**Technical Tips and Guidance for Families**

We hope that families found the guidance sent out last week useful in supporting the access and management of remote learning through Google Classroom. We will continue to share tips to help children each week based on new tools that we are exploring and any troubleshooting issues that arise. Where possible we will provide links to video demonstrations to support the use of different tools and functions.

**Using a split screen to view two different things on screen at once**

When children are accessing Google Meets with their class teacher and want to write on a document or read through a task at the same time the SPLIT SCREEN function can be used to support this. This function is also useful to save printing worksheets or tasks as children can have open their Digital Learning Jotter to write in and view the worksheet online at the same time. *The key combo is* **Alt***and***[***or* **Alt** *and* **]**on a Chromebook only.

[Using the Split Screen Function](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_RtayIwc-pd8SCxbODmwhRnfkMHCMq3x/view?usp=sharing)

**Using Assistive Technology to support children’s needs**

Some children benefit from using different tools in class for their learning and this is no different with remote learning when at home. Stirling's Platform for Education and Community Learning (SPEC) has suggestions, including videos, to help learners with reading and writing difficulties, disabilities and visual impairment with accessing online learning. There is slightly different advice for different types of device (Chromebook, iPad, Windows and Android) including text to speech, voice recognition, voice recording and magnification options. Families may find these tools helpful.

[SPEC – Assistive Technology Guidance](https://sites.google.com/stirlingschools.net/assistive-technology/)

**Speeding up typing when completing tasks online**

Sometimes children can spend a huge amount of time typing their answers even though they arrived at the answer to a question very quickly. This can be frustrating but there is a solution!

The video in the link below explains how children can use their voice to type in Google Docs, within the Chrome web browser on a computer. There's even better news for Chromebook users as they can use their voice to type anywhere where text can be typed. Hope this helps some frustrated typists out there!

[Speech to Text Function](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IDB0pvSkNd35X1snk1gbDoepCRqH-TLs/view?usp=sharing)

Children can also use some of their learning time at home to practise and speed up their typing skills. There are a range of websites that can be accessed and it would be beneficial for some of our older children to build this into their daily plan to help increase their typing speed!

[BBC Dance Mat Typing](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/z3c6tfr)

[Typing Club](https://www.typingclub.com/)

**Technical Support**

If you require any technical support with any elements of using Google Classroom or resetting of account passwords please contact us via email at [newtontechsupport@stirlingschools.net](mailto:newtontechsupport@stirlingschools.net). If your child is attending school, please make sure they know their passwords or write them down for them.