

Education @ Steljes

Summer 2007

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Response systems from Steljes

With a whole range of voting systems now available on the market, you may find it confusing to know which one best suits your needs. Both Senteo™ and TurningPoint® are easy-to-use systems which are useful tools for helping teachers to assess their pupils. Both have received great feedback, with the view of using them little and often to supplement the teaching and learning experience the most commonly held.

So which is best for you?

Both systems give teachers instant feedback on their pupils' progress. For teachers who prefer to use SMART Notebook™, Senteo is the perfect solution as it works seamlessly within this software. Any resources that they may already have can be used with Senteo straight away. Senteo also lets teachers pose a variety of questions – multiple-choice, multiple answer, even numerical.

There are teachers who much prefer using Microsoft® PowerPoint® to deliver their lessons, and this makes TurningPoint

an ideal solution for them. Approved for Microsoft Office®, TurningPoint is a toolbar that sits within PowerPoint, allowing teachers to easily insert questions into their existing lessons.

Senteo and TurningPoint are powerful assessment tools because of the reporting functions they both provide. The reports can be used in numerous ways to enable a clear picture of each pupil's progress to be built. This allows lessons to be re-shaped as appropriate – on the fly or as preparation for the next class.



An introduction from Rachel Jones

With the summer break fast approaching, there is a huge amount going on at the moment and we have lots of interesting news to share with you. The section on the new Notebook interactive viewer and the 'Did you know...' section on the back page may be of particular interest. Going forward, we hope to offer you more practical advice which will help teachers integrate ICT into their lessons, and we will also pass on information we think may be useful to you or your schools.

Many of you will have met Steve Rowley at a show, or, if you are in the Midlands or North, possibly on a school or LA visit. Sadly, Steve will be leaving us in August in order to return to school as an ICT Co-ordinator. Great luck for the school, but we will miss Steve enormously – he has been a real asset to the team. We wish Steve well for the future.

I hope that this newsletter provides a valuable insight into news and updates within the industry – as always we welcome your feedback, so please let your EDC have comments and ideas for future content.

SMART Notebook interactive viewer is now available!

SMART Notebook interactive viewer is a fantastic free download which makes it easy to share the digital content and lessons created with Notebook software. Notebook files can now be viewed and shared on any interactive whiteboard or other hardware platform. This provides a cost-effective way for schools and LAs to standardise on one digital lesson platform. This is especially important if there is mix of interactive whiteboards. It is available for Windows, Mac and Linux in over 36 languages.

Find out more and download by visiting the SMART Technologies website [here](#).

e-Learning Foundation grants

The e-Learning Foundation has been able to run a regular programme of grant giving over the past six years. Since 2001, £7m has been granted to schools across the UK to support home access programmes. Find out more and how to apply by clicking [here](#).

Parental donations via Direct Debit have been very successful in many areas.

The donations are granted back on a quarterly basis, and, as a charity, the e-Learning Foundation is entitled to Gift Aid. It is a three-way process, with the e-Learning Foundation, the school and parents all contributing towards the purchase of technology. For more information click [here](#).

Leasing made easy

Lease and Learn works solely with Steljes and is dedicated to lease and rental options in education. This applies to all SMART Board™ interactive whiteboards, audiovisual, mobile learning and ICT requirements. With subsidised and flexible rental agreements, schools can spread the cost of ICT over three years. Click here for more information.

www.leaseandlearn.com

News round up

Getting the most out of your SMART Board interactive whiteboard with FREE training

Steljes and SMART offer a plethora of FREE training and guidance - all available online - from tutorials, videos and printable guidance notes. This ranges from hints and tips to more complex guidance for advanced users. For example, SMART Notebook training events take place every Thursday at 16:00 for teachers and advisors. So come and join us and make the most of your SMART Board interactive whiteboard!

Please feel free to let your colleagues know about the sessions. To join the events, please click [here](#).

For other training opportunities please visit: www.steljes.co.uk/training
We hope that you enjoy the training and we'd love your feedback after the event. Please email training@steljes.co.uk
All feedback is entered into a monthly draw for a bottle of champagne. The training team is also adding to the programme all the time, so please check back regularly to find out what's coming up!

Did you know...

...that if you hold down the SHIFT key when you are creating a circle or square from the shapes toolbar in SMART Notebook, you will create a perfect circle or square? This works brilliantly when you are creating lessons at your desktop.

...that the SMART Essentials for Educators Gallery resources now number 5,405 items? To download them, right click on the Notebook icon in your system tray and select 'check for updates'.

TurningPoint

There is a new version of the TurningPoint installation file for all Windows users at www.speakturningpoint.org.uk The most important feature in this new version is that the TurningPoint receiver is now on Microsoft's official hardware list which means that you don't need to manually install the receiver and the Windows warning about unsigned drivers will no longer be displayed. Any new receiver will get recognised just like a USB memory stick or other USB device.



Tutorials and support for TurningPoint users

Introducing new technologies into lessons can be daunting. For teachers who are new to TurningPoint, there are numerous tutorials to help them stay on top of things. There are also over 3000 subject-specific questions which are tagged for both the National and Scottish curricula. These are available to download for free at www.speakturningpoint.org.uk

Mobile Learning news

If your schools are asking how they can fund a Mobile Learning project, then read on...

Becta has published a guidance document for schools and local authorities on how to make effective use of the specific ICT grants. The document explains the details of the five grant areas available to schools as well as providing advice on how to use them. Click [here](#) to find out more.



Useful websites

Notebook tutorials, support and free online training:

- <http://smartboard.co.uk/trainingcentre>
- [Steljes resources](#)

Find lots more ideas by clicking on the links below:

- [e-Learning Foundation fundraising ideas](#)
- [Great for testing mouse skills, quick reactions or just a bit of fun](#)

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