

Computer Technology

GCS students in grade 7 will learn to communicate about technology using terms related to hardware, software and systems. They will learn about basic computer maintenance, as well as troubleshooting simple technology issues related to applications, hardware and connectivity. They will learn retrieval and storage of information remotely, using network storage and file-transfer. They will have the opportunity to open a computer and learn how the devices are installed. 7th grade students will learn proper keyboarding technique including posture, arm and hand position, and key-stroking technique. The typing program used at GCS is *Sunburst Type to Learn 4*, which teaches sequential introduction of the keys, along with repetition and reinforcement of concepts through games, assessments, and testing. Students this age should finish the year knowing the full keyboard, with a typing speed of 25 words-per-minute and 95% accuracy. GCS 7th graders will utilize a project-oriented curriculum that includes theme-related assignments using Microsoft and Adobe applications.

Technokids Computer Curriculum teaches a range of technology skills, including word processing, spreadsheets, programming, presentation and multimedia. Students complete technology projects that focus around problem solving tasks.

Along with keyboarding and Technokids, the 7th grade class will have special introductory topics taught within the classroom every 2 weeks, including Microsoft Office 2007 (Word, Powerpoint, Excel), the Internet and World Wide Web, operating systems and utility programs, networking concepts, application software, photo editing, database, scripting, music recording and podcasting. For more information, see: <http://www.sunburst.com> and <http://www.technokids.com>.