughout the school year all students will get a hands-on opportunity to work with technology, learn how to troubleshoot issues and develop important skills as a 21st century learner. All students will be introduced to Computer Science and their responsibilities as a Digital Citizen.

For the 1st marking period from September to December students will be working on a variety of things. At the beginning of each marking period you will receive a letter explaining what students will be working on for that marking period.

K- 1st grade will be focusing on learning the parts of the computer and how to use each part. They will also be focusing on the first 9 letters of the alphabet along with picture recognition using the software program Wixie and Starfall. Students will have a chance to explore their creativity by drawing and sharing their learning using the tools in Wixie.

2nd grade will be focusing on reviewing the parts of the computer and how to use them. They will also be working on using the PS 131 school's online paid subscriptions and necessary login information. The first website students will be using is BrainPOP Jr. to learn about Parts of the Computer, Digital Etiquette and Internet Safety. Students will use the drawing and writing tools from BrainPOP Jr. to show their learning and understanding.

3rd and 4th grade will be focusing on learning how to type using Dance Mat Typing with emphasis on hands on the home row. They will also be introduced to the slide show presentation program PowerPoint to reflect on the importance of learning how to type.

5th grade will be reviewing typing skills by creating typing accounts for the website "Learn to Type" (<https://www.typing.com/>). It is recommended that students log in at home to practice their typing skills 10 -15 minutes 2 to 3 times a week. They will also be introduced to the slide show presentation program PowerPoint to reflect on the importance of learning how to type.

I look forward to having an amazing year of learning with you and your children.