

Broadband Sandwell e-newsletter Winter 2009

Thank you for reading this newsletter. We hope to make these a regular feature, providing news, hints and tips, e-safety advice and reviews of ICT for learning that may be of benefit to your school.

New 2Simple software product, 2DoltYourself

2Simple launched this resource creation tool at BETT this year.

Broadband Sandwell is offering a half day 2DoltYourself course free to subscribing schools, on 28th or 30th April 2009.

Attendees will receive a free copy, (one per school) of 2simple's 2DoltYourself software as part of the course.

Please call Marie on 0121 569 2400 to book your place.

Information about this exciting new product can be seen at

www.broadbandsandwell.org.uk/SoftwareReviews.htm

Espresso for schools

A number of primary schools subscribe to the Espresso content service.

Please note the following important announcements:

1. Espresso at home

In case you were not aware, it is possible for schools subscribing to the Espresso content service to access Espresso at home, enabling research and preparation by staff. A letter was recently sent to schools reminding them of this. Please speak to your head teacher for more details. In the event that this information has not arrived, please contact us on 0121 569 2400.

2. Espresso server maintenance

Espresso has advised us that schools using RM Smartcache servers to host their Espresso content will need to replace these during this academic year because the content will soon exceed the available disk space on these servers. We will be writing to schools with details of the replacement strategy and costs shortly.

Security of student data

You may have seen recent articles about losses of sensitive data. Avoid getting unwanted press coverage by taking action straight away. Advice was recently issued by Becta, as well as by Sandwell MBC regarding steps that should be taken. Please see our news page, www.broadbandsandwell.org.uk/BroadbandSandwellNews.htm for this advice.

Free e-safety resources

WMNet has purchased online e-safety materials for use by all regional schools. Contact us for details.

New publication from Becta

"AUPs in context: Establishing safe and responsible online behaviours." provides assistance with Acceptable Use Policies for schools and other children's settings. More information at

www.broadbandsandwell.org.uk/eSafety.htm

Free sound clips

WMNet has procured a copyright free music and sound bank for use by schools in school. Visit <http://audio.lgfl.org.uk/> Please note that these cannot be accessed from home and the downloaded files must not be used for any commercial purposes.

To Unsubscribe from our newsletters, please email info@broadbandsandwell.org.uk, ensuring that you include the email address that received the unwanted email, we will remove you from our list.

We welcome your input.

If you have something to share with colleagues and wish to contribute to future newsletters please contact Chris Howles,
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