

Visible Learning, October 2015

# Visible Learning

*Educational Excellence*



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

*This month's edition includes articles on Microsoft, iTunes U, Words for Life, Computing in School, NCETM, Business Dragons at Rushden and Science at Windmill*





Microsoft has given us access to some of their new developments. They are all designed for the education market and give a useful glimpse into the company's vision for the future and the way in which they can continue to support us.

<https://sis.microsoft.com/>  
(Microsoft School Information Sync)

<http://www.kodugamelab.com/>  
(Kodu Gamelab- new resources)

<https://mix.office.com/>  
(Office Mix)

<https://store.office.com/onenote-class-notebook-creator-WA104371260.aspx>  
(OneNote Class Notebook Creator)

<https://cd.microsoft.com/>  
(Microsoft Class Dashboard)

<https://www.touchdevelop.com/>  
(Touch Develop)



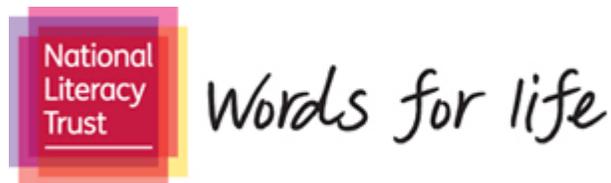
We have now scheduled our autumn term meeting of primary Computing subject leads in The Education Fellowship. The meeting is to be held at Rushden Academy on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 4.00 pm. It is being held under the umbrella of the Computing At School network and I would be very pleased if the Computing lead at your academy was able to attend.

Please do register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/northamptonshire-computing-at-school-primary-hub-tickets-18496900728> so that I can make sure there are sufficient refreshments and resources.

It will be a chance to meet other Education Fellowship colleagues and to share ideas and to offer and receive support in implementing computing, e-safety and IT elements of the curriculum.



To explore iTunes U, go to our Visible Learning website ([bit.do/tef](http://bit.do/tef)) and click on the Secondary Teachers button.



Many young people lack motivation to read, which affects their attainment in literacy and other areas. This is a particularly common problem amongst boys aged 9 to 13 and those on free school meals. Premier League Reading Stars is a 10-week literacy intervention programme from the National Literacy Trust and the Premier League that harnesses the appeal of football and top players, turning that passion towards books to boost results in reading and writing.

The new 2015-16 Season is packed with new features and resources (including a year's free membership to the National Literacy Trust Network) and costs £300. There are many ways you can get involved:

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/plrs>  
[plrs@literacytrust.org.uk](mailto:plrs@literacytrust.org.uk)



**COMPUTING AT SCHOOL**  
EDUCATE · ENGAGE · ENCOURAGE  
Part of BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT

**teachprimarycomputing.org.uk**

Free resources for teaching the new Computing Curriculum

Although The Education Fellowship is a dedicated CAS Primary Hub, you may also be interested in the following new website aimed at Primary teachers:

TeachPrimaryComputing.org.uk:

<http://www.teachprimarycomputing.org.uk/> It has been created with the generous support of Morgan Stanley.

It is designed to help all primary teachers get "up to speed" with the new curriculum. There is help on assessment, a glossary of terms and classroom tested resources contributed by CAS members, or those developed through CAS projects, eg CAS Barefoot.

Here are some more details about what you can find on the site:

[http://community.computingatschool.org.uk/news\\_items](http://community.computingatschool.org.uk/news_items)



The NCETM's [new online materials](#) to help primary teachers judge whether pupils have developed mastery of the maths curriculum have been downloaded more than 45 000 times in little more than a month.

The materials have been written by a group of primary mathematics experts and primary teachers working through the [Maths Hubs programme](#), and are divided into six sections, one for each of Years 1 to 6 inclusive, and mapped against key topics of the National Curriculum.

Each document contains two categories of mathematical questions, tasks and activities: one designed to help assess mastery of a concept, to which all pupils should aspire, and one to assess mastery with greater depth.



*“On the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015 two Year 10 teams from Rushden Academy took part in the annual Business Dragons competition in the Council Chambers at East Northants District Council. This year's competition saw some fantastic entries from all schools involved, giving the judges some very difficult decisions to make.*

*The first Rushden team's product was called “Pillihod” which means Russian for transition. Freya and Saffron had created the idea of having transitional disposable contact lenses that can either be used as a fashion item or for people who work outdoors. The judges were clearly very impressed by this idea as they were awarded overall winners.*

*The second Rushden team was called “LEGC” and they had created a food labelling product that would change colour over time. The product would start green eg safe to eat before turning orange safe to eat but can no longer be sold, finally the label would turn red to indicate the food should be thrown away. Leigh, Eleanor, Gabrielle and Charlotte had taken their inspiration from the way tree leaves change through the seasons and clearly impressed the judges as they received the award for Most Innovative Idea.*

*Rushden Academy has had a fantastic legacy with this competition over the years but this has been a special year as it is very rare for a school to win two awards at this completion and it has clearly shown the skill and determination of Rushden Academy students to succeed.*

*Finally the rest of the staff and I at Rushden Academy would like to say well done to you all for your hard work and commitment to your products and may this just be the start of things to come.”*

By Carl Brotherston, Rushden Academy

### **Science at Windmill PS- by Michelle Brett**

*"You can probably all imagine how excited I was when we finally received the message that Windmill has been awarded PSQM Gold. Although I put together the application, portfolio and Critical Reflection (available on request, 13 x 500 word reflections for bedtime reading!), it was really down to the way in which everyone at Windmill has embraced the way we now teach Science so thank you all - I know I have been a bit of a nag sometimes but it has all been worth it!*

*The best part of the whole process for me has been to achieve recognition for the amazing opportunities we offer to children at Windmill. If you think back a few years ago, there was no way we ever would have considered doing anything like our Rube Goldberg day at the end of last year, but the engagement and learning we saw during that day was fantastic. We are truly hitting our Driver of Enquiry through the way we deliver Science and hopefully we are nurturing some scientists of the future.*

*In terms of where we go now, well we have the Award for 3 years and it means that we have been recognised as one of the few schools in the country to be teaching Science to this level. Of course there is always more to do - onwards and upwards! In the near future we will be celebrating the launch of the first British Astronaut to the ISS and then next year we will be receiving Rocket Seeds that have been on a Rocket! We also need to look carefully at assessment and making sure our children are able to identify and describe different enquiry types. We recently received an ENTHUSE Partnership Award and as Lead School we will be working closely with 3 other TEF Schools to drive attainment in Science even higher."*