**After School Computer Programming Club**

To all Year 5 and 6 parents,

We still have some space in the ICT Club for next half term so if you are interested in your child attending, please read on.

It takes place in the School ICT Suite on Mondays after school from 3:30pm – 5:30pm and next half term will run for five Mondays 11th June – Mon 9th July inclusive. Note that it finishes a week before the end of term due to Softwire’s annual conference on 16th July.

The cost is £40 per child per half term. The club is run by volunteers from Softwire (a local software development company). Our time is donated free of charge and the subscriptions are primarily used to purchase equipment for the club which is donated to the school.

The purpose of the club is to give the children an environment where they can work on programming projects with support and help on-hand should they require it.

There will be suggestions for projects and occasional short talks on certain topics but in general most of the time will be spent doing hands-on programming on projects that the children have chosen themselves - in this sense it is more of a club than a lesson and will certainly not be just 2 hours of playing Angry Birds!

We have initially been focusing on projects using <http://scratch.mit.edu> which is a “*…programming language that makes it easy to create your own interactive stories, animations, games, music, and art -- and share your creations on the web.*” This can be downloaded free of charge and I would encourage any children thinking of signing up for the club to have spent at least a small amount of time using it beforehand so as to have a basic understanding of what they will be doing at the club (Year 6 pupils have already been using it as part of their ICT lessons so should already have sufficient experience).

We have also been programming some Lego Mindstorm Robots and will be using the subscriptions to purchase more of this equipment for next half-term.

Please note that we occasionally would like to take some photos of ICT club for our web site. Please can you let me know if you would prefer us not to use photos of your child. Note that no names will be used and the school will be referred to as just "a local primary school"

If you wish to sign up then please do both of the following:

1. Provide your child’s name and school year by either sending an e-mail to [progclub@softwire.com](mailto:progclub@softwire.com) or by text to 07738127238 or return the slip below to the school office.
2. Give cash or a cheque to the school office for £40 payable to “Phil Marsden” or if you would rather make an online bank transfer then send an email to [progclub@softwire.com](mailto:progclub@softwire.com) for details.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to drop me an e-mail, give me a call on 07738 127238 or speak to me at drop-off/pick-up.

Regards,

Phil Marsden (Ella and Max’s Dad)

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I wish to sign up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [child’s name] in Year \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

for the After School Programming Club.

[ ] I enclose cash or a cheque for £40  
[ ] I have made a bank transfer of £40 with my child’s name as reference  
[ ] I DO NOT permit photos of my child to be used on Softwire’s web site.