

South Learning Centre and Upper Riccarton upgrade

Great news! South Learning Centre is undergoing a very large and exciting upgrade. Just for starters we will have brand new PCs all upgraded to Windows 7 operating system in both Learning Centres.

In terms of the actual specifications of the PCs and in order to not blind anyone with jargon, I will simply say that the new machines will be a great deal faster, more user friendly and will provide our user groups with a far better learning experience.

Behind the scenes there will be a complete network overhaul and infrastructure revamp that will further increase ease and enjoyment for the end user, it will also pave the way for greatly increased internet speeds. Software will be updated to latest versions and in general the end result will allow for a far more streamlined learning environment. Staff here are definitely looking forward to this positive change. We hope you are able to benefit from it too!

Danny McNeil
Learning Specialist—Special Projects



What's been happening in the Learning Centres...

Connect with your Library!

Term One has seen a number of schools come through our FREE Connect sessions. These sessions focus on key library and literacy topics and can be adjusted for schools depending on their focus area.

Our Lady Star of the Sea brought their students along to learn how to make the most of their community library. Students learned about what the library has to offer, the dewey system and had a browse of the resources available on our Christchurch City Libraries website.



Somerfield School have also been along to Connect, looking at a very different topic. Their Year 5/6 students are learning about Cyber Citizenship and how to be safe in the new digital world.

Welcome to our new staff!



Sarah Tiplady-Scurr
Learning Specialist

A very warm welcome to Sarah! As our newest member of the Learning Centres team.

Sarah will be working part-time as a Learning Specialist and will be taking various school and community programmes.



Governor's Bay brought their senior students in to learn about Information Literacy – Beyond Google. Students looked at tips and tricks for searching online, and found out a lot of information on their school topic – "Love our Sea."

Clare Newton
Team Leader
Programmes, Design and Delivery

Upper Riccarton after school clubs!

After a year of being closed to the public., Upper Riccarton Library is now back to its usual hours and with its Book club and Pasifika clubs in full swing.

Every Tuesday afternoon 8-12 children from the ages of 6 to 10 years come to Book Club. They come and share in a story time with children's librarian Kirsten Smith and then take part in online book related activities in the computer lab. At the moment, Kirsten is reading *Whale Rider* and it has been amazing to see the mainly boy group sit and listen to the storytelling, especially after school!

The Pasifika group are currently learning how to use Power-Point effectively, incorporating their skills in to a presentation of their favourite things. The presentations have been fun and the children have displayed great enthusiasm when presenting their work. This has been a very heart warming exercise where parents who accompany this Fijian group can become involved with the learning of their children and also learn a little as well.

Rosie Mamoe
Learning Specialist



Kirsten reading to the Bookclub



Our Pasifika group hard at work



Holiday programmes for April 2012

Please note: there will be no libraries' learning centre activity for the upcoming Christchurch City Council school holiday programme from 9 – 20 April.

This is due to several IT upgrades taking place at the learning centres at this time (see page one). The learning centres need to be closed so they can complete this work with the least impact on customer room bookings and public programmes.

The traditional libraries' learning centres school holidays activity will resume as normal for Kidsfest in July 2012.

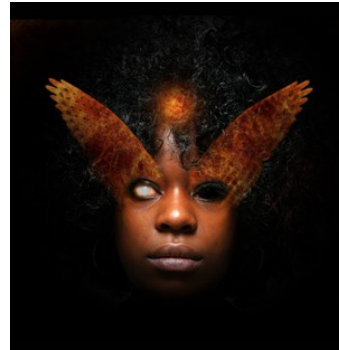
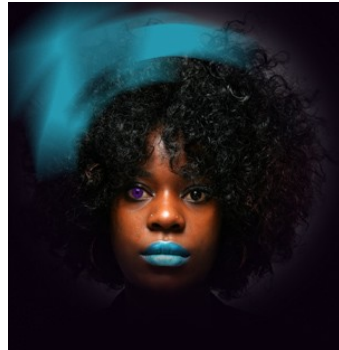
Check out our website: <http://christchurchcitylibraries.com/LearningCentres/>

Options for schools—planning for 2012

Start booking now for Term Three courses.
Spaces are filling up fast!

For more information on our e-learning courses, please visit our website www.slc.ac.nz,
phone us on 941-5140 or email: learningcentre@ccc.govt.nz

Cashmere High School Photoshop courses



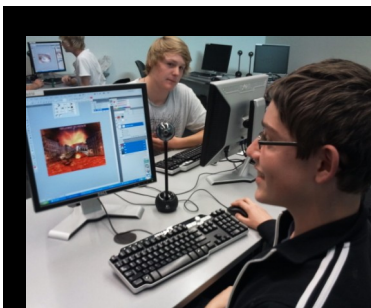
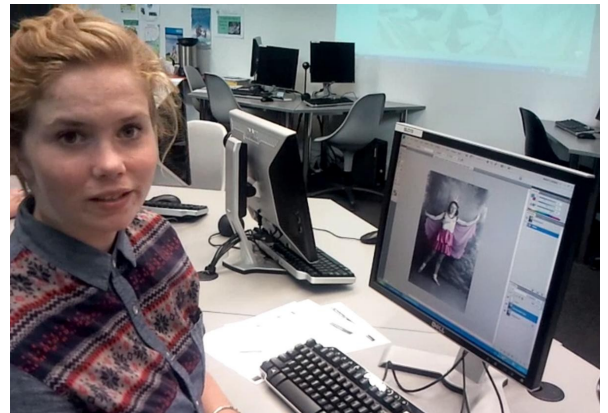
Throughout February and Early March, South Learning Centre hosted 75 year 11, 12 and 13 students in a series of introductory Photoshop courses. Each course was two days long with class sizes no larger than 14 at a time.

The idea was that students from Graphics, Photography or Design would be given a good grounding in the use of Photoshop allowing them to complete various image manipulation projects or tasks back at school. For year 12 and 13 students, this training would also be great for helping with end of year portfolios.

Most students (although not all) had some existing knowledge of the software but all left with a good understanding of the basics of the programme and were introduced to some great new techniques. Starting from the absolute basics we progressed steadily, introducing more intermediate features and in some cases advanced features for students that were ready to take it to that level.

Based on the students feedback we received, the classes were very successful. From the South Learning Centre point of view, we normally work with younger students so having these young adults here was great and we hope that we can continue to work with this age group along with our normal primary school groups.

Danny McNeil
Learning Specialist—Special Projects



For more information
please phone the
Learning Centre on
941 5140
check our website:
www.slc.ac.nz
or email:
learningcentre@ccc.govt.nz