

Visible Learning, April 2015

Visible Learning

Educational Excellence



News about IT, computer science, online safety and all things educational.

This month's edition includes articles on the Inspire Theatre Company, the next Computing Buzz Teachmeet, Explore Learning, Freebies Online, Free Microsoft Office for students and teachers, Discover Imagine Access, Visible Learning website update, Cambridge competition. Education Fellowship programming competition.



Inspire Theatre Company

At Rushden Academy



A group of very talented Year 13 BTEC drama students at Rushden Academy have written, choreographed, produced and are starring in two wonderful Theatre in Education pieces entitled "Send" and "Update". These pieces are designed to entertain but also to teach Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 students about online safety.

The Company has been performing in Education Fellowship schools across Northamptonshire and they have captivated and entertained their audiences wherever they have gone. The messages about online safety are crucial to the safety and wellbeing of our students, and these performances have been valuable in raising awareness and driving home the message to students and teachers alike.

They are also performing at our Northamptonshire Cluster Training at Rushden Academy on 13th April. If you have not yet seen them, do not miss out. The performances are world class.

Free Microsoft Office

We are delighted that Microsoft is allowing both teachers and students to download up to 5 copies of Office free to their personal machines. You will need your school email address to access this. Please go to

office.com/getoffice365 to get your free copies.



Registrations for our next Buzz Teachmeet are now open. Free tickets may be reserved at:

bit.do/teachmeet

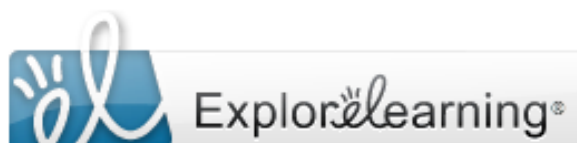
The date of the Teachmeet is 19th May and it is at 4.30 pm. The event will be hosted at South End Junior Academy and the theme is **Computing**.

As part of this Teachmeet we were pleased to be asked by the Computing At School initiative to host the Northamptonshire Primary Computing Hub. This means that we will have access to some great resources. Please come along and find out what is happening in our schools and how you can be supported in teaching Computing in the primary school curriculum.

Discover Imagine Access

Microsoft has launched Imagine Access, a new program that gives students coding and collaboration software to develop apps, games and websites at no cost to students.

Contact The Education Fellowship to find out how to access this.



Michelle Brett from Windmill PS says "Have a look at this website. They are offering a free 30 day trial at the moment - no strings attached. I used this site a couple of years ago and they have been emailing me a couple of times a year since - thought I'd have a look though and I've signed up for a free trial again! The idea is that you allow your class to explore the gizmos or simulations themselves but you can also use as a teacher tool. I've had a quick look and there are some new gizmos - the digestion one is one we will be using in 3/4 this term. I also had a go on the levers gizmo and it was great - the kids will love it and be able to explore what happens when you lengthen the lever, change the pivot, change the force, add a different animal (it's a farmer based gizmo for levers!)

There are also maths gizmos - haven't had a good look but think I'll be using the fractions one. It's an American site so beware some of the terminology may be different but it's definitely worth a look!"

<http://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=Controller.dspHome>

Freebies Online

Magic Breakfast provides free breakfasts to primary schools where there is no existing breakfast club and 35% or more of pupils are eligible for FSM.

<http://www.magicbreakfast.com/schools>

All state-funded schools in England are eligible to join FILMCLUB to gain access to thousands of free films available for after-school clubs.

<http://www.filmclub.org/>

The Dogs Trust offers free dog-based workshops linked to the National Curriculum for both primary and secondary pupils, as well as those outside mainstream education

<http://www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk/workshops-tours/index.html>

The charity Merlin's Magic Wand offers tickets to Merlin Group attractions to young people with disabilities or health problems and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

<https://www.merlinsmagicwand.org/>

The Oxford Owl website offers free tablet-friendly eBooks and activities to support children's learning.

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Community RePaint schemes collect reusable, leftover paint and redistribute it to individuals, families, communities and charities in need.

<http://www.communityrepaint.org.uk/>

WorldGame

The World Game is a collaborative role-playing game about sustainability and resilience designed for groups wanting to place their activity into a wide view of current global challenges. If you would like a free copy then please email us at The Education Fellowship.



Cambridge University is inviting our students to join in its computing competition for GCSE and A Level students. Focussing on building algorithm and programming skills, the competition will help relate Computer Science to the real world by challenging students to design a user interface. Students can submit their own entries, or teachers can use the competition as a classroom activity and submit entries on behalf of their students.

The competition closes on Sunday 19th April 2015 and a winner will be selected from the most accurate and elegant entries received. All entries must include the names of the participating student, the Computer Science teacher, the school and the school full address. Contact The Education fellowship for further details.

IT Qualifications

TLM has sent us information about the IT User Skills Level 2 Qualification and the 3 free events they are running that schools might be interested in attending. For further details please contact The Education Fellowship.

The Education Fellowship 2nd Annual Computer Programming Competition

We are pleased to announce that the Key Stage 2 computer programming competition for this year was won by two year six pupils from Risdene Academy. Congratulations to Harry White and Hugo Eld-Weaver. They received their Raspberry Pi computer prizes at the end of last term. Photos will be published in the next Visible Learning newsletter.



Office 365

Office in education

Inspire, engage, collaborate, and work wonders in and out of the classroom with Office 365.

Office in education

Students Teachers Schools

The advertisement shows a group of four students sitting around a table outdoors, working on laptops and tablets. The Office 365 logo is in the top left. Below the headline, there is a navigation bar with three buttons: "Students" (highlighted in orange), "Teachers", and "Schools".

Get Office free from your school

Office 365 Education for Students is available for free to students who are enrolled at qualifying schools. Install Office on up to 5 PCs or Macs and on other mobile devices, including Android, iPad®, and Windows tablets.



Download Microsoft Office free of charge on up to 5 different personal devices including PCs, laptops, Macs iPads and other tablets. This offer is valid for all staff and students from Education Fellowship schools who have a school email address. To take advantage of this fantastic benefit of being part of The Education Fellowship, go to office.com/getoffice365

This benefit is only available for devices personally owned by students or staff members.



Here are some new things you will find at bit.do/tef this month:

- Links to our Fischer Family Trust account (Business Intelligence)
- New maternity guides and forms (Policies)
- Links to GCSE Mock Maths Papers and Pearson Past Papers (Secondary Students)
- Switchedon issue 16 (Digital Technologies)
- Financial Statement and Value for Money Statements (Policies)
- Updated co-ownership documents (Co-ownership)
- David Marriott training video (Advisory Boards)
- CCTV, Change Management and Disclosure policies (Policies)
- Careers Guidance and Inspection in Schools (Education Matters)