

Focus on... Partnerships

In this economic climate as the government tightens its belt, it is important for the OIEB to work with sustainability in mind, supporting schools in a way that prepares them to sustain projects whatever the future holds. The OIEB is working to ensure that all Oxfordshire Partnerships have the opportunity to build and sustain overseas links during the next academic year. I will be happy to attend any partnership meetings in order to tailor a package that meets the needs of the partnership. Working in partnerships encourages community cohesion and supports the government aims that every English pupil will have an international experience while at school & that every English school and college will establish a sustainable partnership by 2010.

There are currently opportunities for clusters of schools to develop links across the world from Africa to Latin America and the Middle East. Working in a cluster is an ideal model for the Oxfordshire Partnerships and if you are interested in forging links for a cluster of schools (Up to 8 - however cluster projects are available for smaller clusters too), please get in touch. The cluster projects will be supported by both the OIEB and the British Council and project costs will be met by accessing external (usually BC) funding.

News & Opportunities – Please contact us for more information on any of these articles

• School Linking Projects for Partnerships or Clusters

There are currently numerous opportunities for school cluster linking projects across the globe. For any clusters of schools that aren't currently involved in a curriculum project with a school in the south and are ready to get started there are immediate linking opportunities and contact seminars available for linking with **Near East** and **North Africa**, the **Middle East**, **Latin America** and the **Caribbean**. For these links the application deadline is tight so we would need to work quickly. There will be further opportunities as we begin the academic year 2009/10. If you are interested in a cluster link and feel that you can get commitment from schools and essential school information to me before the end of term or during the summer holiday, please contact me as soon as possible. nick.peters@oxfordshire.gov.uk 01865 428100

• International Study Visit Opportunity to South Africa this Summer: Saturday 1st to Saturday 15th August.

Our colleagues in South Africa would like some support from both Primary & Secondary teachers. Two teachers are to be placed in each of the schools below for two weeks. It is expected that some teaching / demonstrations will take place as well as offering support and advice. In return LECT (League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers) will provide air fares, accommodation etc. There is one secondary school and two primary schools.

➤ Newlands East Secondary, Principal: Mr Goldstone. The school is interested in obtaining support for Mathematics and English subjects in grades 6-8.

➤ Barracuda Primary School, Principal: Mr Charles Folkard. The school is interested in obtaining support for English, and a Counsellor.

➤ Ferndale Primary School, Principal: Mr Mathou. The school is interested in obtaining support for Maths and Sciences, and English (especially reading and spelling).

The visit is a wonderful opportunity to forge links with schools and colleagues overseas and to enrich and extend your own practice into international consultancy! As a result LECT are looking for experienced practitioners with the ability to share their expertise within a different context. For further details please contact nick.peters@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

• OIEB Global Partner Finding Workshops: 14.9.09 (European) & 12.10.09 (Global) 1-4pm CRC, FREE to OIEB Members / Non Members £80. Find partners around the world and get more information about available funding.

• Request for school partnerships – An Italian Secondary School in Ferrara is looking to form a partnership with a school in Oxfordshire initially to investigate culture and later exchange. This partnership might suit a Secondary School interested in developing European links and could enhance or start a Comenius project. Interested schools should contact nick.peters@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

Comenius Course

School Linking Projects in Europe

The Comenius Project Course and Global School Projects Course run by the OIEB aims to support you through the whole process: from partner finding, through forming a project and applying for funding, to making the most of your project and supporting you with reporting and dissemination. All while your project takes shape and gets off the ground! Please see the OIEB Member Service Booklet for course details and dates.

Global School Projects Course

School Linking Projects with Developing Countries

International Co-ordinator Course

Empowering, Sustainable & Raising Standards

The Co-ordinator Training Course run by the OIEB aims to develop teachers and school leaders in order that they are conversant with a wide range of funding opportunities and a developed understanding of enhancing the international dimension through curriculum support, international curriculum projects and Teachers International Professional Development. The course covers all aspects of subject management and is open to experienced co-ordinators of schools eager to use International Education to not only enrich the curriculum but to raise standards.

Please see the OIEB Member Service Booklet for course details and dates.

Please see OIEB Member Services booklet for full details of all courses for 2009/10