

e-Update April 2007

Welcome to the 27th edition of e-Update, the monthly electronic bulletin from the Buckinghamshire ICT Curriculum Support Team.

The purpose of this bulletin is to keep you informed with the latest developments in ICT.

The information in e-Update has been taken from a variety of sources including ICTSN and Becta. Details on how to subscribe to these and other sources of information can be found at the end of e-Update.

e-Update can also be found on the Buckinghamshire ICT Curriculum Support Team's website at <http://www.bucksict.org.uk/e-update/> and on the Buckinghamshire Grid for Learning website at <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/resources/course/view.php?id=126>.

If you have any comments on e-Update, please send them to adickson@buckscc.gov.uk.

If you wish to unsubscribe from e-Update, please send an email to adickson@buckscc.gov.uk with the title **Unsubscribe**.

“WebScreen”™ BucksGfL’s new Internet Web Filtering system

Mike Woods – County Adviser, ICT

The requirement to ensure that children and young people are able to use the internet and related communications technologies appropriately and safely is important to us all. The BucksGfL Internet Web Filtering Policy has been developed to help schools ensure the safety of their pupils as they use the Internet, whilst at the same time retaining the flexibility needed for effective teaching and learning. Head teachers will already appreciate that supervision and education of Internet users is as important as the use of any software solution, since the filtering of a school's Internet connection alone cannot guarantee the absolute safety of its pupils and staff. Filtering is, however, a necessary first step to ensure the school has taken all reasonable steps to protect pupils and staff. Historically, Buckinghamshire Grid for Learning has provided two default whole county level filtering policies to its schools. These are the primary and the secondary policies, however in some cases schools have found these policies too restrictive and we have therefore developed with Atomwide a new web filtering system - **WebScreen™**.

Webscreen™ is a software solution which involves all available websites being scanned automatically for content. The sites are then classified into categories based on their content. These categories are then either allowed through for school use or blocked if they are deemed inappropriate, depending on the policy being applied (full details of the **Webscreen™** system and these categories can be viewed at <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/resources/course/view.php?id=49>)

Head teachers may now elect to make use of the **WebScreen™** “**School-level filtering**” option available through the new BucksGfL Support Site (<https://support.atomwide.com/>). Through this site, authorised users can create and apply policies at school level which allow access to categories of websites, or specific website addresses (URLs), that are not considered suitable to be allowed under the whole county level filtering policies but may have educational merit in certain circumstances (although some categories such as ‘adult content’ will continue to be blocked at a whole county level).

N.B. Head teachers choosing to take up this option should realise that the risks of exposure to inappropriate content by pupils, or abuse of the schools network, are higher when pupils are permitted to access sites which would not be permitted under the county level filtering policies. As a result, schools implementing these options will need to ensure that correspondingly high levels of pupil supervision are used when and where the Internet is being accessed.

Ultimately the headteacher, in conjunction with the governing body, is responsible for internet safety.

If a school chooses NOT to use the **Webscreen™** system, the default county wide policies will continue to be applied. If a school wishes to take up this option, then Head teachers are requested to complete the Filtering Manager nomination form found at the end of this document and fax it to Atomwide. The nominated member of staff will also be required to undergo a short training session (at no cost to the school) to ensure

that the filtering system is clearly understood and the implications and potential impact of any change to local school settings are recognised.

This training session will take place at the Teaching and Learning Centre, Ellen Road, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 8EF, (Tel. 01296 428402) on **Wednesday 27th June from 3.30 – 5.00pm** and if you wish to book a place, I would be grateful if you would complete the booking request form that has been sent to your school with a copy of this letter and return it to Karen Fagan by fax to 01296 392920. Alternatively, send an email to kafagan@buckscc.gov.uk, with the name of your school and the member of staff who will be attending.

Note: The BucksGfL “Webscreen”™ Filtering Manager Nomination Form can be downloaded from <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/resources/course/view.php?id=49>.

Crick Focus Evening

Andy Dickson – ICT Consultant

Crick Software in partnership with the ICT Curriculum Support Team, invite Buckinghamshire LEA teachers to a FREE Twilight focus evening on **Clicker 5** and two brand new classroom resources – **Clicker Paint** and **Clicker Phonics**.

Clicker Paint is an exciting new program that fully integrates with Clicker 5 and works as a powerful standalone program as well. It has been designed as an educational tool, incorporating unique and innovative features that add new dimensions to classroom creativity.

Clicker Phonics gets your children going with phonics and delivers engaging materials at the right level for their needs. It is designed to be used alongside any phonics scheme, including ‘Jolly Phonics’, and takes children from the first steps of discriminating environmental sounds right up to systematic synthetic phonics.

The event will be held on **Wednesday 23rd May 2007** at the **Buckinghamshire Teaching and Learning Centre, Ellen Rd, Aylesbury HP21 8EF**.

- The session will start at 4.15 pm and last until approximately 5:30pm. There is NO charge but there is a maximum of 40 places available on a first come, first served basis.
- There will be special offers available for delegates on all the software demonstrated at the event.
- Everyone who attends will be entered into a fantastic prize draw to win prizes including Clicker Paint, Clicker Phonics and Crick Software USB pen drives!

If you would like to attend the event please email/call Nicola Wilson (nicola.wilson@cricksoft.com / 01604 671691).

Crick Special Offer Discounts to Buckinghamshire LEA Schools

Andy Dickson – ICT Consultant

The ICT Curriculum Support Team has negotiated exclusive special offers for Buckinghamshire LEA schools for a limited period on **Clicker 5**, **Clicker Paint** and **Clicker Phonics**.

If you order through The ICT Curriculum Support Team between now and the 20th July 2007, you will make significant savings on purchases for your school.

For further details, download the order form at <http://www.bucksict.org.uk/SchoolSupport/Crick%20Special%20Offer.pdf>

Public TV Launches

Public TV

Public TV is a brand new website that was launched on 18th April 2007.

Public TV aggregates videos from across business and the public sector and gives you fast and free access to high quality government, public sector, professional training, and business videos. As part of our drive for exclusive content visitors to Public TV will be able to access a range of videos from conferences we organise as Ten Alps Events, which is part of Ten Alps PLC, owners of the new channel.

Public TV offers viewers a number of niche channels which will include transport, education, charities and sustainability, a full list of what's available can be found at <http://www.public.tv>.

You don't even need to subscribe to view the videos on Public TV, just go to the website, search for the subject of interest to you, then take your pick from a list of the videos available.

Public TV, which is being run by the former ITV News editor, Nigel Dacre, launched on the 18th April and offers people involved in the public sector information, training, and professional development videos as well as links to its own publications.

The company's chief executive, Alex Connock, said he hoped the firm would be the market leader in the area within five years.

In addition to our own content we have a number of content providers, including; 10 Downing Street, European Environment Agency, Green TV, Open Video / NASA, togetherTV, Research-TV, NATO, 18 Doughty Street, Freespeech TV, Journeyman Pictures.

Regional Broadband Consortium update

Geoff Lambrechts – ICT Consultant

You are all probably aware that BucksGfL is a part of the SEGfL, one of ten Regional Broadband spread across the country.

It is worth visiting the other Regional Broadband sites from time to time to see what is now available on the NEN (National Education Network), maybe even sign up for their e-updates if they have one.

For example, did you know there is a copyright free digital library of jpegs on the E2BN site?

[East of England Regional Broadband Consortium](#) (E2BN)

Have a look at the CLEO site if you want to try some stop frame animation.

[Cumbria Lancashire Education Online](#) (CLEO)

Learning Curve is a free educational website for history teachers and students accessible from EMBC.

[East Midlands Broadband Consortium](#) (EMBC)

A complete Scheme of Work for ICT from Greenwich LA (G2fL) exists on the LGfL.

[London Grid for Learning](#) (LGfL)

A selection of materials from "The Tired Caterpillar" KS2 Literacy to ICT tasks for subjects at KS3 on NWLG.

[North West Learning Grid](#) (NWLG)

Try the Town Trail for Early Years on the NGfL.

[Northern Grid](#) (NGfL)

Get access to the Audio Network on the SEGfL: Audio Network owns the rights to a huge archive of music which it supplies to the international film, television and media markets. SEGfL schools may search online and download these files free of charge. You may well recognise tracks as they are used as backing and mood music in top films, TV and advertisements.

[South East Grid for Learning](#) (SEGfL)

Access the many links on the SWGfL categorised by subject and Key stage.

[South West Grid for Learning](#) (SWGfL)

Visit the Climate Change section on WMNet.

[West Midlands Net](#) (WMNet)

Get access to the 24hour museum from Y&HGfL.

[Yorkshire and Humberside Grid for Learning](#) (Y&HGfL)

Becta Publications

Becta

Learning, teaching and managing with ICT: Funding guidance for schools & local authorities 2007-08

This guidance aims to help schools consider the ICT grants available and decide how they can be used strategically to achieve individual aims and to meet the Government's priorities for education.

Order or download the document from <http://publications.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?resID=30274>

Using technology safely in schools: an essential guide

Aimed at school leaders, this useful guide looks at how Becta is supporting the safe use of technology in schools and highlights key things that you should be thinking about in this area.

Order or download the document from <http://publications.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?resID=27694>

How technology supports 14-19 reform: an essential guide

This highlights key issues that underpin the success of the 14-19 reform programme and how these depend upon the effective use of technology.

Order or download the document from <http://publications.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?resID=31532>

Subscription Details

Becta

To subscribe to the various publications, click here: [Becta Schools Subscription Services](#)

ICTSN

ICTSN membership is available to organisations that provide support to schools. Schools are therefore not eligible for membership. Information about ICTSN can be found at <http://www.becta.org.uk/ictsn/index.cfm>.

RM

To subscribe to the various RM newsletters, visit the RM website at <http://www.rm.com/Security/Login/FormsLogin.asp> and register. If you are already registered, log in and go to *Email Subscriptions* in *My Account*.

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