





Welcome to our April 2015 newsletter. In this issue we bring you news of our upcoming SchoolNet Conference in July and Google summits in October 2015 as well as report backs on some of the various projects SchoolNet is involved in. We make mention of some great opportunities for teachers in the coming weeks. Most importantly, if you are not sure whether you are a SchoolNet member please click on 'Sign up for SchoolNet membership' on our home page so that you don't miss out on our offerings at <a href="http://www.schoolnet.org.za/">http://www.schoolnet.org.za/</a> and join today.

#### In this issue:

- Coming soon... Microsoft tools competition
- SchoolNet Conference in Durban in July a great special offer to watch out for...
- ICT4RED Phase 3 Cofimvaba teacher graduation- celebrating our success!
- Intel FIFA Legacy Schools Connectivity Project
- Learning Gains through Play Report on presentation at the Microsoft Road Show in Durban
- Intel Easy Steps- Basking in the sun...Thlabane (Rustenburg)
- Two Google Summits in South Africa presented by the EdTechTeam this year - save the dates!
- Learning Gains through Play KZN Teachers: Module 4 Learning Stations Report
- iEARN Youth Summit and Annual Conference to take place in Brazil and a message to AYV teachers from South Africa...
- Keep in touch via our SchoolNet blog



# Coming soon... Microsoft tools competition

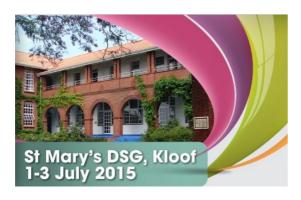
In the next few weeks we will be launching a competition for teachers who are using one or more of the following Microsoft

tools as part of their teaching:

Office 365 for Education http://bit.ly/1cpEPSz

- Windows 8 and apps for Education <a href="http://bit.ly/1cpEPSz">http://bit.ly/1cpEPSz</a>
- OneNote http://bit.ly/1cpFAv0
- OfficeMix https://mix.office.com/
- Sway https://sway.com
- Skype in the Classroom https://education.skype.com/
- Microsoft Math https://math.microsoft.com

You could win a trip to the SchoolNet SA ICT in the Classroom conference or a Teaching with Technology Kick-Off session for your school by sharing your idea for using one or more of these Microsoft tool with other teachers and creating a Facebook post about it. Look out for details on the Microsoft in Education - South Africa and Lesotho Facebook page in the coming weeks. While you are waiting, why not download a few of the new tools and try them out.



### SchoolNet Conference in Durban in July - a great special offer to watch out for...

We would like to invite you to register for our upcoming 2015 ICT in the Classroom Conference taking place in Durban in July 2015. We have three first-class international speakers - Holly Clark, Stuart Ball and Shelley

Stott! You can now access all the details, register and submit a presentation application via our Conference website. The early bird discount ends on 30 April and the closing dates for exhibitor and presenter applications is 15 May 2015. The most important news is that we would like you to watch out on the conference website for the upcoming discount that is going to be available for SchoolNet members. Join immediately if you haven't already done so!

To register as a SchoolNet member:

Please go to our website <a href="http://www.schoolnet.org.za/">http://www.schoolnet.org.za/</a> and click on the words

Sign up as a SchoolNet member

- This will take you to http://edn.schoolnet.org.za/user/register/teacher \_
- From here just follow the prompts.
- If you have forgotten whether you are a SchoolNet member please email info@schoolnet.org.za for more information.



## ICT4RED Phase 3 Cofimvaba teacher graduation - celebrating our success!

On Saturday 28th of March, the hills of Cofimvaba came alive with the sound of jubilation! After a whole year of intensive training and dedication on the part of facilitators and teachers

alike, everybody (yes everybody-100% pass rate) graduated in grand style. This occasion was held at the Cofimvaba Senior Secondary hall and took the form of a banquet lunch. Representatives from the National Department of Education as well as the Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Education were present to celebrate our success with us. Some of the moments that were captured on the day:

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/124286897@N07/sets/72157651235085857/Video:https://youtu.be/marEg9Dp8nU

Read the full report written by Maggie Verster on our website here



Intel - FIFA Legacy Schools



#### **Connectivity Project**

The FIFA legacy schools connectivity project is a joint initiative between the Department of Communications, Intel and the Department of Basic Education. This project provided a charging trolley with 20 laptops and Wi-Fi connectivity to each of the participating schools. As Intel's preferred training provider, SchoolNet was contracted to provide training to

teachers in the participating schools. At first the training model included the principal and two already ICT literate teachers who were meant to be trained as master trainers who would go back and design professional development plans to train their colleagues. Our invitations to schools were mostly met with eagerness. Schools varied in response from wanting to send more than the maximum teachers, sending teachers without their principals to a few schools that sent no teachers.

Read the full report on our website here



Learning Gains through Play project - Report on presentation at the Microsoft Road Show in Durban

On 24 March three teachers from different Midlands Schools drove through to Durban to make a presentation at the Microsoft Road show being held at the

Durban Yacht Club. The objective was to demonstrate how Grade R and Grade 1 teachers in the Learning Gains through Play project are using the Xbox Kinect in their classrooms. The Xboxes had been donated to the project by Microsoft SA. The event attracted a number of KZN teachers as well as a range of Microsoft partners. The programme consisted of a range of presentations. Jaye Richards-Hill also presented on the many and varied uses of Office 365 as well as a range of new digital tools for teachers that Microsoft has recently released.



### Intel Easy Steps- Basking in the sun...Thlabane (Rustenburg)

A couple months after the Intel Easy Steps workshop for women in Thlabane, we note that the project is already seeing gains. The women highlighted in this report have reportedly found employment as a direct result of their training. The women of Thlabane are not just actively

engaging conversations around women and abuse but are also developing themselves professionally.

Read the full report on our website here

#### Two Google Summits in South Africa presented by the EdTechTeam this year - save the dates!

SchoolNet will be hosting two Google Summits in 2015 along with with Parklands College Cape Town and Selbourne Senior Primary in East London. Please visit <a href="http://za.gafesummit.com/">http://za.gafesummit.com/</a> to register. We hope that you will attend one of the Google Summits and ask that you please spread the word that two Summits are coming to South Africa in 2015!





### SAVETHEDATE



iEARN Youth Summit and Annual Conference to take place in Brazil - and a message to AYV teachers from South Africa...

This is a message from iEARN about the upcoming conference in Brazil. The iEARN Brazil Conference team is working hard to prepare the programs for the 2015 Conference and Youth Summit which will be hosted in Bras?lia, Brazil, and held at the Centro de Conven??es Ullysses Guimar?es from July 26 to July 31. A reminder that all South African AYV teachers who submit learners media projects have a chance of going to this conference and will have all conference,

travel, and accommodation expenses paid...

This post also appears on our blog here



### Learning Gains through Play - KZN Teachers: Module 4 Learning Stations Report

On the 18th March KZN Learning Gains Grade R and 1 teachers gathered at Thembelihle Primary School in Howick for their Module 4 Workshop. Nineteen teachers attended instead of 22; those who were absent were Linda Zuma,

Buselaphi Shelembe and Chonco Thokozile. The main facilitator for the workshop was Mrs Hlengiwe Mfeka, assisted by Senzo Ngcobo. Some teachers arrived as early as 12:50 they were asked to help themselves to the packed lunch which had been organised because there would be no time set aside to eat once the workshop started.

Read the full report on our website here.



Don't forget to look out for the weekly, short SchoolNet webinars usually held on a Thursday at 3:15pm

SchoolNet is pleased to host a short relevant webinar every week, usually on a Thursday afternoon at 3:15 pm. We like to encourage our local teachers and any

educator that has something they would like to share with our teaching community to offer a presentation. These presentations and their recordings are placed on our blog after the live session under the label Webinar recordings. Please contact us if you would like to present a short webinar. Our next two webinars will be:

- 1. Phuti Ragophala, Principal of Pula Madibogo Primary in Limpopo speaking on how to use Windows Live Movie maker to simplify lesson content on Thurs 16th April
- 2. Victor Ngebeni from Microsoft on Weds 22nd April speaking on Teaching with Technology.

Please watch our Facebook page and our blog for further updates



#### Keep in touch via our SchoolNet blog

Our SchoolNet blog aims to keep you updated on ways of introducing technology into your classroom, as well as bring news of competitions and other professional development opportunities for teachers. During term time we aim to bring a relevant post regularly. Here are links to some of our recent March blog posts:

 SchoolNet Webinar on Thurs 16th April at 3:15pm 'How to use Windows Live Movie

Maker to simplify the content of a lesson" by #MIEExpert Phuti Ragophala

- The Norwegian online learning tool, Kahoot is in Cape Town this week invite them to your school...
- Come along to a 2 hour MicrosoftMeet for teachers in Cape Town in May...sign up today!
- A number of profiles of teachers in South Africa doing great things with

- technology in the classroom
- The Microsoft Classroom Roadshow in Cape Town report back very enlightening for educators
- Several great guest posts from Anthony Peters from Parklands College
- Two posts about Microsoft Math
- Useful Microsoft posts for teachers this week #1
- Takeaways from the Etilab Emerging Technologies Think Tank on 26 March
- A number of Google links posts
- A TeachMeet at Brescia House in Joburg -great opportunity for those interested in innovation in teaching and learning...come along!
- A number of SchoolNet webinar recordings for the month of March
- 10 ideas for podcasting in your classroom using Audacity
- Download and use Audacity on your desktop or laptop for audio podcasting
- Spread the word: Google Education On Air online, free conference for educators - May 8th and 9th. Register today!
- South African Microsoft Innovative Educator Experts Shine in Dubai

Follow our blog here

If you are not yet a SchoolNet member, please join us here to be kept in touch with our various offerings from time to time. We hope you'll visit our blog and our Facebook page regularly. Please follow us on Twitter (@Schoolnetsa).

Warm regards The SchoolNet team