

e-Update May 2007

Welcome to the 28th 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**.

Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion Challenge 2006/7 in Buckinghamshire

Andy Dickson – ICT Consultant

The Buckinghamshire final for the Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion Challenge 2006/7 took place on Thursday 26th April at Manor Farm Junior School. Primary teams from Butlers Court, Chesham Bois CE Combined, Elangeni, Manor Farm Junior, Prestwood Junior and Gayhurst School (Independent) and KS3 teams from Chalfonts Community College and Gayhurst School (Independent) took part. It was an exciting afternoon with all of the children using their mathematical skills and working hard in preparing their cars for the 58 lap race around China's Shanghai International motor circuit. All of the children had fun and the race at the end of the afternoon was very exciting.

The Buckinghamshire Primary winner is Elangeni School. The secondary winner is Gayhurst School (Independent). Congratulations to both schools. Both teams subsequently submitted cars for the national semi finals.

Buckinghamshire School in the Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion Challenge National Final

Andy Dickson – ICT Consultant

The national semi final knockout round for the Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion Challenge 2006/7 has just taken place. There were over 40 schools in each age range category (Primary, KS3 and KS4) with 11 schools in each going through to the national final.

Congratulations go to ***Elangeni School*** who are one of the 11 primary schools to make it through to the national final on 29th June at the Heritage Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire. We wish them the best of luck.

Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion Challenge 2007/8 in Buckinghamshire

The Buckinghamshire final for 2006/7 may have only just taken place and the national final is yet to happen but now it's time to start thinking about the 2007/8 Challenge!

The Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion Challenge has now become well established in the calendars of many schools across the UK as a way of engaging children of all ages in an exciting and motivating mathematics based project that is suitable for all ages from 10 upwards.

The Challenge is based on Cambridgeshire Software House's 'Cars Maths in Motion' software and is sponsored by Jaguar, the Specialist Schools Trust, Cambridgeshire Software House, iDesk, smartassess, Quizdom, Texas Instruments, Swallow Systems, Rewards4Schools, Wildern School and North West City Learning Centre (CLC).

The Challenge involves students, aged 10 to 16, working together in small teams to try and set up a race between virtual Grand Prix cars using tried and tested motor racing simulation software. The work needed to

do this can be undertaken in a series of maths lessons or as part of a maths club activity - it's up to you! Both boys and girls will become involved in the delights of long division, long multiplication, percentages, scale, the measuring of angles with protractors, ratio and a whole lot more besides. A full list of what is covered can be found on the Challenge website <http://www.mathschallenge.org.uk>.

The aim of the Challenge is to help raise standards of achievement in mathematics in all schools and to demonstrate that mathematics is not only a useful skill to have but one that can be fun and stand students in good stead throughout life.

The 2007/08 Challenge is open to any school in either the State or Independent sectors. There are three age ranges in the 2007/08 Challenge:

Age Range 1: Any child of Primary School age.

Age Range 2: Any child in years 7, 8 and 9.

Age Range 3: Any child in years 10 and 11.

The Challenge is run through a national network of Lead Centres. The ICT Curriculum Support Team is the Lead Centre for Buckinghamshire Schools.

Each participating school, whether Primary or Secondary, will run a series of internal races to find its own winner who will take part in a Buckinghamshire knockout round in March 2008. Schools that make it through the knockout round will meet in April 2008 for the Buckinghamshire Final. The Buckinghamshire primary, KS3 and KS4 winners will then race with other LEA winners in the national semi-final knockout round to determine which schools are invited to take part in the National Final in June 2008.

A leaflet with information on the Maths Challenge including pricing and an order form for the Cars: Maths in Motion software is available here:

<http://www.bucksict.org.uk/Teacher%20Resources/CarsMIM.htm>

<http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/resources/course/view.php?id=127>

Any Buckinghamshire schools who would like to be involved in the Maths Challenge should contact Andy Dickson, tel. 01296 428402, email adickson@buckscc.gov.uk.

“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**TM 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”TM Filtering Manager Nomination Form can be downloaded from <http://www.bucksqfl.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>

ICT Schools Team - Laptop Offer

Steve Rowland, ICT Schools Team

Following a very successful first phase of the ICT Schools Team laptop offer, we would like to remind schools that have not yet ordered that the closing date for the second phase is 25 May 2007. If your school needs to purchase some laptops (for teachers or student use) then this fantastic deal offers a discount of over **40%**.

The specification is very similar to last year with a Dell Latitude D520, Intel Core 2 Duo 1.66GHz (667MHz, 2MB cache), 15" screen, 1GB memory, 60GB hard drive, **no floppy drive or USB key**, DVD/CDRW, Bluetooth, 802.11b/g WiFi, Windows XP Pro, Office 2003 Pro (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Publisher), Sophos AntiVirus, 4 USB ports, **3 year on-site warranty**, 2 button optical scroll mouse, carry case, serial, Firewire and desktop expansion ports for **£627**. Please note that there is no "PS/2" port to connect old keyboards or mice, and no parallel port to connect old printers.

This price is **£12 less** than last year and now includes twice the memory (1GB instead of 512MB), a larger hard drive (60GB instead of 40GB), Bluetooth connectivity but the USB key has been removed because schools can frequently purchase them elsewhere at a better price.

For schools with a Microsoft School Agreement including Office Pro, the cost would be reduced to £595. An additional charge of £15 per laptop will apply for schools that have not bought a Sophos site licence.

Orders need to be emailed to ICTSchools@buckscc.gov.uk with a subject of "**Laptop order**" before 25 May so that we can arrange delivery at the start of the summer term. This offer will be repeated during the autumn term. Please confirm the number of laptops, the name of the school, the "code" to be used for the recharge (through the co-ordinated billing system) and whether you have a Microsoft "School Agreement". Billing will of course be in the 2007/8 financial year.

If you have any technical queries about the specification of the laptops please contact PC Support, ICT Schools Team on 01494 540202.

The Globe's 2007 production of Much Ado About Nothing – mp3 files and resources

DfES

The Globe's exciting and innovative production of Much Ado About Nothing played to over 6,000 enraptured pupils in March 2007 and was considered a great success by the audiences and The Globe Education team.

The MP3 audio recording of this production can be downloaded by teachers and used as a classroom resource and by individual pupils for listening to on a MP3 player. In addition to the play, there are interviews with the director and the actors playing Beatrice, Benedick, Leonato and Don Pedro, who provide insights into the play's themes, characters and language.

Teachers and pupils will find this resource an exciting way of engaging with this play and it will support revision for the National Curriculum tests.

http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/secondary/keystage3/subjects/english/shakespeare/globe_audio/

Know It All – For Parents

DfES

Children's internet charity, Childnet International, have announced the launch of its latest 'Know IT All' resource aimed at helping parents better support their children's positive and safe use of the internet. Commissioned by the Department for Education and Skills, the interactive CD-Rom will be available to all maintained schools in England to order in bulk quantity for parents free of charge.

A key aim of the CD-Rom is to encourage parents to have a dialogue with their children about the internet and there is special material produced by and for young people, and a special Activity Centre with quizzes and games that parents and children can play together. A summary of the advice on the CD-Rom has been translated into Arabic, Bengali, Gujarati, Polish, Mandarin, Punjabi, Urdu and British Sign Language and is presented in the latest multi-media video.

Visit the Childnet International website: <http://www.childnet-int.org>

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*.

Disclaimer and Copyright Notice

The information contained in e-Update is collated from a range of non-Buckinghamshire LEA sources. Buckinghamshire ICT Curriculum Support Team does not accept any liability for its accuracy or content. If you rely on this information you do so at your own risk. All information may be copied for non-commercial educational purposes, provided that the source is acknowledged.