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National Newsletter: Social Sciences

Information and resources for middle leaders in secondary schools | Term 3 2014

Kia ora, Talofa lava, Mālō e lelei, Kia orana, Talofa ni, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Ni sa bula, Greetings

Welcome back to Term 3 and trust that you had a well deserved holiday so you feel re-energised for another busy term.

In this newsletter, we continue to focus on presenting information and ideas that we hope will stimulate discussion related to your teaching and learning programmes, and to support your students and their achievement.

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues, and get in touch if you need additional information or wish to give feedback.

Ngā mihi

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Literacy in the Social Sciences



Continuing on from our last newsletter, here is a resource to support the literacy and language within your subject. The Teacher Resource Exchange is a facility for teachers to contribute classroom resources, teaching notes, worksheets and assessments. Many of these resources are generic so they can be applied to any learning area. <http://literacyonline.tki.org.nz/Literacy-Online/Teacher-needs/Teacher-Resource-Exchange/Secondary-Literacy>

Social Science wikispace

This is a very popular site being used by many of you, with resources, key websites, and information to share from our workshops, clusters and in-depth work.

Much of the work we do, and support we give is added to this wikispace.

Please ensure that you add this to your favourites and visit it regularly.

<http://secondarysocialscience.wikispaces.com/>

What's on top?

2014 NZHTA Conference

'I ngā rā o mua' The days before us

This conference will be held at Dilworth School, Auckland, 29-30th September, 2014.

Follow on Twitter: @thedaybeforeus
Like on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/NZHTAConference2014

Or keep checking in for updates at:
<http://www.nzhta.org.nz/>

ULearn 14 conference

'The Ultimate Modern Learning & Teaching conference'

This PLD opportunity focuses on modern learning and teaching practices, environments and uses of digital technologies to:

- Deepen understanding of the latest developments in pedagogy, curriculum and practice
- Create flexible learning spaces that cater for personalised, collaborative and creative learning
- Help align technology with effective pedagogy, and get the most out of every tool they use.

When: 8-10 October 2014

Where: Rotorua Energy Events Centre
www.events.core-ed.org/ulearn

Previous Social Science newsletters

If you are looking for previous newsletters, go to this link on TKI:

<http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Secondary-middle-leaders/Professional-learning-and-development/E-newsletters/National-newsletters-2013>

Reflecting on the use of e-Learning



The New Zealand Curriculum and *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa* set out a vision for all of our young people to become confident, connected, actively involved lifelong learners.

The information and resources on the Enabling e-Learning website demonstrate ways in which e-learning supports this vision with New Zealand's priority learners in mind.

ERO encourages schools to develop systems, processes and connections that:

- shift the focus to student-centered learning
- knowledgeably implement a responsive and rich curriculum
- use assessment information to know about, and plan for, students' learning.

Priority learners and e-learning

It is important to know your ākongā/students, and make connections with parents/whānau to enable them to support their children's learning. When learning and communication needs are identified, specific technologies can be employed to transform opportunities for ākongā, teachers, whānau, and the wider school community.

The [e-Learning Planning Framework](#) (eLPF) provides schools and teachers with a self-review tool for schools to:

- gather evidence about ako (practice in the classroom, and beyond the classroom)
- evaluate the effectiveness of e-learning programmes in meeting the needs of priority learners
- identify the resources and services needed to build capability to meet the needs of priority learners
- plan strategically to develop whanaugatanga (relationships with students and the school community), and personalised learning and teaching opportunities to meet the needs of all students.

To further explore relevant information, resources, and communities to support priority learners, teachers and schools in developing their e-learning practice, go to <http://elearning.tki.org.nz/Ministry-initiatives/Priority-learners> Follow the school stories to get some ideas as to what you may be able to try within your classroom environments.

VOTE KIWI: Your school is invited to join an Election Issues site

St Paul's Collegiate School, Hamilton, in association with Professor David Seedhouse and the Values Exchange, has developed a site where high schools and intermediate level schools can discuss the issues that are important to them. The site will also run a mock election one week before the nation's General Election. Your school will receive an invitation to join the site after the official launch on 25th July. Any queries, don't hesitate to contact Defyd Williams, HOD St Paul's Collegiate School d.williams@stpauls.school.nz

Have you seen.....?

Towards Equitable Outcomes in Secondary Schools

This report presents examples of good practice in student engagement and achievement. The examples come from a sample of secondary schools, rated decile 5 or below with rolls of 200 students or more, who had better outcomes for students than other similar schools.

<http://www.ero.govt.nz/National-Reports/Towards-equitable-outcomes-in-secondary-schools-Good-practice-May-2014>

Middle leader support

The Educational Leaders website has useful resources, news and discussions which focus on supporting you in your curriculum leadership role.

<http://www.educationallleaders.govt.nz/Middle-and-senior-leaders>

NZQA subject resource pages

Subject-specific resources including moderation newsletters, resources for internally and externally assessed standards, and scholarship resources.

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/qualifications/ncea/subjects/>

National contact details for Social Sciences

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