



Digitech@BellPS Occasional Digest

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# Welcome to our first Digitech@BellPS Digest

Occasional updates on what is going on with digital technologies to support the creative and collaborative learning of our modern learners at Bell PS.



The ICT team at Bell welcome you all to our first edition of our Bell PS digitech digest. With all the wonderful learning that is happening through the use of digital technologies we thought that an occasional digest would be a great way to keep the community in the loop.

School Strategic Plan

Every year since 2012 our Bell School Council and DET have approved our key school improvement goal to build our capacity to provide a 21st Century learning environment to support teaching and learning at Bell. The language of our Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) has been quite clear as this improvement strategy states: **To develop students as independent learners through the exploration of future directions for the school in providing contemporary student learning needs.** This guiding statement has driven the

gradual build of our capacity in providing a digitally rich learning environment for our students at Bell.

### Historical Context

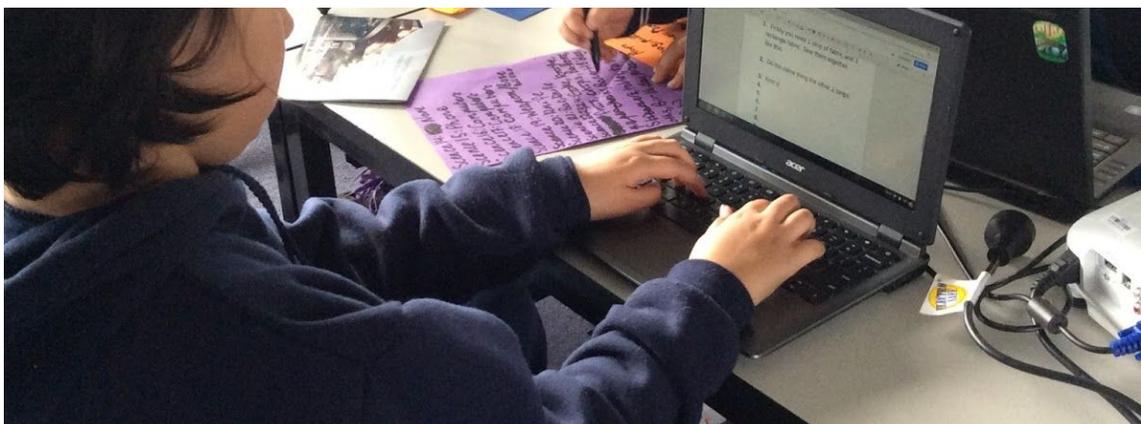
At the beginning of our last school review cycle, our device per student ratio was a woful 1:5. This was not aligned to what was happening in other schools across the state where the ratio was roughly 1:2. This was coupled with an aging wireless infrastructure and aging outdated devices that weren't capable of supporting our modern learners at Bell.

In 2013 the school council approved a capital works project to rebuild our school wireless infrastructure as well as to increase the number of school owned devices through our iPad program. Initially this increased our ratio to 1 device for 3 students 1:3. However, three years later our student population grew dramatically and again our device per student ratio dropped to 1:5. In 2016 the school council again approved funding for another round of leases for 120 ipads and 100 chromebooks. This will mean that for the next 6 months we will have a ratio of 1:2. Now our students will have access to devices to support their learning and continue to develop the necessary skills for our digitally dominated world.

**The Digitech@Bell Digest** is about bringing to the surface the amazing learning that digital technologies afford. The inquiry process that the student are undertaking as part of the Bell Interactive Film Festival (BIFF) is a wonderful example of how digital technologies can be used to support our students growth in being collaborative, creative and articulate critical thinkers for the 21st Century.



### THIS WEEK'S TOP STORIES



## New Chromebooks have arrived in 3-6 classrooms

100 new chromebooks have been deployed into the 3-6 classrooms. [Chromebooks](#) are a powerful yet simple computer that integrates extremely well with our Google Apps For Education (GAFE) system here at Bell. Students only need to log in with their GAFE credentials to use these computers. Once they login they will have access to their Google docs and student email to support their learning. Listen to one of our modern learners discuss how he has been using a Chromebook in Code Club. [Click Here](#)

## Digitech with P-2's

### **Stop (Motion) – In The Name of BIFF!**

Check out these amazing short stopmotion experimentations from our grade 1/2 modern learners. These students are using [iMotion for iPad](#). It's a very versatile and easy to use app that allows students to be stopmotion film makers. [Read more](#)

## Digitech with the upper school

**3/4A creating music** When it comes time to create their short films for the BIFF, students may choose to add sound effects or music that can be single or multi-layered to their films. As we are still in the experimental phase, students are working on building their skills in areas that will assist them later on in the filming, production and editing phases. [Read more](#)

## App of the week

[Explain Everything](#): Is an easy-to-use design, screencasting, and interactive whiteboard tool that lets you annotate, animate, narrate, import, and export almost anything to and from almost anywhere. Create slides, draw in any color, add shapes, add text, and use a laser pointer.” Last year grade 3-6 students used it to record their short compositions. Once uploaded to there GAFE accounts, Andrew could then annotate feedback on the videos which the students would read as a group at the beginning of the next lesson.

## Interesting reading:

[Are schools preparing our children for the workplaces of the future?](#)

[Thanks from the ICT Team](#)

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Bell Primary School  
ICT team