

e-Update May 2010

Welcome to the 61st 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.

Better ways of working & sharing good practice using BucksGfL & the Bucks Learning Portal (BLP) **Mike Woods, ICT Adviser**

I would like to invite Headteachers or a senior member of your staff to a meeting to be held on **Monday 28th June 2010 at the Chartridge Conference Centre, Chartridge Lane, Chesham, HP5 2TU**.

This meeting will comprise of two distinct sessions. In the morning we are offering you the opportunity to investigate how BLP and some recent additions to BucksGfL (the county wide 'Exchange' server, the soon to be launched 'Streaming Video' server and the new VPN server) can help your school to make use of ICT in a more efficient way – not just in the classroom and school administration, but also in the sometimes neglected area of teachers' professional life. This session will commence at 10.00am and conclude with lunch at 12noon.

The second session is an opportunity for schools who have taken part in the first two phases of the Sims Learning Gateway (SLG) pilot as part of the BLP project to come together and share good practice and their experiences of using SLG. During this session, we also hope to be able to offer advice to schools that are just about to begin using SLG or thinking of embarking along this road. The session commences with lunch at 12.30pm and concludes at 3.30pm.

Delegates from non SLG schools that will be attending the morning session are welcome to attend in the afternoon session but, because of the large number of schools taking part in Phase 1 and 2, we shall have to offer places preferentially to schools that have taken part in the pilot. Although we have to limit initial invitations to one applicant from each school, we are happy to pay £75 towards supply cover for each attendee.

If you would like to attend either (or both) sessions please complete and return the booking form that has been sent to schools to Karen Fagan, ICT Curriculum Support Team, Teaching & Learning Centre, Ellen Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP21 8EF **by 14th June 2010**. If you have not received a letter and booking form, please contact Karen who will send you one.

On receipt of your booking form, confirmation details and a map will be sent to you by email. **Unfortunately, if you reserve a place and then subsequently have to cancel, the school will be charged a £35 cancellation fee to cover the cost of the booking.**

CEOP e-Safety Training for School Staff **Sue Seager, Anti-Bullying project Officer**

There is a half day pilot e-Safety training session on the CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency) Thinkuknow educational resources on Monday 12th July 2010 at the Teaching and Learning Centre. Details can be found on the course flyer

https://schoolsweb.buckscc.gov.uk/schools/documents/bulletin/Bucks_Thinkuknow_flyer.doc

Through working individually with school communities, the anti-bullying team have recognised that there is a need to extend capacity among school communities and their partner organisations to empowered children and young people to keep themselves safe when using the internet and mobile technology. This course provides access to the CEOP educational resources and approach to educating children from 5 to 16 years old.

Broader engagement and training needs across partner organisations and agencies is part of the remit of the new BSCB e-safety sub-committee and in future school support will be delivered as an integrated collaborative element of this. However to inform our approach to how training is developed we should like to support partner organisations who are already working in this areas and seek training so we are happy to extend the opportunity to participate in this training to partner organisations up to a total capacity of 35 delegates on the day.

To book a place please email Allison Holley at aholley@buckscc.gov.uk. If you have any questions about the course content please contact Sue Seager sseager@buckscc.gov.uk.

For more information about Cyberbullying and e-Safety please visit the Bucks Grid for Learning at <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk> and click on the links to anti-bullying and e-safety in the main menu.

Please note that delegates **must also bring proof of a CRB/POCVA/Disclosure Scotland/warrant card** (police) or a headed letter from their organisation/school confirming that they are awaiting clearance or equivalent so that the CEOP certificate can be awarded on the day. We strongly advised you to register on the Thinkuknow website <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> prior to the training event as this will speed up your access to the full suite of resources. Internet access will be provided on the day for delegates who are unable to do this prior to the session and all delegates will have an opportunity to log on and familiarise themselves with the Thinkuknow online resources at the end of the morning.

Becta to close

Andy Dickson, ICT Consultant

The Government has announced £6.2 billion savings for 2010-11. £80m of these savings will come from closing the British Educational Communications and Technology Agency (BECTA) and other savings in Department for Education quangos. Becta will close in November of this year. At this stage it is not known what will happen to various programmes it has run including Home Access, ICT Mark and the Self-Review Framework plus the wealth of resources and publications on the Becta website.

News stories on the Government announcement:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/8699522.stm

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2010/may/24/becta-government-closure>

HM Treasury press release: http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/press_04_10.pdf

Moodle - World Cup Course available

Andy Dickson, ICT Consultant

Victoria Jackman from Chepping View Primary have just shared a Moodle course to support the 2010 World Cup. With the tournament fast approaching, you may want to download it and use it on your VLE.

You can download the course along with 80+ other shared courses (and share your own) in the Directory of Shared Courses for Primary. This can be found in section 4 of the Moodle Users Support Area on the BucksGfL website <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/moodlehelp>.

You can preview the World Cup course here <http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/course/view.php?id=456>.

[Here are the recently added courses to the directory](#), with the World Cup one near the top.

Moodle - managing your pupils' (and staff's) user images

Ian Usher, e-Learning Co-ordinator

This isn't so much news, just a quick tip that you might appreciate. You may or may not have a policy in your school that specifies what counts as an "appropriate" user image - that is the image that a user might submit to represent themselves on the site. You might find it difficult to keep track of all of these - however there's a

simple link on your Moodle site that will enable you as an Admin to see quickly if there are any ones which break your agreed standards - or are inappropriate or just plain odd.

Take the address of your VLE (learning.yourschoolname.bucks.sch.uk) and add "/userpix" to it. If (and only if) you are logged in and have Admin rights then you'll see the images of everyone who has changed their user profile image, with the most recently logged in people at the top.

If you were to rest your mouse over an image you could find out whose it is (their name should appear as a small "mouseover" text like the text of my name is in the image above) and if you clicked on it you could visit their profile. If it's a really offensive image you could (as an admin) edit their profile and use the "Delete" option for their image to revert it to the default one.

Hope this is of some use to you, please share it with colleagues (who have admin rights) if you feel it's useful!

New Moodle Tool Guide for Teachers available

Ian Usher, e-Learning Co-ordinator

I've just added what could be a really useful PDF called the Moodle Tool Guide for Teachers - a matrix made by someone called Joyce Seitzinger in New Zealand. This tool allows you to look at what you want to do (in terms of pedagogy) and then examine which of the main Moodle 'tools' will allow you to achieve that. Alternatively, you can look at one of the tools and see what it allows you to do. There's also an estimation of which elements of Bloom's Taxonomy the tool might be used to support (if that's your thing).

Have a look - it's on the Moodle Tool Guide for Teachers page on the BucksGfL website:

<http://www.bucksgfl.org.uk/mod/resource/view.php?r=9861>.

It is also on Joyce's website:

<http://www.cats-pyjamas.net/2010/05/moodle-tool-guide-for-teachers/>

It is a poster-sized free download - bear that in mind if you print it out!

Gaming in families report now available from Futurelab

Futurelab

The benefits and risks to children's wellbeing and learning associated with playing computer games have been highlighted as an area for urgent research by the Byron Review. The Children's Plan and Becta's Harnessing Technology strategy have also identified the importance of parents and families on children's learning and development.

Over the past year, Futurelab has sought to provide guidance for parents in order that computer games can be used beneficially in family settings.

The final gaming in families report details the key results from the project research, findings from interviews with gaming families and the outcomes of three family gaming workshops. The report is intended for policy-makers. However, the report also contains recommendations for parents and industry and may also be of interest to educators.

For more information on the project and to download this report, please visit our website at

<http://www.futurelab.org.uk/projects/gaming-in-families>.

Ictopus – May'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 5th May 2010

The next pair of brand new lessons2go is now available. Both have links to some excellent resources to support teaching and learning. Both also provide exciting and colourful resources which will cover several sessions.

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

- Age Early years: Sound work
Three resources are used in this new activity to support work on letter sounds and their use. These MS PowerPoint files could be used as inspiration for resources for other sounds. The resources are interactive and colourful.
- Age 9-10: Art and Design, Making masks
In this new activity, which will take more than one session, children will investigate the history and traditions of masks from different cultures. This provides cross curricular links with Citizenship. Initially children will work through a webquest. Subsequently children will identify a purpose and design their own masks.

Available on 19th May 2010

The next pair of lessons2go is now available. These MFL activities could easily be adapted for different age groups. The differentiation notes give ideas for simplifying the activities, and there are notes for extending the activities too.

Both activities could be easily adapted for any MFL.

This week we have activities for the following age groups:

- Age 8-9: MFL, Identity cards
This activity involves pupils using a word processor to produce an 'identity card'. Passport photographs of the children can be created using a digital camera. Once completed, the identity cards can be emailed to each other internally, or to a French-speaking partner school (bearing in mind safe use policies).
- Age 9-10: MFL, Telling the time
In large groups and then individually or in smaller groups, the children practise asking and telling the time on the hour, concentrating on the written form. Combining text and graphics, they label clock faces with the correct times, or vice versa, and add activities that generally occur at those times.

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**.
-

Subscription Details**Becta**

To subscribe click here: [Becta newsletters](#)

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.