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Department of Education, Tasmania

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<http://www.ecentre.education.tas.gov.au/default.aspx>

### Curriculum area resources

New resources are being progressively added to the teaching and learning, reporting and professional learning sections of the eCentre.

New sections include implementing the curriculum, effective teaching, understanding the learner and thinking.

Please check back often to access or suggest resources.

### Curriculum area SharePoint

Each of the areas of the Tasmanian Curriculum now has an active SharePoint  
<http://www.ecentre.education.tas.gov.au/C8/SiteDirectory/Lists/Sites/Summary.aspx>.

Visit the SharePoint to view current announcements and upcoming events, access resources and share good teaching ideas and strategies in each of the curriculum areas.

### Online survey

When you visit the Curriculum Centre you will be asked to complete a short online survey.

This survey will provide valuable information about how we can build a curriculum resources site to meet your needs.

Random prizes will be awarded after the survey closes on August 29<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Please note that the survey has been extended due to much more new material being added to the site during late July. You only need to complete the survey once.

For more information about web resources for teachers please contact  
[nigel.brown@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:nigel.brown@education.tas.gov.au).

### Olympic Games

This issue contains links to resources and curriculum ideas about the Beijing Olympics.

Visit the SharePoint for each of the curriculum areas to view, contribute or discuss these and other resources.

Details are on pages 3 and 4.



Recent additions to the National Curriculum Board website include [draft principles for developing the national curriculum](#), a downloadable [National Curriculum Development Paper](#) (PDF, 2.53MB) and a series of [Vodcasts](#) from Chris Wardlaw, the keynote speaker from *Into the Future — National Curriculum Board Forum*, 27 June 2008. The report from this national forum should be available from early August.

Two of the draft principles, highlighted here, warrant consideration at this early stage of curriculum development:

*Principle 2.6 the curriculum needs to be flexible. It must allow jurisdictions, systems and schools the ability to deliver national curriculum in a way that values teachers' professional knowledge and reflects local school and regional differences and priorities.*

*Principle 2.7 National curriculum needs to be developed collaboratively with jurisdictions, systems and schools across Australia. To ensure its success, its development will be based on a strong research base of learning and pedagogy and on what works in professional practice. It will reflect 'best practices' across Australia and overseas.*

Collaboratively building the national curriculum will allow all states and territories to articulate and contribute their 'best practices' in curriculum and pedagogy.

The refined Tasmanian curriculum provides Tasmanian teachers with a strong starting point for contributing to this important national curriculum work and through its implementation meets the requirements around embedding National Outcome Statements into the schools' teaching and learning program.

For questions or comments about curriculum implementation, email [irene.gray@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:irene.gray@education.tas.gov.au)

For **Curriculum Matters** on the web visit <http://www.education.tas.gov.au/curriculum/resources/updates>

Public information about the curriculum can be accessed at: <http://www.education.tas.gov.au/curriculum>

### International Year of Languages 2008 – Languages Matter!

2008 is the International Year of Languages.

The Modern Language Teachers Association of Tasmania biennial conference will begin with a reception hosted by the Governor of Tasmania, to recognise and celebrate the work done by languages teachers.

The keynote speaker is Professor Joseph Camilleri, Professor and Director of the Centre for Dialogue at La Trobe University.

The conference strands are:

- Intercultural Language Teaching and Learning
- The Languages – Literacy Connection
- Language Specific Workshops
- Innovative Classroom Practice including ICT

For further information <http://www.education.tas.gov.au/school/educators/resources/lote>

### Mathematics-numeracy: 2007 National Review released

Minister Gillard has released the findings and recommendations of the 2007 National Numeracy Review. The report includes a summary of recent research on effective teaching approaches which can inform schools as they develop Mathematics-numeracy plans and consider how best to meet student needs.

The full report can be accessed at: [http://www.coag.gov.au/docs/national\\_numeracy\\_review.doc](http://www.coag.gov.au/docs/national_numeracy_review.doc) and the Executive Summary and recommendations can be accessed via the Mathematics Numeracy Share Point: <http://www.ecentre.education.tas.gov.au/sites/math/default.aspx>

## Olympics: Beijing 2008

"Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy found in effort, the educational value of good example and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles."

Olympic Charter, Fundamental Principles, paragraph 1



The Olympics present many opportunities for student engagement and learning in all curriculum areas and at all standards and stages of achievement in the Tasmanian Curriculum.

For example, students in Science and Health and wellbeing could explore equipment design, physiology, or effects of different environments or drugs on the body. Ethical issues could be explored in all curriculum areas.

The [Society and History SharePoint](#), for example, contains links to relevant websites and units of work in areas including history, Asia education, values, ethics and human rights.

Visit the [SharePoints](#) for each curriculum area to explore examples of useful websites, learning sequence ideas and many other resources describing how engaging students in learning about the Olympics can build skills and understanding in all areas.

### Olympics and Mathematics-numeracy

The Olympic Games offer many opportunities to explore mathematical concepts and in particular measurement and chance and data. Students also develop an appreciation for numbers in realistic contexts e.g. the way decimals are used to record the times in swimming events. Exploration of Olympic records can become a data analysis activity and the kindergarten students can benefit greatly from understanding concepts such as first, second and third! The following sites present some ideas for teachers to explore with their students over the next month:

[http://www.olympic.org/uk/sports/records/results\\_uk.asp](http://www.olympic.org/uk/sports/records/results_uk.asp)

<http://www.olympics.com.au/Education/tabid/165/Default.aspx?link=165&>

<http://www.ceo.wa.edu.au/home/wattle/resources/olympics.html>

<http://www.blackdouglas.com.au/maths300/m300over/067ospud.htm>

[http://motivate.maths.org/conferences/conference.php?conf\\_id=40](http://motivate.maths.org/conferences/conference.php?conf_id=40)

[http://www.rochester.edu/radiate/D/D7/oly\\_unit.htm](http://www.rochester.edu/radiate/D/D7/oly_unit.htm)

### Science of the Olympics

Many areas of science could be included in a sequence of work on the Olympics. Many topics can be modified to suit a range of grade levels. For example, how might the Olympics impact on local and / or global ecosystems? How does the body adapt to changed conditions, such as being at a higher altitude? Visit the eCentre for more examples of Science-related questions and sample topics.

### Online resources

Did you know that there are many useful online resources on the Olympics and Sport accessible through the eCentre?

Search in the Resource Centre:

<http://ecentre.education.tas.gov.au/C15/Learning%20Objects/searchlo.aspx> (learning objects)

<http://ecentre.education.tas.gov.au/C15/Learning%20Objects/searchdr.aspx> (digital resources)

Or in the Student Freeway:

<http://www.student.education.tas.gov.au/C2/Find%20Information/default.aspx>

For further information or support in use of online resources, please contact **Janine Davison, Co-ordinator eLearning Design** [janine.davison@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:janine.davison@education.tas.gov.au)

An online student project, **Beijing 2008**, includes discussion forums and online interactive activities to increase student understanding of the country of China and its culture in the context of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Many of the activities are suitable for use on an interactive whiteboard.

<http://www.ozprojects.edu.au/course/view.php?id=20>

Olympic lesson plans with a global perspective are available from the **One World Centre**

<http://www.oneworldcentre.org.au/teachers/teaching-resources/>

**The Learning Federation** digital Olympic resources can be searched at

<http://www.curriculumpress.edu.au/main/thisweek#thisweek3>

## National Literacy and Numeracy Week (NLNW) 1 – 7 September, 2008

### Partnerships in learning: professional conversations in literacy and numeracy

All teachers from all sectors are invited to attend informal professional learning sessions based in each Learning Service and sponsored by NLNW in partnership with the professional associations ALEA, TATE and MAT.

Share afternoon tea with colleagues from 3.30 pm and find out what ideas for literacy and numeracy teachers have developed in their schools this year. The program also includes a MAT numeracy work shop and ALEA coffee chat.

The NLNW committee hopes that at least one representative from each school will attend.

**North:** Rocherlea Primary (20 August); **North West:** Burnie Primary (21 August); **South / south-east:** Geilston Bay High (13 August); Criterion Café (21 August); Rose Bay High (25 August); New Town High and Mt Carmel College (26 August). For more details visit:

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/school/educators/resources/curriculumprojects/nlnw2008/literacy-and-numeracy-expos>

### Celebration grants

In conjunction with NLNW, 91 schools in Tasmania applied for celebration grants of \$1,500.

This is a state initiative designed to support local schools to showcase literacy and numeracy activities. The grants are awarded to schools to enable them to conduct a celebration, project or activity with a numeracy and / or literacy focus during NLNW. Schools that receive grants will prepare reports to be published on the website and sent out to schools in next year's newsletter. They will also participate in the regional *Celebrations of literacy and numeracy in Tasmania* to be held in October.

During October celebrations of this year's achievements in literacy and numeracy will be held in each region. The program will showcase the successes that schools have had in 2008 and will include *show and tell* sessions from the winners of celebration grants.

### Further details will be available soon.

For further information email [pamela.powell@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:pamela.powell@education.tas.gov.au)

### For curriculum and professional learning support contact the Manager (Learning)

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**The curriculum team is available to work with teachers and school leaders in all learning services. Please feel free to contact them to work with you in implementing the Tasmanian curriculum.**

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- Curriculum area updates
- Sustainability resources