"Shambles" Newsletter: March 2004
Designed to support International Schools in S.E.Asia

This paper copy of the termly Shambles newsletter is a one page edited summary of highlights of the original online version at www.shambles.net/newsletter/March2004 .... the order and design is different to facilitate easier reading …. and if you are reading this on paper then, of course, the links are not active. … feedback is always appreciated.

To subscribe to future newsletters send a blank email to newsletter-subscribe@shambles.net

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Welcome
'The Education Project Asia" is a consultancy designed to offer support to International Schools in S.E.Asia ... especially in the area of integration of ICT across the curriculum.
Apart from maintaining the "Shambles" website Chris Smith, ICT consultant, also provides on-site support to schools and since the last newsletter has worked with schools in Singapore (ICT School Review), Brunei (conference on elearning), Malaysia (general ICT support to staff), Thailand and Hong Kong.

Subject Departments + Careers/Nurses
www.shambles.net
The modifications on the Shambles website continues in response to feedback received .... the latest additions are for School Counsellors/careers staff, nurses and Headteachers
Headteacher	Nurse	Counsellors/Careers
Mathematics	English	Science	ICT	Geog
History	Religious Education	Art	D & T	Music
Mod Foreign Langs	P.E.	SEN	ESL
The School Library	ICT Technicians Room

Free Software and Resources
www.shambles.net/ICT/ and
www.adders.org/freeware/doodlepad.html
There are many links on 'Shambles' to free resources, a good starting point is the ICT page and then click on the "Free Software" button on the right of the page.

One brilliant example is "Grey Olltwit's website"; I think his name is really Simon. For some free graphics software he has written for younger students see his program "Doodle Pad

Int. Children's Digital Library (ICDL)
www.icdlbooks.org
The International Digital Library for *Children (age 3 to 11)* was launched at the end of 2003. Books are online and access is free, Languages include Chinese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Farsi, French, English and Russian.

Working Group on 14-19 Reform (UK)
www.14-19reform.gov.uk/
If you are a school offering a "British" curriculum then you should keep an eye on the developments being discussed for students aged 14 to 19. A Working Group was set up in spring 2003 and have now published their interim report.

Between Feb. and May 2004, the Group will be engaging with a range of partners and stakeholders to seek views on the proposals. The full interim report is available in print form (tel. UK 0845 602 2260) as well as at the Working Group's website. *The final report on the working group's findings and suggestions for change to the 14-19 education system will be published at the end of 2004.*

ICT supporting learners with SEN
http://forum.ngfl.gov.uk/WebX/ictandsen
Becta (UK) Online conference - "ICT supporting learners with special needs" 9 -10 March ... the conference will focus on using ICT to support learners with special needs in Literacy and Numeracy …. **FREE**

In parallel to the conference *(also online)* will be an Exhibition area - where suppliers show products appropriate to the conference themes plus a Resource area - where teachers and other practitioners share resources.

USA National Technology Plan
www.nationaledtechplan.org/
The National Education Technology Plan for the U.S. Department of Education is being developed as part of a long-range national strategy and guide for using technology effectively to improve student academic achievement. Until March 12, they are seeking your input on the Plan .. the final outcome will be available at their website.

Religious Education and Diversity
www.godchecker.com/ and
www.shambles.net/religiouseducation/
There are lots of relevant (reverent?) links on 'Shambles' but one I just could not resist highlighting is "Godchecker" ... this recommendation is for your review only and does not necessarily support all the views of the site .... quoting from the site itself:

"Godchecker is 100% non-denominational. All Gods are welcome, whether Greek, Roman, Egyptian, Slavonic, or of No Fixed Abode. The Gods are queuing up to get in!"

Hong Kong Schools Film Festival
http://dragonnet.hkis.edu.hk/hs/dragonnews/clubs/Film_Club/index.htm
www.shambles.net/pages/staff/MultiM/
Hong Kong International School played host to the HK Schools Film Festival in February managed by the school Film Club with teacher Richard Friedericks advising. Richard is building an area on the school's website "DragonNet" which will archive the event.

If you are looking for an excellent multimedia course for teachers over Easter then have a look at
www.apple.com/uk/education/ati/

Reviews of Int. Schools and Teachers
www.internationalschoolsreview.com
http://ratemyteachers.com/index.jsp
This could well be a contentious issue.... there should always be at least one in each newsletter.... this time it is websites that allow teachers to comment on the International Schools they work in .... and the other allows students to comment on their teachers.

Int. Schools Websites - Showcased
www.jcsrs.edu.hk/
There are very few schools solely dedicated to providing support to SEN students in the S.E.Asia International communities. One school that is *(possibly the only one)* is the J.C.Sarah Roe School in Hong Kong. The Principal outsources much of the design and hosting aspects but it is very clearly a site with students, staff and families in mind as reflected in the content.... and pictures.... congratulations.

Advertising on Shambles
www.shambles.net/advertising/index.htm
'Shambles' is a free service because of sponsorship and advertising ... your support would be appreciated - email me for more details if interested.
csmith@csmith.info
This newsletter is also available for sponsorship.

Model United Nations meeting in Brunei
www.isb.edu.bn/bgic1/bgicnews04/global issues newspaper p2 04.pdf
The International School Brunei organised and hosted the "2nd Borneo Global Conference" (Model United Nations session) in February which was attended by several International Schools in the region - with to theme "Co-operation, Understanding and World Citizenship"

Science Lab. Design for T & L (+ICT)
www.ase.org.uk/htm/homepage/notes_news/january_2004/lab_des.pdf
This free software will enable both 2D and 3D images of science laboratories and prep rooms to be created by teachers and technicians.

Linking with Other Schools Worldwide
www.globalgateway.org.uk
The Global Gateway features a partner-finding database, enabling schools worldwide to link up, and live online operators to help with enquiries. It also contains a resource bank of materials for teachers, headteachers, young people, parents, governors and local authorities - all of which are aimed at encouraging the global perspective in education.

Textbook/CD - a Teacher in Thailand
www.shambles.net/newsletter/march2004/ian
Ian Jacobs is a Physics teacher at International School Bangkok (ISB) who follows his calling with an unassumed and quiet passion.... one of the indicators of this is that, for the older students, he has thrown his paper-based text books away and has a 'home grown' one that is on CD.

The magic of this project is that the stars of the CD are the students themselves - as learners and educators and as authors of content.
See the online newsletter for more details

USA Elections 2004
www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/elec2004.html
Many International Schools have the USA elections in their curriculum this year.... a round-up of candidate information, policy issues, and more, is available from Grace York of the University of Michigan Documents Center.

Design of ICT (computer) Work Areas
www.shambles.net/ict/design/index.htm
For pictures, guidance and advice on designing ICT work areas then visit this site. But for the fun part of this item you need to look at the online version of this newsletter.