

## **e-Update February 2010**

Welcome to the 58th 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.

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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](mailto:adickson@buckscc.gov.uk).

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### **“Next Generation Learning” Conference**

#### ***ICT Curriculum Support Team***

The ICT Curriculum Support Team are pleased to invite you to our Annual ICT Conference, “Next Generation Learning” at Green Park Conference Centre on Tuesday 27th April 2010 from 9.00am – 4.00pm.

Refreshments will be provided during the day and a complimentary buffet lunch served at 12.30pm.

There will be a choice of workshops available and a prize draw at the end of the day.

There is no charge to attend and a supply cover payment of up to £150 per school will be paid. Places are limited to one per school and booking is on a “first come, first served” basis.

Workshop Choices:

- Web 2.0 and Beyond - Jason Dixon, Chief Technical Architect, RM
- Bucks Grid for Learning Online Music School - Brian Greene, Gigajam
- Using APP materials to support ICT assessment at levels 3, 4 and 5 - Andrew Dumas, Secondary ICT Consultant, ICT Curriculum Support Team
- Your School's Videoconferencing Room - Ian Usher, e-Learning Co-ordinator, ICT Curriculum Support Team
- Cars Maths in Motion - Bexley Penhaligon, Woodside Junior School
- Making your VLE a success - Victoria Jackman, Chepping View Primary School
- E-safety - Karl Hopwood, SWGfL
- BLP/HoneyComb – Mike Woods, ICT Adviser, ICT Curriculum Support Team
- Future Technologies - Gethin Nichols, RM

At the end of the day there will be a prize draw. Prizes have been donated from a range of companies including TES, 2Simple, 4Mation, CSH, Data Harvest, RM and Sherston.

A letter will be sent to schools in the next week with further details of the conference and workshops available and how to apply for a place.

### **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.

**Note:** A Sums Online guide is being sent to all primary schools. An electronic version of the booklet is also available from the above URL.

### **Bienvenue!**

#### ***Pat Trowbridge, ICT Consultant***

Why not make a visit to the Directory of Shared courses, by accessing the Moodle Users' support area, also on the E-Learning section, and downloading the **Comprehensive French Course for Year 3** written by Chris Shaw and Janet Hills, the County ASTs for Primary Languages. It's a complete course and is so big it's got its own section of the web site dedicated to it!

To get support on how it should be used, visit the French for Year 3 course on the site <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/course/view.php?id=419> - you'll need to click the **Yes** button to enrol on that course. Once there, you can either download the course again (if it's updated, it will be updated there first) and install it like any of the other courses in this directory. Alternatively, there's a form to request that it gets installed for you, though this won't happen overnight! In that section there are also the technical and teaching support forums specific to the issues of using the course to teach French in Year 3.

**Please note that if you have a Moodle in your school and someone from your school attended the October 2009 County Primary Languages conference at Chartridge, then this course will probably already be installed on your Moodle (but hidden). Please check your Year 3 and/or MFL categories for it before installing!**

### **New secondary resource for online reporting**

#### ***Becta***

This booklet and interactive DVD provides substantial information around the online reporting agenda as an aid to secondary schools to help them meet the expectation of implementing online reporting to parents and carers by September 2010.

URL: [http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=pb&catcode=ss\\_pb\\_ep\\_02&rid=17433](http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=pb&catcode=ss_pb_ep_02&rid=17433)

Note: BucksGfL schools will have online reporting to parents provided through the Bucks Learning Portal

### **Home access takes off**

#### ***Becta***

Equipping our current and future generations with the necessary skills to compete in a digital world is crucial to our future. Through innovative programs such as Home Access, Becta is driving this development. Find out more about applying for the Home Access grant and take a look at some case study stories.

URL: [http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=oe&catcode=ss\\_es\\_hom\\_02](http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=oe&catcode=ss_es_hom_02)

## **Has your school signed up to the Next Generation Learning Charter?**

### ***Becta***

A booklet outlining the features and benefits of the Charter and the four stage journey towards effective use of technology is now available for schools. You can order or download the publication here. A map is also available which shows all schools on the Charter and the level they have achieved.

URL: <http://publications.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?resID=41787>

## **Digital literacy: teaching critical thinking**

### ***Becta***

This new publication aims to help teachers to teach the skills, knowledge and understanding that young people need to participate fully and safely in an increasingly digital world. The publication is accompanied by a planning tool which will help you to incorporate digital literacy into your teaching.

URL: [http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=tl&catcode=ss\\_tl\\_dl\\_02](http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=tl&catcode=ss_tl_dl_02)

## **Get started with your learning platform**

### ***Becta***

Used effectively, learning platforms open up learning opportunities for all pupils in school and extend learning outside the classroom and school. This publication presents the key steps to a whole school approach to learning platforms.

URL: [http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=pb&catcode=ss\\_pb\\_all\\_02&rid=17206](http://schools.becta.org.uk/index.php?section=pb&catcode=ss_pb_all_02&rid=17206)

Note: BucksGfL schools are provided with a learning platform (Moodle) and nearly all have had initial training on this.

## **Free VLE training**

### ***Andy Dickson, ICT Consultant***

This is just a reminder to Buckinghamshire LA schools who are on BucksGfL Broadband and using the LA provided Moodle installation that you can have free training in school for teachers on using the VLE. To arrange training, please contact your school's link ICT consultant – Pat Trowbridge, Andy Dickson or Geoff Lambrechts. If you are unsure who your link ICT consultant is, please contact Karen Fagan [kafagan@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:kafagan@buckscc.gov.uk).

## **The Next Generation Learning National Schools Quiz**

### ***SEGfL***

The Next Generation Learning National Schools Quiz is happening on Friday 12th March! Give your pupils the chance to represent their school, and participate with other children up and down the country, as part of the BIGGEST EVER online schools quiz.

<http://www.segfl.org.uk/newsevents/events/>

Aimed at primary school children, the quiz will cover curriculum areas from history, science, citizenship, numeracy and literacy. Your pupils will love this fun and interactive way of learning. You can choose whether your pupils participate on their own in the 'individual' competition, or as a group in the 'class' competition. With prizes for both categories, it's going to make for a fantastic event.

A series of fun and challenging tests will pit pupils from across the UK against one another so they can see, in real time, which is the brainiest school in Britain. Every pupil will immediately be awarded gold, silver or bronze certificates, depending on their performance, with one school awarded the star prize of £3,000 worth of ICT equipment.

## **Ictopus – February'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 3rd February 2010*

The next batch of lessons2go is now available. Both of these activities have a wintery feel to them. Remember that the activities may have links to material suitable for other age groups. Do dip into them all if you have time. The polar activity makes use of a website with activities for other age ranges. The craft ideas on the website are particularly unusual. The close links between geography and history are also evident in these activities.

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

- Age 6-7: History, Robert Stevenson and the Bell Rock Lighthouse  
In this lesson children will learn about the design and construction of the Bell Rock Lighthouse by Robert Stevenson, head of an engineering family and grandfather of Robert Louis Stevenson. Using cut and paste techniques they will complete a table showing the differences between building and living in the lighthouse 200 years ago and what it might be like now. These files are zipped for your convenience.
- Age 8-9: Geography, Polar Project Story  
This activity uses resources produced by the International Polar Foundation. A story explains the basic idea of global warming and our role in it. It encourages a thoughtful lifestyle to reduce the impact on other parts of the world. This issue is still open for discussion, but this lesson will generally raise awareness of the impact we have on the rest of the world, and the need for care in what we do to our planet.

*Available on 24th February 2010*

The next batch of lessons2go is now available. The new ICT lesson makes use of free webspace provided by 'Radiowaves'. This could be adapted for cross-curricular use in almost any subject. It also would be a great activity for an after-school club or a school project. Other ages could make use of this facility too. The maths lesson provides yet another colourful way to work on number bonds. This could prove useful for older children who still need revision of their number bonds. It builds on an activity covered in the Teddy's See-Saw lesson.

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

- Age 5-6: Maths, Number Bonds  
This lesson is about developing number bonds. It uses a large visual display to engage the children's attention. It is an open-ended, teacher-led activity to support the exploration and investigation of number bonds.
- Age 10-11: ICT, Multimedia News  
This activity combines ICT and geography skills in one project. Elements of Citizenship may also form part of the learning. The children research a local issue, collect together resources and create web page stories on the topic. The activity could easily be adapted to fit in with a range of other topics, linked to geographical topics, or topics from other subjects. The activity makes use of free website space on the 'Radiowaves' website.

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## **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/eupdate>.

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>

**To unsubscribe:**

1. Visit the BucksGfL website <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/eupdate>.
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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