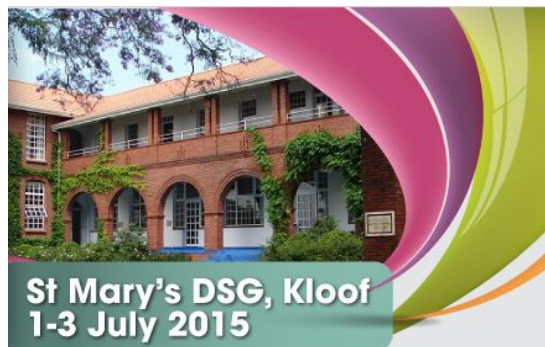Welcome to our June 2015 newsletter. In this issue we remind you of our upcoming SchoolNet Conference next week which we are very excited about. We also remind you of our Google summits in October 2015 and we bring report backs on some of the various projects SchoolNet is involved in. If you are not sure whether you are a SchoolNet member please click on 'Sign up for SchoolNet membership' on our home page at http://www.schoolnet.org.za/ and join today, so that you don't miss out on our many offerings for teachers.

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St Mary's DSG, Kloof
1-3 July 2015

SchoolNet Conference in Durban in July - our final programme has been uploaded

We are very excited about our SchoolNet ICT in the Classroom conference which ttakes place next week from 1-3 July, in Durban. Our final programme has now been uploaded to the conference website: http://bit.ly/1HZYZjw . In addition to all our great local speakers we have three first-class international speakers lined up - Holly Clark, Stuart Ball and Shelley Stott. This is an event not to be missed.
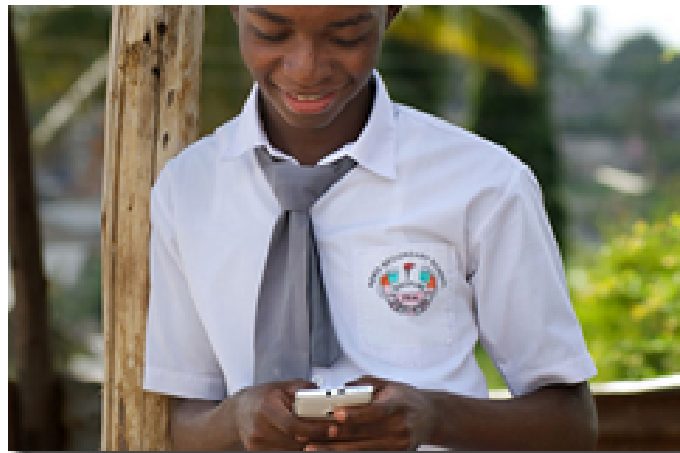
Find out more on our Conference website [here](#)

SchoolNet conducts professional development workshops as part of the Telkom Foundation ICT project in Multigrade Farm Schools

SchoolNet South Africa has recently been appointed to conduct professional development workshops required for teachers in the thirty six Telkom Foundation Schools in three provinces viz Eastern Cape, Free State and the Western Cape. All schools are multigrade farm schools and albeit small in size still have a massive need to help learners gain a more global perspective to live and be aware of opportunities that are available to all learners irrespective of their circumstance.

Read the full report on our website [here](#)

Microsoft Math - what is it, how do you use it and the benefits of using it with Grade 10-12 Mathematics learners

Maths students at High School often need every bit of support that they can get to help them with their Mathematics skills. That is where

Microsoft Math comes in. It is a free service originally known as Nokia Maths. All students have to do is register at https://math.microsoft.com and from there on they can use a smartphone, tablet or PC to access the free service and the materials. It is also available as a Windows Phone application, which makes the service content accessible offline allowing students to continue practicing even without internet connection! The curriculum for South African students is based on the CAPS curriculum for Grade 10-12 in South Africa.

Read more on our blog here

Learning Gains through Play project - Planning ICT Policy module introduced

The SMT's from the five schools in the Learning Gains through Play project in KZN attended the Change Leadership workshop held at Thembelihle Primary School in Howick on 26 May 2015. The purpose of the workshop was to facilitate the Change Leadership sixth module on ICT Policy. The Planning ICT Policy is an additional module included in the Change Leadership course, as another way of supporting the schools with ICT implementation. Schools often need support when weighing the right advantages and disadvantages and making the appropriate decisions with regard to a policy plan and the ICT co-ordination.

Read the full report on our website here

Learning Gains through Play - Western Cape school visits

Katie Huston (DG Murray Trust), Rodney Nissen (WCED) and Tracey Butchart (SchoolNet) visited two project schools on Wednesday, 3 June 2015. Katie asked the teachers what has been the greatest change for them through the project. Jesmina responded by saying how her familiarity with using the tablet had grown so much. Ella agreed and said how much she enjoyed that she could take her tablet home with her and play and explore with it after school. She mentioned that it was exposing her to more opportunities for her classroom. Bianca is synching her cell phone with her tablet and is enjoying how her technology is working for her. She said that the technology is broadening the experiences of her learners - she mentioned how in the past she would explain how a sheep is sheared and now she shows them a video on her tablet and they are spellbound. Alfarita had experience of the Xbox before the project began as her son has one and she has played it with him. She had no experience of tablets and she is so excited by her Grade R learners' excitement at using them. Amanda also mentioned how she is using her tablet at home, sharing it with her family and learning new things every day. Marianne suggested that she was the slowest to master the tablet. She said that she was "very scared in the beginning" but she was improving to such an extent that she was using the Memoires app more and more rather than writing things down with paper and pen.

Read the full report on our website here

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

We invite you to join us for the South Africa EdTechTeam Summits featuring Google for Education. These will be hosted by SchoolNet, Parklands College (Cape Town) and Selbourne Senior Primary (East London).P lease visit http://za.gafesummit.com/ to register. We hope that you will attend one of the Summits to learn more about using Google in your classroom

EdTechTeam
PRE-SUMMIT WORKSHOPS

ADMIN CONSOLE TECHNICAL RETREAT

Do you manage Google Apps for your school or district? Have you configured your Admin Console around the best practices? The default console does not come configured for a school environment so find out what settings you really should change by attending this technical session. In the session will provide a deep dive of the Admin Console, which will include tips on how to manage users, groups, services and Chromebooks with ease. As well as a look at the third party services which will make your life easier and protect and secure your domain.

GET AUTHORIZED BOOTCAMP

Google Educator Trainer (GET) Train the Trainer (T3) Bootcamp serves two purposes: to raise awareness about how Google tools can be used in education to; ignite inquiry, promote collaboration, and allow for authentic publishing and sharing, (with students and among colleagues), and to prepare participants to pass the Google Educator Test and submit their certification application. Become a Google Educator to be recognized for your mastery.

IOS SUMMIT

We invite you to join us for the first EdTechTeam Cape Town Summit featuring iOS for Education at Parklands College in Cape Town, South Africa on October 8, 2015. This summit is a premiere iPad EDU professional development event for educators.

Featuring the same high-energy, fast-paced, and fun style of other EdTechTeam events, this iOS Summit is rich with hands-on learning opportunities. The engaging one day experience includes a moving keynotes, world-class featured speakers, and a wide variety of breakout sessions... all focused on the authentic integration of iOS tools with effective pedagogy. Participants are inspired and

empty to take innovative new steps when they return to their schools and communities.

za.gafesummit.com/cape/#workshops #gafesummit

Three options available at the EdTechTeam's Google Pre-Summit Workshops in October...

In October 2015 SchoolNet, Parklands College in Cape Town and Selbourne Senior Primary in East London will be hosting two EdTechTeam Google Summits as well as three Pre-Summit workshops. Please see the image above for more details about the Pre-Summit Workshops and visit http://za.gafesummit.com to register.

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 June blog posts:

- Three options available at the EdTechTeam's Google Pre-Summit Workshops in October...
- Microsoft Math - what is it, how do you use it and the benefits of using it with Grade 10-12 Mathematics learners
- SchoolNet free webinar on Thursday 25th June at 3:15pm on 'Alice - how you can use it in the classroom'
- 15 Great Google posts this week #19

- 'My dream came true at E2 - a report back on the Microsoft E2 Educator Exchange in Redmond in May by MIEExpert15, Linda Foulkes
- This week's useful Microsoft posts for teachers #10
- A report back on the Microsoft In Education Global Forum Dubai by Karen Stadler, a MIEExpert15 in South Africa
- Webinar recording from SchoolNet's free webinar on Thursday 11th June at 3:15pm 'Microsoft Sway - what it is, how to use it in the classroom, and how to create one' by Fiona Beal
- 15 great Google posts this week #18
- This week's useful Microsoft posts for teachers #9
- Some story updates from the amazing, local African Storybook website
- A Grade 9 surprise at the Applications Olympiad
- This week's useful Microsoft posts for teachers #8
- 13 great Google posts this week #17
- Webinar presentation from SchoolNet's free webinar on Thursday 4th June at 3:15pm 'How to use Microsoft Sway to teach, share and archive learning activities' by Phuti Ragophala from Pula Madibogo Primary
- Have you tried Microsoft Sway? There's so much you can do with it!
- How are teachers using Microsoft products in the South African classroom?
- Webinar recording from SchoolNet's free webinar on Thursday 28th May at 3:15pm 'Use Adobe Slate to create gorgeous visual stories' by Alan Goldberg from Digicape
- Report back on the first Microsoft Meet held in Cape Town, 16th May, organised by Linda Foulkes one of our MIEExperts

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. W e hope you'll visit our blog and our Facebook page regularly. Please follow us on Twitter (@Schoolnetsa) .

Warm regards
The SchoolNet team