

## Latest News

### **Christchurch Kids Library Blog Launched**

On Wednesday 8 September the Christchurch City Libraries are launching a new blog that is by, for and about children and their interests. Children's authors, Steve Cole and Richard Newsome will be at Central library from 7 to 8pm for the special event. All children and their families are welcome to attend. No booking required and no charge.

The Learning Centres are also supporting the blog, with Writing for the Web Horizons courses to train children in the skills of blog writing. Please contact us to arrange a special programme for your students. We can use our own tutors and /or tutors from the School for Young Writers to ensure a very worthwhile programme with a real life context for their product.

## Teacher Professional Development Opportunities

We have some great professional development opportunities available for teachers at the Learning Centre, from a 2 hour presentation style session to half or full day workshops covering a range of topics and skills. Options include developing & implementing wikis or blogs across a classroom, syndicate or school; equiry - inquiry using web 2.0 tools; and teachers becoming Digital Citizens in order to enhance 21st Century learning for your students. These can take place at South Learning Centre, or we can come and do a presentation style workshop at your school. Half day workshops from \$45 per teacher and full day from \$90 per teacher. For more information, prices or to book a session phone Gill on 941-5140 or email us at [learningcentre@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:learningcentre@ccc.govt.nz).

## Adult Learning Programmes

We have some great programmes for families and adults here at South Learning Centre, from Wednesday and Friday afternoon drop in sessions to evening classes and term long classes. For more information pick up a Community Connections brochure in your local library, phone 941-5140 or check out the website <http://christchurchcitylibraries.com>.

### **Social Communication Tools Technology Taster**

**Friday 3 September or Friday 17 September, 1:00pm-2:30pm**

Move into 21st Century technology along with your kids! Want to find out what your kids are able to do on Facebook, Twitter and other sites? Concerned about security or privacy issues associated with these social communication tools? Why not come along to one of these drop in sessions and learn what these sites are, how to set up an account and how to manage privacy settings on these. No need to book, just turn up at the computer lab at South Learning Centre, cost \$5 per person. If you have a group of friends who are interested in this topic but cannot make the time slot, just let us know and we can try to plan a session for your group at a suitable time.



# Tessellations with Cashmere Primary

This term our Learning Specialists have been working with year 5 and 6 classes from Cashmere Primary helping them discover, learn about, explore and create tessellations. A tessellation is created when a shape is repeated and covers a plane without any gaps or overlaps. Students first looked at regular tessellations and which shapes tessellate; one example they used was one of the libraries tukutuku panels. They then investigated the work of the Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher who is famous for his explorations with artistic tessellations. The students explored the concept of changing the shape of a square without changing its' area, and then used the computer programme "Paint" to create their own artistic "Escher like" tessellations. Some examples of their fantastic creations are pictured here.



## Your School's SLC Coordinator

All schools working in the Learning Centre will have a nominated staff member to work as a co-ordinator between the school's teaching staff and the Learning Centre.

The SLC co-ordinators role is to be the main communication channel between South Learning Centre (SLC), and your school. This involves:

- Responsibility for managing the visits to the Learning Centre by students and staff, ensuring consent forms are distributed and returned to the Learning Centre by the first session and arranging/coordinating transport to and from the LC.
- Attending any co-ordinator meetings and providing the SLC with feedback from your school.
- Responsibility for distributing information received from the SLC to the appropriate school teaching staff. Newsletters from the SLC are printed twice each term. New information relating to programmes and procedures will be addressed directly to the Co-ordinator.

We would like to check that we have the correct details for your school, so **please email or phone us and let us know who your school's SLC co-ordinator is**, and if you don't have one please tell us so we can organise this - we are looking at having a breakfast with coordinators later this year to share ideas & get feedback, more information to follow.

### Learning Centres - Our Key People

- Programmes, Events and Learning Manager - Pat Street
- Programme Design and Delivery Team Leader - Margot McKeegan
- Learning Administration Coordinator - Gill Gratton
- Learning Specialist - Rosie Mamoe
- Learning Specialist Adult Programmes - Kim Slack
- Learning Specialist (part-time) - Mark Burrows
- Learning Specialist Schools GCSN project (part-time) - Andrew Cowie



"Extending horizons and developing confident, creative and collaborative learners through a dynamic technological environment"

Check out our website: <http://www.slc.ac.nz>

# Upcoming Horizons Programmes for Term 4

**We have spaces available in these exciting Horizons Programmes for Term 4**

## **Antarctic Adventures**

**GATE Year 5-6, Thurs 9-10:30am from 14 October to 18 November (6 sessions), SLC, \$30**

Students will research & visit Antarctic exhibitions, discovering key information about wildlife and the history of exploration. To celebrate the Antarctic festival students will create a unique children's tale, designing a character who has an adventure. Skills developed will include storyboarding, illustrating and producing a multi media storybook to be enjoyed.

## **Podcast school**

**GATE Year 7-8, Tues 9-10:30am, from 9 November to 14 December (6 sessions), SLC, \$30**

Design a podcast and create your own review either on a favourite book, film or computer game, ready for our website. Skills will include working with i-Tunes and Audacity to produce your podcast plus uploading it to our website. Now your podcast is live to share with friends, family and school.

## **Graffiti Art**

**Open Year 7-8, Thurs 11am-12:30pm at SLC from 21 October to 18 November OR Wed 9am-10:30am at New Brighton LC from 17 November to 15 December (5 sessions), \$30**

Investigate whether Graffiti Art is vandalism or not. View local examples via a field trip and investigate the consequences from both sides of the fence! Develop possible solutions and ways you or the community can help reduce graffiti in our city or your school. Skills will include digital photography, internet research, investigation and presentation of solutions.

## **Biodiversity - Bioblast**

**GATE Year 6-7, Fri 9-10.30am from 22 October to 3 December (6 sessions), SLC, \$30**

Explore the biodiversity of the Heathcote River with experts from Lincoln University. This 'creepy, crawly' interactive session will involve trapping insects, tracking small mammals and introduce you to the art of 'kick-netting'. Students will also design their own traps and record their 'finds' online with the NZ Biodiversity Recording Network. N.B. There will be no session on Show Day, 12 November.

## **Numeracy Extension - Maths is Cool**

**GATE Year 4-5, Fri 11am-12.30pm, from 15 October to 19 November (5 sessions), SLC, \$25**

Develop and extend your problem solving skills for a variety of problems - Number, Geometry and Measurement. Students will gain learning extension involving a range of mathematical strategies. N.B There will be no session on Show Day, 12 November.

For more information or to book places phone Gill on 941-5140 or email: [learningcentre@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:learningcentre@ccc.govt.nz)

