

e-Update June 2008

Welcome to the 40th 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 Becta and other information sources. Details on how to subscribe to these can be found at the end of e-Update.

For information on how to subscribe to/ unsubscribe from e-Update, please see the section towards 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.

'Just a Minute' Digital Video Competition

Mike Woods, ICT Adviser

Entry is open to all pupils registered at a Buckinghamshire County School. Entries can be from individuals or from groups of pupils - you can even enter more than once!

You can use any computer software package to produce a digital video of any type e.g. stop frame animation using models or drawings, stick figure animation of the type produced by 'pivot stick animator' or even full motion video using actors and sound - the choice is yours.

Entries must last no longer than **ONE MINUTE** and must be no more than **10mb** in size

We will be judging entries within age groups based around Key Stages and we are looking for entries which, while they may not be technically perfect are creative and entertaining.

Prizes will be awarded both to individual entrants and to the schools they attend.

The final date for entries is **23rd July 2008**.

We will be notifying winners early in the Autumn term and prizes will be awarded at the 'Celebrating Success in E-Learning' conference to be held at the Teaching and Learning Centre in Aylesbury on Wednesday 1st October 2008.

To access the 'Just a Minute' website visit <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/resources/course/category.php?id=20> – (the website link is at top of the list). You will then need to log in using your BucksGfL username and password.

PLEASE NOTE Only staff can log in to the website and will need to upload completed videos for pupils.

For further information, or if you have any queries please contact Mike Woods (County Adviser ICT) mawoods@buckscc.gov.uk 0794 123 9537

Dr Challoner's Grammar School achieve 3rd place for KS3 in National Finals!

Andy Dickson – ICT Consultant

Congratulations go to **Dr Challoner's Grammar School** who achieved 3rd place in the KS3 age range at the National Finals of the Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion Challenge 2007/8!! They competed against 11 other KS3 teams in the National Final at the Heritage Motor Museum, Gaydon on 26th June. There were also 11 primary teams and 11 KS4 teams in the final. Overall they were 13th in the race which is a very commendable achievement, especially as this is the first year they have participated in the competition!

Futurelab VISION magazine: Issue 7

Futurelab

The latest issue of Futurelab's bi-annual magazine features articles on the Children's Plan, the Primary Capital Programme, compulsory post-16 education, learners as co-designers, robots in education, and an interview with Baroness Professor Susan Greenfield. These articles can be read online, or you can download the whole magazine as a pdf. If you'd like to receive hard copies of VISION please join the mailing list at <http://forms.futurelab.org.uk/subscribe/>. Further details at http://www.futurelab.org.uk/resources/publications_reports_articles/vision_magazine.

Exploratree

Futurelab

Futurelab has just launched the final version of Exploratree - a free cross-curricular web resource for Key Stage 2-4 students, where they can download, use, create and share interactive thinking guides to support enquiry projects and research. Thinking guides can help students to work through a topic or question, prompting them to shape and focus their ideas, and identify the planning required for further investigation. Go to <http://www.exploratree.org.uk/>.

SMART Board Software 10 now available

Andy Dickson, ICT Consultant

The latest SMART Board software, version **10.0.130.0**, is now available. This can be downloaded from <http://www2.smarttech.com/st/en-US/Support/Downloads/default.htm>

Note: This download requires Windows 2000, XP or Vista.

Note: If you have an earlier version of the SMART Board software you will need to uninstall this before installing the latest version. However you do not need to uninstall the Gallery Collections.

Note: There are also versions available for other operating systems.

If may be necessary to update the version of Flash Player on your computer to use the interactive content in the Notebook Gallery. Go to <http://www.adobe.com/> and click on *Get Adobe Flash Player* to do this.

If you want to be able to insert videos directly into the SMART Notebook you will need to install a separate piece of software called Riva FLV Encoder 2.0 <http://www.rivavx.de/index.php?encoder>. Once installed, Riva FLV Encoder 2.0 does not have to be used separately. Instead, an option Insert > Video File will appear in the SMART Notebook menu.

There are quick reference and hands-on practice guides which can be downloaded from <http://www.smarttech.com/trainingcenter/windows/trainingmaterials.asp>

Computer requirements for SMART Board software version 10.0.130.0

Pentium II 450 MHz processor, 256 MB of RAM (512 MB recommended), 180 MB of free hard disk space for minimum installation (840 MB for full installation with Gallery collections), Windows 2000, XP or Vista operating system, Internet Explorer internet browser 6.0 or later, Adobe Flash player version 8 or later

Requirements for SMART Video Player

Pentium II 450 MHz processor (700 MHz or faster recommended), Windows 2000, XP or Vista operating system, Microsoft DirectX technology 8.1 or later

Installing the latest SMART Board Software

To successfully install the complete version of Notebook software 10, you must complete the following steps:

1. Obtain a product key <http://smarttech.com/NB10ProductKey/>. You will need a serial number of a SMART Board to obtain this.
Note: You only need do this once for your school i.e. you can use the same product key on all your computers
2. Install Notebook software 10 and drivers.
3. Activate Notebook software 10.

For further information on installing Notebook software 10, see <http://www2.smarttech.com/kbdoc/124761>

IMPORTANT:

- Uninstall any versions of SMART Board software, Notebook software, SMART Board drivers and Notebook software drivers from your computer before installing SMART Board Software 10.
- Don't uninstall the Gallery if you want to keep your previous Gallery content.

Communication with schools on online reporting guidance

Teachernet

Schools Minister Jim Knight announced in January that from September 2008 all maintained schools will be expected to start the move towards online reporting. All secondary schools are expected to be providing parents with online reports by September 2010 and all primary schools are expected to do so by September 2012.

A letter enclosed with Becta's introductory pack is being sent to all maintained schools (<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/docbank/index.cfm?id=12680>). The introductory pack tells schools more about the support available on the Becta website which includes, resources, further help and materials which will enable you to start determining how you will approach this expectation.

http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=oe&catcode=ss_es_fam_02

Ictopus - June's Lessons2go

Ictopus

Ictopus (ICT online primary user support) is a support service for primary education. Anyone can sign up for the service (free of charge) and will then receive each week a six page printable magazine and a set of activity suggestions. There will also be a regular newsletter or e-bulletin. These resources (and more) will be archived on the ictopus website <http://www.ictopus.org.uk> where there will also be access to classroom activities and a variety of other resources and projects. Ictopus builds on the Becta Direct2U service and also the legacy of MAPE (Micros and Primary Education).

Remember to Login first then download the activities from <http://www.ictopus.org.uk/index.php?sec=1&sub=2&pg=2>

Available from June 3rd

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

5-6: RE - Spin the Dreidel!

6-7: History - At the seaside

8-9: Music - Moods of the countryside

9-10: Art - Paint mix

Available from June 10th

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

5-6: Geography - People and places around the school

8-9: Maths - The python's tail

10-11: Science - Forces in action

Available from June 17th

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

6-7: ICT - Write a story

7-8: History - Everyday life in Roman Britain

9-10: MFL - Making labels

10-11: D&T - Creating electronic big books

Available from June 24th

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

5-6: Science - Growing plants

6-7: Geography - Letter/number coordinates

8-9: English - Collaborative 'consequences' stories

9-10: Maths - Function machine

Subscribing/ Unsubscribing to e-Update

Teachers in Buckinghamshire schools that are connected to BucksGfL Broadband can receive e-Update by email to their BucksGfL email address.

To subscribe:

1. Visit the BucksGfL website <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk>.
2. Click on the **Login** link in the top right corner.
3. Login using your BucksGfL username and password (your BucksGfL username is the first part of your BucksGfL email address i.e. the bit before the @. Your password is the same as for your email).
4. In the Course Categories section on the main page, click on **ICT**, then click on **e-Update**.
5. You will be asked if you would like to enrol on the e-Update course. Choose **Yes**.

Once you are enrolled, you will be emailed each edition of e-Update to your BucksGfL email address when they are posted on the BucksGfL website.

Note: If you don't wish to use your BucksGfL email address or don't have one (i.e. your school is not connected to BucksGfL Broadband or you are outside Buckinghamshire) then e-Update will still be available to you. However, you will have to download it from the Buckinghamshire ICT Curriculum Support Team's website at <http://www.bucksict.org.uk/e-update/> or the Buckinghamshire Grid for Learning website at <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/resources/course/view.php?id=126>

To unsubscribe:

6. Visit the BucksGfL website <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk>.
7. Click on the **Login** link in the top right corner.
8. Login using your BucksGfL username and password (your BucksGfL username is the first part of your BucksGfL email address i.e. the bit before the @. Your password is the same as for your email).
9. In the Course Categories section on the main page, click on **ICT**, then click on **e-Update**.
10. On the left, click on the **Unenrol me from e-Update**.

Subscription Details

Becta

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

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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