

Latest News

New Staff Members



Joanna

Kerrie-Anna

Welcome to our new learning specialist Joanna Kearney. Joanna is an experienced teacher who brings a wide variety of experiences from communications manager, specialist language teaching and Ministry of Education resource writing to TV series presenter. She has integrated into our delivery team and is enjoying the new programmes she is delivering.

Welcome to Kerrie-Anna Anderson, our new Māori Services Kaitakawaenga. Kerrie-Anna has taken on this fixed term position to cover maternity leave, and is looking forward to encouraging the community to utilise the library and all its services.

Blogging Essentials

Heather attended the annual ULearn Conference in early October, and here she shares some key points from a blogging workshop run by Dorothy Burt from Point England School, Auckland.

Dorothy explained that "Teachers can compare any 'online' experience, such as blogging, to an EOTC experience." Teachers and students alike need to be well prepared for what they might encounter along the way.

Firstly, teachers need to know their community and ask themselves is their school community a 'walled garden' (one that doesn't want children online), 'go for it' (open to anything, no passwords), or 'yes, but' community. This will determine how the blog will be set up and monitored.

Secondly, teachers need to know their school policies about blogging. Visit <http://ulearn.netsafe.org.nz/blogging-guidelines/> for advice on this area.

Thirdly, a class blog needs to have a purpose. Ask yourself why are you creating an online space at all? Whose voice will be heard? How will the intention of the blog be clear to the reader or viewer?

Finally, consider how you can create an audience for the blog. An online audience is normally built up through online and offline word of mouth. This can be achieved by creating amazing content through interesting writing and images; tagging; labelling and keeping the blog up to date; creating a point of difference; and sharing the love by participating in online discussions and leaving comments to create a digital footprint. If teachers are interested in seeing how blogs can be used to enhance teaching and learning visit:

<http://nzedublogs.wikispaces.com/>

SLC has run an E-coach 'Blog It' programme for students, plus teacher PD workshops on 'Introduction to Blogging'. For more information contact Gill at the Learning Centre on 941-5140.

Connect Programmes Term 4

If you haven't used the Learning Centres recently, or if you have and your students loved the experience, why not bring your class along to a Connect session at South or Waitikiri Learning Centres this term? We still have some times available for these free, 90 minute technology based sessions that focus on library literacy. The new Connect Programme for this term involves delving into the Christchurch City Libraries Kids pages. Your students will learn how to effectively search the resources within this website, and use the information available to supplement their inquiry/rich topic.

Phone Gill now to find out what sessions are available on: 941-5140.



September Holiday Highlights



Horizons Students identifying bugs using classification systems and mind maps with the help of scientists from Lincoln University in 'Bioblast'.

Christchurch Digital Learning Trust

As we go to print the trust members are in the process of signing legal documents on the 5th November and application for Charitable Status will follow. The trust management committee have developed application processes and more information will be sent by this organisation to local Principals early next year. The contact details are

Christchurch Digital Learning Trust
PO Box 7275
Sydenham
Christchurch 8204
Email: admincdlt@gmail.com
Dorothy Haywood

With fully booked classes and enthusiastic participants and tutors, the September holidays were a definite success!

Students were kept busy creating their own 'Wallace and Grommet' style short movie in Claymation, designing fantastic layouts in Digital Scrapbooking, appearing up close and personal in Trading Cards and jumbled up as a jigsaw puzzle in 'Mix Me Up'!

Student evaluation comments included:

- This is great and I would come back and do it again any day.
- Thanks, I will do this a lot at home and I can't wait to show this to my friends!
- I was really pleased with my finished product. The help was really great as we didn't have to ever wait long. I also liked the way we had heaps of freedom and lots of things to work with. I have learnt heaps which will really help me when I use the tools again.
- Fun for all ages, I found it was a good amount of time, I thought my jigsaw puzzle was awesome!
- It was fun and now I can teach my family.
- I think it is really cool, especially when you see the end result.



New Learning Centre Website <http://www.slc.ac.nz>

The designers at CORE Education and the Learning Centre staff have been hard at work, and are pleased to inform you that our brand new Learning Centres website is now LIVE, check it out at <http://www.slc.ac.nz>! While we are still adding content, we encourage you to pop onto the site next time you are online and check it out. You can view information regarding our current programmes, find contact details and explore other websites through our links.

Our new site has been developed using Drupal, which has a variety of functions. We have already used the evaluation form tool to gather some great feedback from students who attended holiday programmes, and plan to further utilise this to gather feedback from classroom teachers regarding their class visits to the Learning Centres. We anticipate that as the site is further developed, students will be able to upload examples of work created at the Learning Centre and view this from their school or home computers. If you have any suggestions or comments on the new website please let us know, we would welcome your feedback. Keep an eye on the site over the coming months as new programme information and images are added.

School Travel Plan



A collaborative project with Christchurch City Council's City Environment Group and South Learning Centre enabled students from Beckenham and Cashmere Primary schools to research and develop their own school travel plan brochures. They experienced the 'Our City' display for the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy where they captured ideas to incorporate into their brochures. From their school locations they identified and photographed key issues around travelling to school. Utilising this data their school travel plan brochures were then designed using Microsoft Publisher. Each school has 450 brochures printed and ready for their travel plan launches. Students created an effective display portraying strong Travel Plan concepts, encouraging their community to use safe, sustainable modes of transport to school.

Specialised Class Programmes

Hornby High Students Spellbound

In Term 3 our Programme Design and Delivery Team planned units of work with a number of Cashmere Primary teachers, to integrate ICT into their class programmes. The first was a unit of work based around healthy eating, where students researched a fruit/vegetable and designed a Glogster (online poster) around it - see below. The second was a unit of work on Comics, with students having to think about design principles, including how text and images work together to tell a story. Phone Gill on 941-5140 or email learningcentre@ccc.govt.nz for more information on specialised class programmes.



As part of the ongoing Pulse Pilot connections with local schools, I facilitated a session at Hornby High School with Martin Crump. About 20 year eleven students sat in total rapt silence while Martin told them what it was like to grow up without a father most of the time.

But, as he explained, when he did see Barry it was a magic experience to hear one of the world's greatest storytellers weaving his magic. It was an interesting talk, because Martin was also quite candid about the damage caused to his mother, and the other wives and children by Barry's desertion and drunkenness. He said that the son *most like Barry*, lives with his wife and ten children in a shack made from car cases with no electricity or running water in the middle of a paddock.

Barry is touring New Zealand to promote sales of the 50th anniversary edition of *A Good Keen Man*, having recently fought for the copyright to Barry's works to benefit a trust for all the Crump children. We were pleased to hear he has also secured the rights to show the famous Barry Crump Toyota ads (with Scotty), on the family website.

Julianne Pask CYA, Learning Advisor



Check out the new Learning Centre Website: <http://www.slc.ac.nz>