

Pūtahi Akoranga

Kura Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

August 2003

The purpose of Pūtahi Akoranga Kura Newsletter is to provide updates and information to everyone involved with making the South Learning Centre a success. Two copies will be sent quarterly to all schools in the South area and an electronic copy to your school contact person. A community newsletter is in the pipeline to highlight forthcoming programmes and events.

Please send your comments or feedback to:
learningcentre@ccc.govt.nz
Phone: 03 941 5140

Highlights

'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' dramatised as a story was part of Beckenham School's English unit. The dedicated team of Junior teachers decided it would be great to film the children retelling the story. The children had to story board the story and decide how they wanted their stories captured on film. They had a great time making props and designing costumes for their movies.

The Year 3 and 4 children were used as directors and camera people and the Year 7 and 8 children were used to teach the teachers how to make the movies using iMovie.

Soon they will be rolling out the red carpet and inviting the parents along to their first film premiere!



Programme Preview

In term four the South Learning Centre will be trialing two programmes with emphasis on the inquiry process, information literacy and of course exciting ICT alternatives used throughout the learning process.

Cultural Heritage:
13th – 24th October

LEARNZ:
3rd – 19th November
A virtual field trip using the topic of Save the Blue Duck



We are keen to work with two enthusiastic teachers and their classes for each of these programmes. If you have either a class or composite in years 5 – 8 and are interested please contact either Andrea or Pat to discuss this in more detail.

Professional Development Opportunities

Gifted and Talented programmes are high on the agenda for development with local schools for 2004. We have spent some time with Christchurch College of Education Advisor, Juliet Martin, discussing possibilities in this area and we are thrilled to have her support and encouragement. Juliet is keen to run a preliminary workshop with interested staff from schools in the South to develop and refine your school's identification process.

We will also take the opportunity to consider what the centre can do to meet these identified needs across schools. More details to follow.

DON'T FORGET!

Gifted and Talented
October 7th 1 – 4pm
South Learning Centre

- * No charge
- * Afternoon tea provided

Check out our website:

<http://learningcentre.christchurch.org.nz>



GlobalNet “Connect, Create, Act”

Astro and GlobalNet have a new home and are now part of the South Learning Centre programmes on offer for schools.

GlobalNet’s aim is to connect young people across geographical boundaries to share ideas and create solutions to social, economic and environmental issues. We pair schools throughout New Zealand or internationally and use web boards, audio and video conferencing as discussion forums to get to know each other and share the learning process. Below are photographs of Waltham students communicating with Mount Cook School. Support material is developed to help the inquiry process and web quests and brain bags are also developed for the topics studied.

Feeding the World is the theme for terms three and four.

Astro’s Web Quest runs from 4th-25th August. Join Astro on his trip and discover where he is each week and learn what hunger really is! Did you know that last year one hundred and eighty two countries, including the United States,

unanimously agreed to halve the number of hungry people in world by 2015. What needs to change for this to happen?

As an extension task why not get a group to enter the competition and submit their answer each week. This could also be an activity during language or at the end of the day.

Brain Bag – this is already up. Students can answer the questions on-line and teachers can follow this up with an analysis of the answers and discuss the reliability of data gathered in this way!

Are you interested in becoming a ‘buddy school’ for 2004? We are seeking registrations of interest to pair schools on either the waste management or feeding the world projects or as a “Getting to know your project”.

www.globalnet.org.nz

Contact: Dorothy.Haywood@ccc.govt.nz

Opening Week

We will be approaching schools to forward the names of two students who would like to be involved in opening events for the South Learning Centre. Students will be involved with action based learning and creative production tasks that record and profile the opening day, the history and special features of the new centre. It is anticipated that these students will develop confidence in the use of ICT and become another ‘expert’ back in their school to assist others.

After School Programmes

Planning is underway to provide a variety of learning opportunities after school. There will be regular drop in sessions, courses on creative production for caregivers and children, Astro’s Actioneers not to mention regular opportunities for teacher professional development. We will forward more details of these events and times and if you can pass this onto your classes this would be great! Also if students have any ideas of what they would like for after school programmes please encourage them to make contact or alternatively have a class brainstorming session and send your ideas to us.



Programme Schedule

23 rd August	South Christchurch Library opening
4 th -25 th August	Astro’s Web Quest
15 th September	South Learning Centre opening
7 th October	Gifted and talented teacher workshop
13 th – 24 th October	Cultural Heritage programme
3 rd – 19 th November	LEARNZ virtual field trip



www.globalnet.org.nz