Chapter 1

Introduction

ICT for PRIMARY LITERACY
“Teachers need to integrate technology seamlessly into the curriculum instead of viewing it as an add-on, an afterthought, or an event.”

Heidi-Hayes Jacobs
Developing Literacy through ICT

From here we’ll look at and discuss a number of ways ICT can complement your teaching and learning programs and the types of things that students can be doing?
A Blog (Web Blog) is a website usually moderated by one person. The ideology behind blogging was to give ‘people a voice’, in allowing them to share their thoughts, passions, and beliefs on anything and everything they wish.

Educational blogging can be a powerful tool. To allow students to create, publish and share their thoughts, ideas and work with the world is such a powerful thing.

Blogging is a great tool in assisting students to develop strong ties between what they do in class, and then sharing this with the world.
Kathleen Morris

2012 Victorian Primary Teacher of the Year

Flipped Classroom Model

The ‘Flipped Classroom’ inverts tradition teaching methods via delivering instruction online outside of class and moving homework in to the classroom.

The idea being students watch the instruction component via online videos at home (YouTube, Khan Academy, TED, TEdEd), at their own pace, with the ability to then discuss online at a certain time that particular content with other students via online collaboration tools, i.e. Goggle Drive.

The following day, students arrive to class already knowing the content and focusing the majority of their time on the activities and skills application.
Welcome Yr. 9's

Welcome Yr. 9's to our Pythagoras Learning Space!

Here you’ll find all of your course and unit material in audio, video, image and document format.
Lesson 1
Lesson 1 - Square Numbers.

Success Criteria:
1. I can expand square numbers
2. I can show expressions as square numbers
3. I can calculate square numbers

Instructional Video:

Learning Tasks:
1. Squares – general learning task
2. Squares – something a little harder
3. Squares – something a little easier
Blog Creation!

There are a number of sites that you can visit that allow you to create professional looking Blog’s that are fully functional and easy to use.

Below is a list of great sites that allow blogs to be created:

**Global 2**


Global 2 is an offset of the EduBlogs website however is fully supported by the Victorian Department of Education. As teachers working in a DEECD school you are able to create these blogs for free, just like the others sites listed here, however, you gain more online storage space.

**eduBlogs**

[http://edublogs.org/](http://edublogs.org/)

This is regarded as the best site for creating educational blogs. It has a host of features and blog themes, is free, and is designed specifically for educational purposes.

**Blogger**

[www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com)

Blogger is a Google App and if you have Google App account, i.e. gMail account, then you can easily create a free blog via this service. Blogger, like those mentioned already, is outstanding and being linked directly to Google App’s, make this an excellent online option. Blogger however does not have the features of eduBlog or Global2 in terms of student use and security.
**Social Media (Twitter)**

Twitter has proven itself to be one of the largest Social Media sites in the world. It’s ease of use and the speed at which people can share thoughts, images, links, etc... allows teachers and students to utilize its ability to let the entire school community know what’s happening not only in your class, but school as a whole.

As teachers you can update on the fly from a mobile device, or have a desktop/laptop permanently set up and logged in, for you to share all the excellent things you and your students are doing.

Have parents follow your class account and comment in real time about what you share.
Twitter In Plain English

CommonCraft
Podcasting

Podcasts are essentially audio recordings by students that can be created on any number of topics.

Any voice recording software/device can be used allowing for students to record voice and share their reflections, thoughts and ideas.

You can usually listen to podcasts directly off the web from the people who created them. Another way is to "subscribe" to podcasts using software like iTunes.

These programs will automatically download the latest shows, and you can then listen to them on the device of your choice. To subscribe to a podcast, you need to know the RSS Feed, which will automatically download new podcast episodes.

“There are three kinds of podcasts. Audio podcasts are usually an MP3 file and are the most common types of podcasts. Enhanced podcasts can have images to go along with the audio. They can also have chapter markers, making it easier to skip to different portions of an episode. Enhanced podcasts are an AAC file and are not supported by all devices. Video podcasts are movies, complete with sound. Video podcasts can be in a variety of formats, but MPEG-4 is the most popular and the only format that will play on iPod and iPad.” Tony Vincent - [http://learninginhand.com/podcasting/](http://learninginhand.com/podcasting/)

Creating podcasts has a wide range educational benefits. Students can create podcasts to share with a potentially world-wide audience, and once again there in lies the power behind integrating this type of technology.

Podcasting Resource

[Integrating Podcasting Workbook - Simple K-12 Resources](#)
Ideas for Podcasting with Students...

- Having students reflect upon their learning at the conclusion of a lesson to demonstrate specific success criteria for a lesson or task.

- Students using podcasting to predict events, either in a text, for a lesson, or before going on an excursion.

- Older students subscribing to particular podcasts via iTunes and reflecting and reporting on these. Great for literacy.

- Students creating Podcasts for inquiry/integrated studies. I.e. Podcasting as a Australian Soldier in a trench during WW1.

- Students creating audio books for younger classes. Great for students to create an ‘audio library’. Focus on expression and speaking skills.

- During numeracy, incorporating mobile devices and students listening to directions given by another student via a podcast.

- For literacy students create a radio advertisement for a product. They also can create their own music via Garage Band or using something as simple as Isle of Tune.

- Students debating a topic in a group or as a whole class and embedding this on to a blog, seeking feedback.

- Students interviewing guests to their schools such visitors running incursions. These can become part of your eNewsletter.

- One for the teachers, when conferencing or completing running records for reading assessment, podcast the students reading and keep these over time. Great to give to parents throughout the year and use for parent teacher sessions!
Digital Storytelling

The emphasis with Digital storytelling is on personal voice which enables students to tell their own stories – blending together video, photos, music, narration, print, and sound effects using simple multimedia publishing and editing tools.

Digital Stories are such a powerful tool to engage literacy as the whole notion of film making is embedded with students having develop script and screen plays before constructing their films.

Students can sometimes find the notion of creating Digital Stories a daunting task as opening up about their life to others can be a frightening task for some however the end result, as they will attest, will be worth the process.

In saying this, Digital Stories can be created about topics on other subjects, rather than on the person who is creating them.

A List of the Best Free Digital Storytelling Tools for Teachers. - Educational Technology and Mobile Learning

Community Stories about People

A selection of autobiographical short films made in the Digital Storytelling workshop program at ACMI (Australian Centre for Moving Image, Melbourne).
Web 2.0 Tools

Web 2.0 tools are internet based technologies centered around the idea that people should not simply consume from the internet, but also create from it.

There are hundreds if not thousands of Web 2.0 tools that can be used in an educational context to assist student learning, especially in literacy.

Usually, Web 2.0 tools require a registration process however there are a number of excellent tools out there that overlook this process, allowing for students to create quickly and easily.

Web 2.0 Tools For Teachers and Students

Cool Tools for Schools

Go2Web20 Resources
Below are several excellent Web 2.0 Tools that can support and enhance Literacy.

**Voicethread** - [http://voicethread.com/](http://voicethread.com/)

A VoiceThread is a tool for having dynamic conversations around media. Upload a collection of media, comment on it, and share it with others so they can participate in the conversation at anytime, anywhere.


ThingLink helps you create and discover rich images. Make your images come alive with music, video, text, images, shops and more! Every image contains a story and ThingLink helps you tell your stories. Upload you favorite images and tag audio, other images and video to that image!

**Wordle** - [http://www.wordle.net/](http://www.wordle.net/)

Wordle is a tool for generating “word clouds” from text that you provide. The clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source text. You can tweak your clouds with different fonts, layouts, and color schemes. The images you create with Wordle are yours to use however you like. You can print them out, or save them to the Wordle gallery to share with your friends.


Tagxedo turns words -- famous speeches, news articles, slogans and themes, even your love letters -- into a visually stunning word cloud, words individually sized appropriately to highlight the frequencies of occurrence within the body of text. Very similar to Wordle!
Padlet - http://padlet.com/

An online notice/cork board. Create a Padlet, or wall, give students the URL, and they have the ability to add content in the forms of an image text, URL links, etc...


A Glog is an interactive visual platform in which users create a “poster or web page” containing multimedia elements including: text, audio, video, images, graphics, drawings, and data.

Popplet - http://popplet.com/

Popplet is a great online mind mapping tool that gives students a space online to collect their ideas in the form of text, images, video and more.

Fotobabble - http://www.fotobabble.com/

Fotobabble allows you create and share Talking Photos in three simple steps: 1) Upload a photo, 2) Record your voice, and 3) Share with friends and family.

TodaysMeet - http://todaysmeet.com/

TodaysMeet helps you embrace the back channel and connect with your students in realtime. Encourage them to use the live stream to make comments, ask questions, and use that feedback to tailor your teaching, sharpen your points, and address audience needs.
GoAnimate - http://goanimate.com/

Students can use this online Video Maker to create videos for free. As simple as that. No uploading needed as all media is built in to this web 2.0 tool.

Primary Pad - http://primarypad.com/

PrimaryPad is a web-based word processor designed for schools that allows students and teachers to work together in real-time. Great for online discussions, making specific teaching points re: classroom literature topics, etc... Easy and efficient.

Text2MindMap - http://www.text2mindmap.com/

Similar to Popplet. Another great load and go tool that students can utilize to share ideas in the form of mind and concept maps.

CheckThis - http://checkthis.com/

Checkthis gives students and teachers the ability to express their thoughts in an online setting whilst receiving feedback from others. You can choose from one of the many themes, mix up the colors, change the typefaces, and upload an optional custom background. Quick and easy!

Voki - http://www.voki.com/

Voki is a free service that lets students create customized avatars where they can then add their own voice and embed these in blogs, websites or profiles.
Augmented Reality

“Augmented Reality, abbreviation AR, is becoming more and more apart of our life’s when using iDevices or mobile technology. Augmented Reality technology is combining real world images, videos, sounds etc with computer-generated information and/or imagery.

Within education, Augmented Reality can play a huge part in empowering, engaging and enriching student learning. It is a form of technology that can take learning to another level through its rich interactive approach of bringing the real world into the hands of students or simply making an image or title on a page come to life”.

Nathan Jones -ICTEV2012
Augmented Reality in Plain English
Summary...

Give the students ownership and choice

Let them create, rather than always consume

Take risks with technology use within your own settings...

...and start a movement towards ICT and Literacy Education...