

Digital Learning News

17 December
2013



Hi everyone

This is our last newsletter and blog post for the year and on behalf of the Digital Learning Team I would like to wish you a [Merry Christmas](#) (click to view DEECD Christmas card) and a well-deserved break.

It has been a big year for us in Digital Learning; as always, the highlight for us is hearing and seeing the great things happening in schools. Having the opportunity to work with teachers to see how digital technologies are transforming learning is something highly valued by the whole team. 2014 is shaping up to be a big year for us as we are looking forward to releasing our Digital Learning Strategy early in the year so watch this space. We will also be looking for stories to showcase great teaching and learning using ICT, feel free to contact me with exciting things that you are doing.

This week's Blog Post



A series of online professional learning sessions will be available for teachers on Tuesday 28 January 2014.

The sessions are aimed at supporting teachers to use the AusVELS curriculum, to teach in virtual and blended learning environments, and to work safely, ethically and responsibly online. The sessions will be held in the Department's Virtual Conference Centre, allowing teachers to participate from their own schools, using web conferencing software called Blackboard Collaborate.

- **Register** via the Professional Learning Tab in Digital Learning News
- Participants will require a computer with an internet connection and a microphone headset.
- For enquiries, contact Wendy Macpherson on 03 9651 0258 or email: macpherson.wendy.w@edumail.vic.gov.au

Things to look out for in 2014

Safer Internet Day



Let's create a better internet together
Tuesday February 11

- Safer Internet Day is an annual, global event to promote the safe and responsible use of digital technologies, for children and young people. Safer Internet Day's theme for 2014 is 'Let's create a better internet together'
- Schools are encouraged to organise local events and activities and to visit the Safer Internet Day 2014 website for practical resources and information.
- The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) in partnership with the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) is offering a free online presentation, for primary students in years 4, 5 and 6. It will take place in the Department's Virtual Conference Centre (VCC) on Tuesday 11 February 2014 from 9.30am – 10.30am.
- In addition, a bank of information and classroom resources are available on the
 - [FUSE -Safer Internet Day 2014 webpage](#) (details and classroom ideas)
 - [The DEECD Bully Stoppers website](#)
 - [ACMA's website](#)

To register your class/school for this free online presentation please complete this electronic form:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/saferinternetday2014> Details and a link to participate will be sent after registrations close.

ICTEV Professional Learning Events



As of 1 Jan 2014 ICTEV and VITTA will become DLTVic
[More information](#)

Flipping Your Classroom

The workshops will be facilitated by Dr Tim Kitchen, Adobe's Senior Education Advocate for Asia Pacific and Vice President of VITTA and DLTVic (as of 1st January, 2014). Tim is a regular writer and presenter for a wide range of national and international education journals and conferences. Before working for Adobe he was the Director of Learning Technologies at Strathcona [Baptist Girls Grammar School](#).

- 11 February 9:30 – 18:30
- 11 February 16:30 – 18:30
- 17 March 9:30-15:30
- 17 March 16:30 – 18:30

Practical Digital Learning and Teaching – Northern Region Conference @ Epping views Primary School

- Kick off your 2014 Professional Learning Calendar at the Northern Region ICT Education Conference: Practical Digital Learning and Teaching @ Epping Views Primary School.
- 30 January 9:00 – 16:00

iPad pilot opportunity for Grade 5/6

[Starting Shakespeare](#)

- The *Starting Shakespeare* iPad app has been designed by Bell Shakespeare and Deeper Richer for Grade 5/6. It is aligned to the Australian curriculum and explores the work of William Shakespeare using two plays – A Midsummers Night Dream and Macbeth.
- They are looking for teachers to trail the app in term 1 or 2 next year.
- You can contact me for more details if you are interested crellin.rachel.a@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Check out our [Professional Learning page](#) – it has heaps of information, links to providers and details about virtual conference sessions.

Great videos for your science class



Congratulations to the Victorian winners of 60 Second Science
VIC PRIMARY Winner [The Invincible Balloon](#), Runner-up [Blowing up a balloon](#)
Honourable mention: [Removing lipstick stains](#)
VIC SECONDARY Winner [The earth's magnetic field](#), Runner-up [Strawberry DNA](#)
Honourable mention [Marsupials](#) and [The Wisdom of the Crowd](#)

I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy your holidays.

Cheers
Rachel

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Available Tuesday - Thursday

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