Engaging students through the use of iPads

A QR code is a type of barcode that can hold encoded information. Students with iPads and the right app can simply scan a QR code and be swiftly directed to a text, URL or perhaps a video that you have created or suggested. You simply create a text or type the URL into the free app QR Reader and then the app turns that text/ or URL into a unique code. Print out that code for students to scan. You may like to use this activity as a fun translation and sequencing exercise.

They say a photo says a 1000 words! Pic Collage is user friendly, fast, fun and free way of creating cool collages. This app allows students to create a piece of work that demonstrates their knowledge about the topic. Students can insert text and use a variety of backgrounds, fonts and photos to decorate their work. Photos to be taken within the app, or inserted from the photo gallery or the web. Stickers can also be added to the collage.

A digital postcard. You can use the free app by Bill Atkinson but there are many similar apps. With this app students can create a text, choose a photo from the web or photo gallery and personalize their card with stickers. You can even add a voice note if you wanted to. This digital postcard be printed out or sent to your email.

A Padlet is a real time Wiki and works like an online sheet of paper. It involves emailing a link to your audience (ie staff or students) who can instantly add a comment to the Padlet. Once the link opens all you need to do is double click on the page and leave a brief comment. You can either leave your name with your comment or be anonymous. Comments save automatically. You can follow the progress of comments by saving the link.

Doodle buddy is a free finger-drawing app for the iPad. Doodle Buddy lets you draw with multiple finger on the iPad’s large screen, just like finger-painting. It’s perfect with junior years for activities such as pictionary or drawing vocabulary or drawing barrier games in pairs.