

# Cantatech Extended Thinkers

## Programme for Term Three

### Introduction

The programme will consist of a mix of video conference events and asynchronous online learning using Moodle and other online technologies.

The core of the programme will be based on the three "Olympics of the Minds" team based events that will use the video conference equipment to start and end the day. These events will present the students with a problem or challenge that they will have to solve by the end of the day.

Student learning will also be enriched with the development of online areas based on age. These online areas will facilitate student discussion and will enable opportunities for ongoing activities, whether teacher or student led.

### Information gathering

Schools who are interested in participating need to have students registered online by the end of this term. This will allow me to set up online areas and survey students on their interests and what they want to get out of it.

### Introductory activities - Term three, week one-two

Students will:

- Complete an online survey that identifies their interests and gives them a chance to provide input and ideas
- Create a postcard that advertises their town or region that they can then share with other students. These can be created using a computer or by hand. An online area will be developed that will allow these to be displayed (whether as a photograph or in original form) for schools and parents to access.
- all registered students (or representatives) will attend an introductory video conference on Wednesday 29th July

## 'Olympics of the Mind' Events

Key points for schools:

- A series of day long events running across a term where a team of students are presented with a problem solving task at the beginning of the day and then present their solution at the end of the day. The video conference equipment will be used to set the task and present the solution
- The first video conference will begin at 9.00 a.m and the final one at 2.00 pm
- Students will be in mixed age teams of five
- Schools can enter as many teams as they want
- A teacher will be needed to supervise the teams
- They will run on Wednesdays
- The make up of the teams is flexible so changes can be made if needed

## Online Learning

The approach to the asynchronous online learning aspect of the programme will be flexible to allow for student need. The survey of students will highlight what students want and the programme developed accordingly. It is envisaged that students will be led initially, but will then be able to direct their own learning. Most learning will be collaborative in nature and allow opportunities for students to connect with others of a like mind.

- Students will be grouped by general year levels
  - Year 1-4 / Year 5-6, year 7-8, year 9-10
  - These can be broken down again according to numbers
- Schools can enter as many students as they want
- An online area will be developed for each using Moodle
- Icebreaker activities will be set up by the eLearning leader
- Discussion questions will be posed on a weekly basis and students encouraged to participate.
- Teachers can feed suggested activities to the eLearning Leader using the Google Group
- Students can be given the opportunities to design activities for each other
- This process can evolve towards a set programme for 2010

## Key Dates

Registration completed	Friday 3rd of July
Introductory video conference	Wednesday 29th July
Olympics of the Mind One	Wednesday 5th August
Olympics of the Mind Two	Wednesday 26th August
Olympics of the Mind Three	Wednesday 23rd September

