

Visible Learning, February 2015

Visible Learning

Educational Excellence



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

This month's edition includes articles on Quickstart Computing, Literacy Buzz Teachmeet, Computing Crew at Warwick Primary School, Home-School Support Workers Network, The Education Fellowship Computer Science Competition, Get Involved in Research, Computational Thinking Posters, IT Events at The Education Fellowship





Computing At School has produced a new resource to help primary and secondary teachers in England get to grips with the new computing curriculum which was introduced in September. Funded by Microsoft and the Department for Education, QuickStart Computing is a comprehensive, national programme designed to help primary and secondary teachers to plan, teach and assess this brand new subject.

QuickStart Computing is a free CPD toolkit designed to help teachers to develop and run successful CPD in their school or cluster. All primary and secondary schools have access to QuickStart Computing online and 40,000 free hard copies will be distributed through Computing At School.

The QuickStart website has been launched and includes downloadable versions of the full teachers' handbook, and lots of additional resources including links to useful sites, online videos and interactive tools. For more information visit: www.quickstartcomputing.org



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

bit.do/teachmeet

Please note, that we have moved the date for this Teachmeet to Thursday, 26th March 2015 at 4.00 pm. The event will be hosted at Olympic Primary School and the theme is **Literacy**.

I am also seeking teachers to give short presentations on the theme. The presentations can be 2 or 7 minutes long and should focus on practice within the classroom. Please send me the contact details of teachers who may be interested in presenting. The format is relaxed and collegiate and is a great opportunity for teachers to share what they are doing in their Education Fellowship schools. Teachers may also contact me directly.



Computing Crew Project at Warwick Primary School

Warwick Primary School are sailing forward with their computing crew project. They had their launch day at Weavers School and you can read their blog at <http://ccc.webblogs.net/>

The children loved it. Here are a few quotes:

At ccc we learnt how to programme and code well we used bee bots and pro bots to do so. We also had loads of activity's to do. I especially enjoyed when we found out how to programme kodu and also thanks for all the effort that went into this fun day out I would highly recommend downloading kodu it is a great game. But if your are on the the blog remember it is all about having fun at the ccc!!! - Leigh Year 5

When I walked into the room I was so nervous but I soon settled in. I met so many nice people with my friend. I met lots of people from different schools ... Its been so nice and I wish it would last forever. - Rebekah Year 6

Hi my name is James and I am a CCC student! I have a major interest in IT and Maths. My interests include gaming, and Portal (Puzzle Related Game.). My favourite part was the Robots from Our Ladies School! Thanks! - James Year 5

Many thanks to Miss Davidson and Mr Page for leading on this project.

The Education Fellowship Home-School Support Workers Network

Home-school support workers, parent liaison and home liaison workers in The Education Fellowship schools have indicated a wish to meet together to share ideas, best practice, training opportunities etc. We think this is a good idea too. I would be grateful if you could pass this information on to the relevant staff member(s) in your school with the request that they contact me with:

- a. Their name and email address
- b. Their actual job title
- c. Their school

I will then arrange an initial after-school meeting for them to start the ball rolling.



Second Annual Education Fellowship Computer Science Programming Competition



Win a **Raspberry Pi** computer kit, or one of eight soldering zoo kits.

Open to all Key Stage 2 pupils

Design an original game using Scratch. Your program must be interactive, fun and challenging.

Ask your teacher to send a copy of the completed program to scratch@educationfellowship.net along with a description of the game and how to play it.

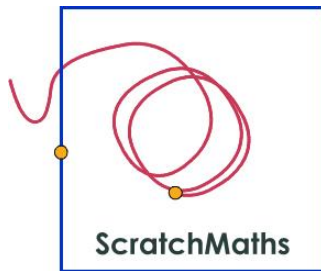
All entrants will also receive a certificate

Competition closes on 31st January 2015



The Education™
Fellowship

Due to requests from schools, the deadline for this competition has been extended to 13th February



Get involved in research

The ScratchMaths project is a Randomised Control trial that seeks to establish once and for all how the learning of computer programming in Scratch can improve, not only computational thinking, but also mathematics performance at Key Stage 2. It runs from 2015 to the middle of 2017 and if successful, will subsequently be rolled out across the country.

Schools will receive free training and lesson materials to improve mathematics performance in Key Stage 2, and help pupils and teachers engage creatively with the computing curriculum.

Visit the website to find out more and get involved! <http://scratchmaths.com/>

Upcoming IT Events at The Education Fellowship

Education Fellowship Primary ICT Coordinators meeting, 9th February (Olympic PS)

Safer Internet Day, 10th February

Education Fellowship IT Steering Group, 24th February (Wrenn School)

Education Fellowship Primary Maths Trip, 21st April (Bletchley Park)

Education Fellowship Computer Science Day (University of Oxford)

Updated Computational Thinking Key Terms Posters

The popular computational thinking key terms posters are now available for download. They are now updated to include both the 6 computational thinking concepts and the 5 approaches. You can download them from:

<http://barefootcas.org.uk/computational-thinking-key-terms-posters/>

