

Flashlight

WHAT'S ON?

*'A snapshot of multimedia projects at
The Learning Lighthouse CLC'*

The Learning Lighthouse CLC presents Lighthouse Rock!

www.lighthouserock.co.uk

Musicians of the future today! We aim to find and record Wirral's most talented and creative (11-19) songwriters and musicians and give them the opportunity to be heard. Bands or individuals that are accepted into the Lighthouse Rock programme are guided through an individually tailored course covering recording their first track on our record label, designing their first CD and creating promotional artwork as well as making a music video. Our first band is already recording watch this space to hear their first tracks and see their first videos.



Recently the Learning Lighthouse has been involved in many varied and different projects as wide ranging as animation, image manipulation, video editing, revision support and an Aim Higher Media Day.

Peter Aitkinson of Creative Classroom delivered a number of sessions using Adobe Flash. Some sessions coincided with Geography Action Week and had the theme of the 'Water Cycle'. Students from Calday Grange Grammar School and St Anselm's College used Flash to create an animated cartoon which showed their understanding of the Water Cycle. Advanced Flash Users from Weatherhead High School and St Anselm's College came to the Learning Lighthouse to learn advanced animation techniques using its advanced features to build interactive animations.

Tina Read from Illumination Education ran a number of Flash sessions where Key Stage 4 students were introduced to the topic of mitosis using Illumination Educational's online animations and then worked with graphics to create their own animation of cell division. The workshops were very successful and have now been re-advertised. Look out for the flyer!

Pupils from Wirral schools visited the Learning Lighthouse CLC in December to take part in a day of sessions focussing on careers and higher education routes linked to media and marketing.

The day featured workshops from media professionals from organisations including Juice FM and the Liverpool Echo as well as the Chartered Institute of Marketing. The sessions focussed on the areas of Radio Advertising, Website Design, Journalism, Marketing and Film Production.

The successful day was well received by the students and teachers with comments including:

"The day was a great opportunity to mix with pupils from other schools with an interest in careers in media and marketing."

"The students have enjoyed learning about the background to the media and hear about various jobs within media and marketing. It's given them a chance the chance to work in a well facilitated environment with professionals on hand to advise."

IT'S YOUR FUTURE! 2008

The second ever 'IT's your future event', - will be held on 11th July 2008 at the Discovery City Learning Centre. This year it will be bigger and better than ever and will be organised in conjunction with the Wirral and Liverpool ICT Advisory Service and the Wirral CLCs. The Learning Lighthouse CLC will provide technical AV support to display the successful entries and give the whole event a 'buzz' atmosphere.

The event is being organised and promoted by students and for students to celebrate all the excellent pioneering work involving IT that has been going on during the year. IT's Your Future is aimed at 11 to 19 year olds to showcase how they use ICT in an innovative way.

The event is competitive and prizes will be awarded by the student panel. Winners will include both team and individual entries and they will receive some fantastic prizes including 2Gb Memory Sticks, Apple iPod Shuffles and Toshiba Camelio Pro kindly donated by sponsors, Wirral and Liverpool LEAs and the three Wirral CLCs.

Watch out for next year's event!!!



BIRKENHEAD PARKA Victorian Video Conference

Birkenhead Park was first opened in 1847 in Victorian times. It was a park for the people. As the population of the town grew, the town changed, houses, shops and businesses replaced the marshland that Birkenhead once was. In 1843 a well-known landscape gardener called Joseph Paxton was employed to design the park and in 2008 pupils are able to talk to Karen Tucker the Birkenhead Park, Education Officer via video conference to discover the history behind the park, watch a video to see the park of today and then ask questions about it.

A recent pilot video conference link between Karen (conferencing from the Learning Lighthouse) and children from Year Three at Leasowe Primary School was a resounding success. The pupils really enjoyed talking to Karen and finding out about Victorian leisure time in Birkenhead.

Flashback

DIGITAL MICROGRAPHIA...

.....a new creative project for
secondary schools.

In 1665 Robert Hooke published *Micrographia*- detailing his observations through various lenses. *Micrographia* became an overnight sensation not just for what he described but for the superb drawings that he made. He described "a new world" alongside exquisite drawings of the stinging hairs on a nettle, a flea and, most famously of all, the honeycomb structure or "cells" of a cork. The most recent innovation, however, has been the arrival of the digital microscope. Digital microscopes allow for live image transmission to a TV or computer screen and have helped revolutionise microphotography.

Art students from Key Stage 3 & 4 use digital microscopes to explore objects under different levels of magnification. Images are saved, modified using Adobe Photoshop CS3 and printed to inform further art work back at school. Students record the process of modifying their images using annotations and illustrations.

The Learning Lighthouse has 16 digital microscopes so a whole class can enjoy a digital imaging experience.



GEO-ROCK

.....digital geology and the rock cycle

Depending on where you live in the UK the rocks beneath your feet will be quite different. They formed at different times and in very different environments and every rock contains clues about the environment in which it formed. Most of the earth's major events, such as volcanic eruptions, glaciations, mountain building, weathering, erosion and earthquakes all involve rocks and minerals. The rocks of the earth are constantly being transformed into new types and recycled by a number of processes which together make up the rock cycle.

Students will use 16 digital scientific microscopes to examine thin rock sections under magnification and with polarising filters. The thin rock section sets have been specially commissioned by the Learning Lighthouse from GeoSec Slides (www.geosecslides.co.uk) and each set consist of 32 different igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks.

Magnified images will be saved, imported into the Earth Sciences Kar2ouche title and used to illustrate and answer questions about the rock cycle. Finished work will be exported as Quicktime movie files.

WIRRAL SCHOOLS' FILM FESTIVAL 2008

Special Guest - Lord Puttnam CBE

The fifth 'Wirral Schools' Film Festival' will be held on Thursday, 3rd July 2008 between 6-9pm at Weatherhead High School Media Arts College in conjunction with The Learning Lighthouse City Learning Centre and Wirral's Gifted and Talented Strand.

New this year is a competitive category jointly judged via an online voting system at www.wirraltv.net and a judging panel with amazing prizes for the top three films in the category 'celebration'. The only restrictions are that the films should be have the theme of 'celebration' must be under three minutes long

Make sure that your film is submitted to this festival by 23rd May 2008.

Don't miss the deadline!



If you are interested in these or any other projects that we can help you with – contact April or Patsi at the learning lighthouse on 678 2509.