

Paul Davis Social Media



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Bloggng

My guidance to Grade 4/5/6s has always been to work with their parents to open their own website – for all the reasons I give in my presentation to them. Fact: The Number One way to leave a positive digital footprint is through your own website. You own it, you control it and its unique.

After reviewing 11 blogging platforms, here are my picks for blogging sites along with a few to avoid. Both are free to setup and host.

SUGGESTIONS:

#1 – Wordpress (www.wordpress.com)

Setting up an account is relatively simple. There are many free security add-ons you can install that help make the blog secure from people trying to log in without permission, and for right-click and saving images, just to name a few.

Your URL will look like: abc123xzyandlonger.wordpress.com

#2 – Blogger (www.blogger.com) Google bought blogger in 2003.

If you have a Google Account – you can sign in using your Google login/password, which makes the process of starting a blog that much easier. I would not suggest using School-Google log-ins, but rather create a new Google account – one that is owned by



student/parent for complete control. You will have same kind of long URL like blogger too.

Easiest to startup: **Blogger**.

If you wish to get a custom URL: Example: www.yourname.com

- 1) You can get a domain name of your choice for \$10-\$20/year. When you register, you will have access to a “control panel”, which you can use to forward and mask your domain name, to the above blogging site (hiding your long Blogger or Wordpress URL)
- 2) Invest approx. \$50/year and get a custom domain name, along with 1year of hosting with WordPress support and setup. Namecheap.com is affordable, and they offer guides to setup your Wordpress site on your new domain name. Again not too difficult, and took me less than 30min to setup.
Example: www.pauldavis.club

Now: Share your website name with all your friends.

AVOID:

WIX – Although simple to use, and setup – the “free” component comes at a cost, which is banner ads being posted on the blog pages.

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