Dear Parents

As you know, the new Computing Curriculum was introduced to schools in September 2014. As part of this, we are focusing on teaching more coding (basic programming) to children throughout the school. One of the first on-line websites that they use is called Scratch, where children can program their own interactive stories, games and animations. Scratch is a project of the Lifelong Kindergarten Group and is provided free of charge. It is aimed at young people aged between 8 and 16 and is currently being used world wide throughout schools and colleges in more than 150 countries and is available in more than 40 languages.

Our children are already using Scratch, and now need to be able to save their work, so that they learn how to improve and 'de-bug' (find the problems). Each child needs to have their own log-in to Scratch, which is secured by a user name and password. In order to create these log-in details, they are required to state their age and also provide a contact e-mail for their parents. E-mails are not sent to these addresses unless the user has asked for a password reset. User names will not be their own names, and their passwords used will be their school ones. **Please note** that the Year 5 & 6 children who are in Code Club have already joined Scratch and so this letter does not apply to them.

We would be grateful therefore, if you would sign and return the tear off slip below, which will give permission for your e-mail to be used to create an account in Scratch for your child. Children for whom we do not have an e-mail address, will be not be able to save their work on line, but will still be able to use Scratch during computing lessons.

If you would like further information, please log on to the Scratch website, or contact your child's class teacher.

Information for parents: http://scratch.mit.edu/parents/

Miss Hague (Computing Subject Leader)

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PERMISSION TO USE E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR SCRATCH

Child/ren's Name/s _____   **Class/es** _____

☐ I give permission for my e-mail address to be used to create a log-on for my child/ren

☐ I do not have an e-mail address

E-mail address if different from that already used for school communication.

_____

Signed _____   **Date** _____

Diocese of Portsmouth