

e-Update January 2010

Welcome to the 57th 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/eupdate>.

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

LA purchased VLE content for BucksGfL Schools

Andy Dickson, ICT Consultant

LA purchased VLE content is now available for BucksGfL Schools:

SUMS Maths

SUMS Maths games and activities packaged in SCORM format, for use in your VLE. These are suitable for KS1 and KS2 pupils.

i-board Interactive Activities

These cross curricular interactive activities are ideal for EYFS and KS1 children. There are activities for Numeracy, Literacy, Science, History, Geography, RE and ICT. These are available in Moodle course format for use on your Moodle VLE.

To access SUMS Maths and i-board Interactive Activities:

Go to <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk>

In the **Whole School Issues** section

Click on the **E-Learning** link

Click on the **LA-provided E-Learning Packages** link

Direct URL: <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/course/view.php?id=430>

Note: These resources cannot be accessed directly from the above URL, you will have to download them and then install them on your own VLE.

Cachepaq 2 Rollout

Mike Woods, ICT Adviser

BucksGfL have embarked on a program with Atomwide to replace all existing Cachepaqs in Buckinghamshire schools with Atomwide's improved CachePaq2 - fully funded by the LA. The CachePaq2 has a Gigabit network connection plus increased processor power, memory and storage capabilities to provide enhanced performance and reliability. These improvements enable the ability to deliver more demanding recent applications such as Espresso Clipbank, plus enhancements to per-user web filtering control and now comes delivered on HP hardware with a 3yr onsite warranty.

To help us with the roll out of these new units, Atomwide will shortly be contacting Headteachers and Nominated Contacts with information on how to arrange a mutually convenient time for the swap out to be carried out by their engineers.

Anyone wishing to contact Atomwide in advance are welcome to do so and should contact Kay Minchington or Tricia Barlow on 0870 236 5000, who are co-ordinating the roll out.

Should a school wish to install their Cachepaq2 using ICT School's Team (BEMIST) or an external support service, please also contact Atomwide to discuss alternative arrangements.

Note: BEMIST are still part of Buckinghamshire County Council and are not an external support service as previous versions of this article seem to indicate.

Safer Internet Day: Tuesday 9 February 2010

DCSF

Safer Internet Day is a Europe-wide initiative, and is the one day in the year that provides a focus on internet safety issues. There is a range of activities taking place across the continent to help protect young people online, and you can get involved too. The theme for Safer Internet Day 2010 is 'Think before you post'. This will involve a full week of action in the UK, with activities taking place from Monday 8 February to Friday 12 February.

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre have launched a website designed to give schools, teachers, youth workers and child protection specialists ideas and suggestions about how to get involved. CEOP will also be launching new resources to teach online safety to Key Stage 1 children.

Safer Internet Day will also see the launch of a public awareness campaign from the UK Council for Child Internet Safety. The Click Clever, Click Safe campaign will highlight a new online 'green cross code': 'Zip it, Block it, Flag it'. The code will outline behaviour that allows young people to enjoy the internet safely. Campaign support materials and further information will be produced for schools to promote the code throughout the year.

<http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/saferinternetdayuk/>

Practical seminar on BSF/school redesign

Futurelab

'Building spaces for the future' is a FREE event that will draw on recent research by Futurelab about young people's view of what learning spaces should look like in the future to offer practical support to Local Authorities, schools and those going through building programmes such as BSF and PCP. It will help you to ensure that the buildings and spaces that you create will still be functional in the future and will take into account what education should look like in the future rather than what it is now.

To register for this event which is to be held at the Royal Society in London on 3 March 2010 (10am–12pm), please contact events@futurelab.org.uk.

For further information, go to www.futurelab.org.uk/events/listing/buildingspaces.

ICT Excellence Awards 2010

Becta

Now entering their fifth year, Becta's ICT Excellence Awards provide a great opportunity to not only celebrate the amazing work of schools, local authorities and other supporting organisations but to share the experiences of those at the forefront of the use of technology in learning.

The winners of the 2009 awards were announced at the Bristol ceremony on 19 November and there are examples of truly inspirational work amongst the winners and runners-up. To mark the beginning of sharing the winners' great practice, many schools are opening their doors during the first week of February 2010, to showcase what impressed the judges and to give their visitors the chance to see their work for themselves. For full information about the dates and locations of these open days, please go to the ICT Excellence Awards web pages: <http://awards.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?page=2107>. There are also films and case studies of each of the winners now available on the website.

And if this work inspires you and you want to share your story or that of a school that you know, the ICT Excellence Awards 2010 are now open for entries. For more information on the categories and criteria, and to access the online entry forms, go to <http://www.becta.org.uk/excellenceawards>. The deadline for entries is 24 March 2010.

Scimorph launched

DCSF

Schools Minister, Vernon Coaker MP has launched this interactive web-based product designed to encourage pupils in Years 6 and 7 to be inspired and excited by science.

Scimorph uses the latest 'augmented reality' technology to present Key Stage 2 science topics in a fun and interactive way to support teaching and learning both at home and in the classroom.

Scimorph is a simple 3D animated character who responds to interaction from users: you can take Scimorph through various activity areas which affect him in different ways, including exploring the effects of gravity.

The package has supporting material for parents and teachers which is available to download from the directgov website <http://scimorph.greatfridays.com/#/home>

For further information please read the full press release http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2010_0015

Ictopus – January'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).

Login first, then access the activities via Resources and lessons2go.

Available on 20th January 2010

The next batch of lessons2go is now available. These two activities are brand new. Ideas for both come from different parts of the ictopus website. The website for the Early Years activity was described in the Christmas Sharing Good Practice. The website used in the English activity was recommended on news@ictopus. If you haven't checked out Sharing Good Practice and news@ictopus recently they are well worth visiting!

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

Age 3 - 5: Dot-to-dots

This activity makes use of an online dot-to-dot activity. The activity is used with a group to help to develop early counting and number recognition.

Age 7-8: English, Collaborative Poetry

In this activity children work in small groups to improve on a poem started by the teacher. It makes use of an online facility which allows the setting up of a shared document, which can then be accessed via a link. This is made secure with a password. Primary Pad was recommended on the ictopus Blog.

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

To subscribe:

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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 Administration block on the left, click on **Enrol me in this course**. On the next screen, 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/eupdate>

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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 Administration block on the left, click on **Unenrol me from e-Update**. On the next screen, choose **Yes**.

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Becta

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