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Member Dioceses

The Diocese of Armidale

The Diocese of Bathurst

The Diocese of Broken Bay

The Diocese of Cairns

The Archdiocese of Canberra –
Goulburn

The Diocese of Darwin

The Diocese of Lismore

The Diocese of Maitland-
Newcastle

The Diocese of Parramatta

The Diocese of Rockhampton

The Archdiocese of Sydney

The Diocese of Toowoomba

The Diocese of Townsville

The Diocese of Wagga Wagga

The Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes

The Diocese of Wollongong

Connecting Catholic Communities

Welcome to the first CEnet newsletter

Welcome to the first newsletter of CEnet, the Catholic Education Network. CEnet provides managed ICT services to support the education needs of 16 dioceses across 3 states and territories and connects over 330,000 students and teachers, making it one of the biggest education networks nationally and internationally.

CEnet is rapidly growing to accommodate the evolving needs of its member dioceses and this newsletter is designed to keep you up-to-date with our activities so that you can take advantage of the services we provide to enhance learning and teaching as well as the administration of schools.

We hope that you will find this newsletter informative and welcome your comments and suggestions.

Comments can be sent by email to info@cenet.catholic.edu.au.

CEnet has a new website

You may not be aware, that CEnet has a website which is located at www.cenet.catholic.edu.au.

The site has recently been updated and provides information about CEnet and the services we provide. When you visit www.cenet.catholic.edu.au you will also find a variety of social media connection options to keep you up to date with developments. So why not explore the site and select your favourite tools to use to stay up to date.

CEnet implements key services

CEnet was recently able to implement two new services in record time because of the foundational identity management services put in place to benefit member dioceses. The services included a new email service and a new Web Security system. The identity management system provides a central repository for usernames and passwords and will enable dioceses to manage access to resources. This system delivers a great benefit to students and teachers by providing a means to deliver targeted services to meet the needs of individuals.

CEnet WEBSITE

Visit CEnet online for up to date information about activities designed to support learning and teaching in member schools.

Go to: www.cenet.catholic.edu.au for more information

TWITTER @CEnetAus

GOOGLE+

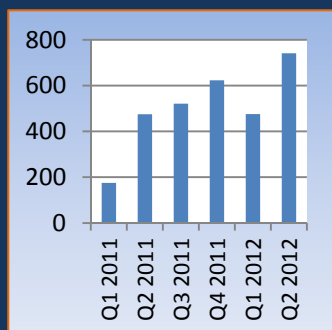
<http://gplus.to/CEnetAus>

A Secondary School teacher discovers mobility through CEnet!

"I am in a Sydney Catholic Primary school. Great to be able to walk in and connect to the net with my #cenet identity".

John Coppola @giovannicoppola

CEnet Video Conference Growth 2011-12



Hours per term

1,794 video conference hours in 2011.
1,217 hours in the first 6 months of 2012.
That equates to approximately 400 school days or 80 school weeks!

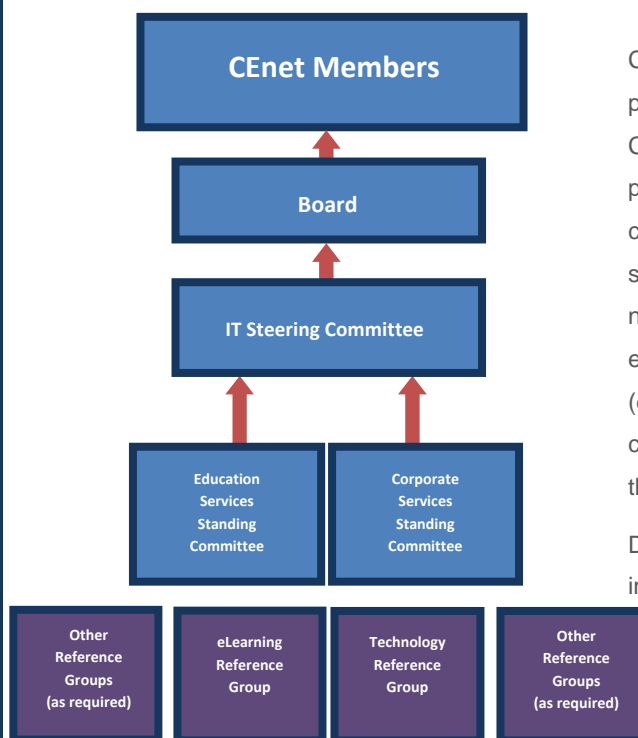
CEnet's New IT Governance Model

Enhancements to ensure the needs of Members are accurately reflected in activities

CEnet exists to support the needs of its Member dioceses and with so many potential activities, it is important that the needs of Members are always at the forefront of decision-making.

To this end, the CEnet Board developed and implemented an enhanced IT governance structure specifically designed to put the needs of participating dioceses at the centre of the strategic decision-making process.

The diagram illustrates the federated model of IT governance for CEnet that incorporates the following elements-



- A Board structure which maintains the status quo with all Member Dioceses represented by their Directors of Schools.
- An IT Steering Committee made up of relevant personnel from across member organisations representing both the education and corporate administration interests of members.
- Two small standing committees (Education and Corporate) that report to the Steering Committee.

Occasional "joint sittings" of the Standing Committees may be required to clarify overarching strategy.

Committees have now commenced their processes. The Education services and Corporate Services committees have a particular interest in developing communication channels with key stakeholders, and will make use of this newsletter for that purpose. They will also engage with important reference groups (eLearning personnel, technical personnel, corporate services personnel) to support their work.

Details of committee members are available in the CEnet website.

Connecting
Catholic
Communities

CEnet
catholic education network



Gmail and Google Apps

There is no doubt that the most high profile initiative undertaken by CEnet so far this year has been the implementation of a new email system for member dioceses.

The system selected is Google's Gmail, a solution which is able to be customised to meet the needs of each diocese. An added bonus has been the option of using Google Apps for Education. Pictured above are Greg Whitby, Chair of CEnet (Left) and Iain McDougall, Google Enterprise, Australia (Right), celebrating the decision.

Whilst Dioceses are developing their own implementation plans, eLearning and technical staff from across member dioceses are sharing their experiences with Gmail and

Google Apps. A number of dioceses are well under way with staff and students now making use of Gmail and taking advantage of the 25Gb mailboxes and the ability to access the services on multiple devices including mobile tools such as smart phones and tablets. Google Apps, a set of additional tools within the Google suite including Google Calendar, Docs, Groups, Video and Sites, can be switched on as required.

This is a particularly exciting project as it is one of the biggest Gmail implementations in the world. With over 300,000 students and up to 30,000 staff about to gain access to the service, it has attracted a lot of interest because of its scale and the speed with which the CEnet team was able to prepare it for use.

Take a virtual tour of our datacentre

It's often easy to look past the infrastructure behind CEnet's network and its services.

Powered by Unity3D, CEnet's virtual data centre allows you to take an interactive and virtual tour of the CEnet's network.

There are plenty of hidden items to discover so take a moment out of your busy schedule to explore CEnet's core: <http://bit.ly/vkiyPp> or visit the CEnet website, www.cenet.catholic.edu.au

CEnet enables video conferencing in the classroom

"Just letting you know that the VC today with the Great Barrier Reef was a huge success."

Today the students had an opportunity to experience part of the reef "first hand" and asked the diver a range of questions as he swam among the coral. All the technical side of the VC worked beautifully and we had very little pixilation or delay."

Peter Michael
Assistant Principal
St. Paul's School Camden

Questions & Answers

Q: Why have web security?

A: With the ever-increasing use of the Internet by teachers and students, it is important to have a web security system which enables use of innovative tools but provides protection and security. CEnet has recently implemented a new web security service. This innovative service draws user identity information from the new CEnet identity management system but can be tailored by each diocese to the needs



of individuals. In acknowledgement of the importance being placed on mobile devices in contemporary classrooms, the service can be used while roaming in diocesan networks.

This solution provides great control and flexibility whilst ensuring that web security does not get in the way of the teaching and learning process.

Upcoming Events

CEnet Board Meetings

July 18
September 19
October 24
November 21
December 12

IT Steering Committee

August 1
October 4

Education Services Standing Committee

June 21
September 24

Corporate Services Standing Committee

June 27
September 21

eLearning Reference Group

July 24
October 16

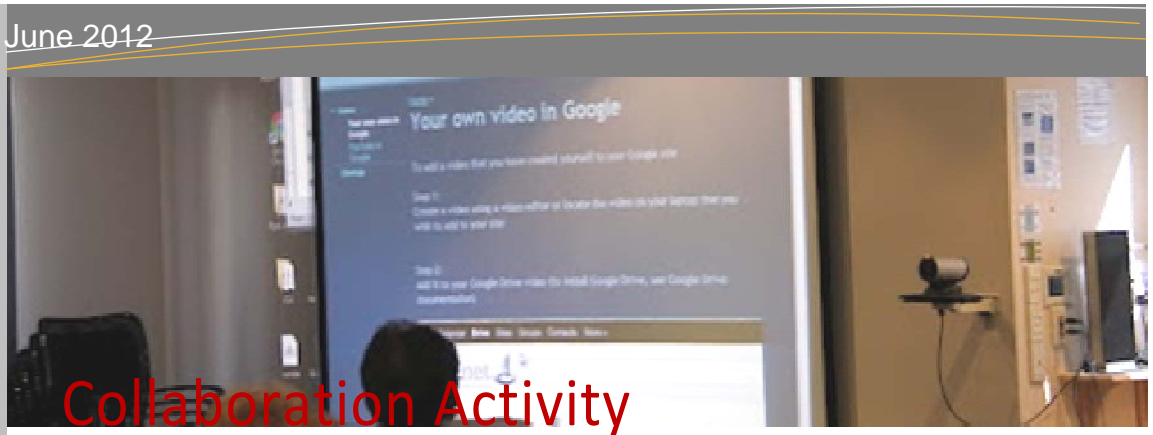
CEnet Operations Group

June 26
September 25 & 26

Images: Top right: Host Robie Jayawardhana (Right), CEO Townsville, collaborating with Greg Basford, CEO Sydney and Deb Boughton, ICT Coordinator St Joseph's Albion Park.

Bottom left: The Wollongong crew!

Top left: Participants at the Townsville workshop hard at work.



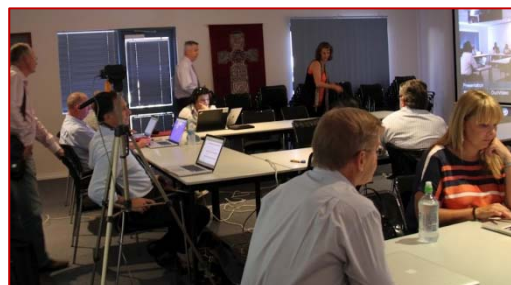
Townsville Google Workshop

The Diocese of Townsville hosted staff from the Dioceses of Wollongong, Rockhampton, Sydney and Bathurst, along with CEnet staff for a joint three-day workshop in May.

Townsville Diocese was an early adopter of Gmail and Google Apps and staff, lead by Robie Jayawardhana, generously shared their insights into the tools.

Sessions included hands on work with a range of Google Apps with a focus on the use of Google Groups as a collaborative tool.

Participants were able to hear first hand experiences



from the classroom, both face to face and by video link. Taya Bortignon, a year 4 teacher from Ryan Catholic College joined the workshop to share her experiences with Plan Book, a tool which replaces her teacher day book. Glenda Scrase, Principal, St Francis School Hughenden, located 400K West of Townsville joined us via video conference with her



class so the students could share their work created



in Google Sites. After only a few hours of tuition, the students were confidently creating personal sites and were happy to explain the process to us.

The team from Wollongong developed a range of online resources showing how to use a wide variety of tools such as Picasa, Blogger and Google Drive and YouTube.

CEnet Supports Cross Sectoral Project

The PLANE Journey: Since early 2011, CEnet has played a key role representing the NSW catholic education sector in a cross sector initiative known as PLANE - Pathways for Learning Anywhere, Anytime - a Network for Educators.

PLANE is an innovative and fun educator community, networking space, and virtual world; providing accredited professional learning, courses, multi-media resources, ICT skills development, e-portfolio, collaborative tools, games-based-learning, and peer coaching.

Under the auspices of the CEC NSW, CEnet's role in PLANE was that of technical advisory to the PLANE project on behalf of the NSW catholic education community. Coupled with Google accounts through CEnet's Google Apps service, the result of CEnet's involvement is a network environment ready for direct access to PLANE. If you would like to explore this further, why not check it out at www.plane.edu.au.

Staff Profile



Name: Alejandro Ruiz

Position Title: CEnet Network Engineer

Qualifications:

Tertiary: Master of Engineering,
Telecommunications, Wollongong,
Bachelor of Electronics Engineering,
Colombia.

Industry: CCNP R&S, CCNA R&S,
CCNA Voice, CCNA Security

How long have you been with CEnet?

I have been with CEnet since January
2011.

**What do you like most about working
for CEnet?**

The professionalism of its staff, its focus
and commitment towards customer
satisfaction, and the excellent work
environment.

Where were you born?

Cali, Colombia

**What do you spend your time on
outside of CEnet?**

I am currently in my second year of my
PhD. in Informatics. My research
focuses on green networking,
specifically; I am trying to reduce the
energy consumption for the different
devices existing within the Internet.

Do you have a favourite sport?

Soccer

How about a favourite food?

Bandeja paisa:

<http://tinyurl.com/7frnn6p>

Finally, favourite movies?

'Contact' and 'Back to the Future'

Eye to the Future

CEnet develops strategic relationship with NSIP

The National Systems Interoperability Program (NSIP), an operation funded by the Australian, State and Territory Governments, recently ran a bid process for funding to make use of SIF as a means of transporting data between different software applications.

CEnet bid for two projects with member dioceses and supported another with Learnology and the Diocese of Canberra Goulburn. The project involving Learnology and Canberra Goulburn was successful in this process and has gained funding of \$13,200.

CEnet NSIP Partnership

While the other two CEnet projects were not successful, NSIP instead approved funding of \$30,000 for the secondment of a CEnet person to work in the NSIP Team and support the CEnet projects. The final projects and the details of the secondment are still being finalized. This funding will provide an opportunity to develop valuable experience in the use of SIF as an interoperability tool and will enable CEnet and the NSIP team to work with the dioceses to expand their SIF knowledge and skills within the CEnet member dioceses. This will assist CEnet and dioceses to implement SIF as a standard for interoperability across all CEnet and diocesan systems.

About NSIP

The National Systems Interoperability Program (NSIP) www.nsip.edu.au was established in July 2010 as an initiative of the

State, Territory and Australian Education Ministers. NSIP's aim is to facilitate the effective delivery of digital learning projects to support the national curriculum through the effective linking of information systems across the Australian education sector. To achieve these aims NSIP is leading and supporting projects that solve problems associated with the interconnection of information systems and promoting common technical standards, in particular the Systems Interoperability Framework (SIF).

About SIFAU

The SIF Association AU is the Australian chapter of the international SIF Association, a not-for-profit association dedicated to achieving interoperability between information systems via the use of Systems Interoperability Framework (SIF). SIF is an international standard used to link together education data systems. It provides interoperability standards and rules enabling diverse applications within the education sector to interact and share data efficiently, securely and cost effectively, regardless of the application and technology platform. SIF simplifies interoperability by minimising the number of connections required between software applications. Interoperability refers to the capacity of information systems to exchange information efficiently, accurately and economically.



PO Box E20
Corrimal East, NSW 2518
ABN 41 125 288 762
www.cenet.catholic.edu.au