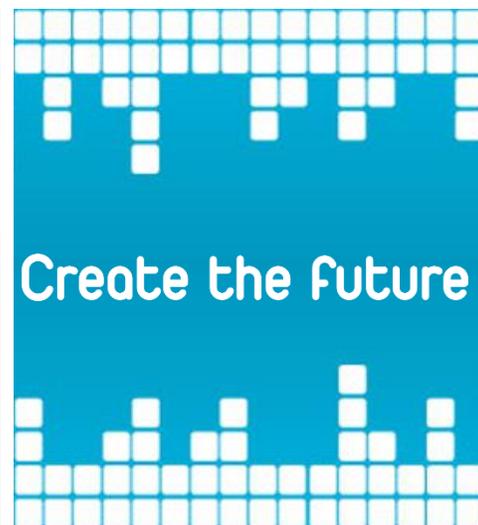




WORKING WITH THE NEXT GENERATION OF DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURS



APRIL 2014 NOTICES

Letter from Principal, Shaun McInerney

Dear Parents/Carers,

The end of another productive term has arrived, and we have had the pleasure of hosting a wide variety of inspiring visitors. We consistently receive positive feedback praising the maturity and focus of our students and how enthusiastic they are about the projects they are working on, and this term has been no exception.

Being a Studio student is a privilege because of the extraordinary opportunities they have which expose them to the digital economy and help them find their place within it. We have had visits from Ben Barton CEO of Zondle – a market leading educational app development company who wants our students to work with him. New partnerships are being forged, including with Shop Direct that will enable us to widen our students' focus into digital retail. Some Year 10 students have visited Balliol College in Oxford to inspire them to start their journey to the world's best universities. Other students are already starting their own businesses and getting professional advice with this. Our students have created a Minecraft exhibition installed in FACT as part of the Cloudmaker project. We have had trips to the International Animation festival at Teeside University and local trips to museums to support students' personal development. These opportunities inspire our students to set their sights high and encourage them to achieve everything they are capable of.

You should have already received your child's latest academic report, please make sure you go through it with them so that they can explain carefully what they have been doing and how they intend to act on any advice within it. It is important that we work together to support them to be their best. Please ensure that students make good use of their time over the Easter break to catch up on any outstanding work and to revise for their exams that start when we return.

Yours,

Shaun McInerney
Principal

Staff Training Day

We have a Staff Training Day on Tuesday 22nd April, so students are due to start back after Easter on Wednesday 23rd April.

Studio Planning for Next Year

Our student and staff recruitment has been a great success and we are finalising plans to enable us to double in size next year. If you know any students in year 9 who would benefit from joining us, please let them know. We have regular Open Evenings and details are on our website.

Attendance & Punctuality

Overall attendance has significantly improved, but there are still a select number of parents who are not ensuring that their children are with us every day, on time. With their report you will have received your son/daughter's attendance, so please take time to go through this with them to account for any missed days and check if they are above or below the target of 96%. If they are below please ensure you develop a habit of 100% attendance through next term.

Stay In Touch

You can keep up to date with all Studio news by following us on Facebook and Twitter:

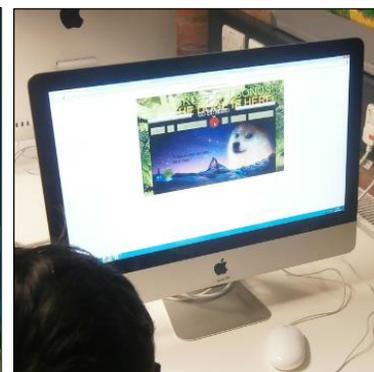
[Facebook.com/TheStudioLiverpool](https://www.facebook.com/TheStudioLiverpool)

[Twitter.com/LpoolStudio](https://twitter.com/LpoolStudio)

Student Achievements

Our students have been working hard throughout the Spring term on a variety of different projects, through a combination of enrichment activities and lesson time. Three of our year 10 students developed and published their own game 'Floppy Bird' for Windows platforms, and it has already had an incredible 100,000 downloads! Well done to Jordan, Charlie and Adam for their app success!

Student team Box Art have also had a great term, being given a publishing offer by their industry mentor for their game Rocket Ronnie. The team's mentor was so impressed by the prototype that he has said he will help the team publish the game once it is finished.



And finally, the April Research & Development showcase was won by student development team Llama Pizza, for their innovative game Extreme Ping Pong. The team worked hard to overcome a game breaking bug which had brought their project to a halt, and so earned their title as winners of the showcase.

Congratulations to all our students who have been working on various projects this term. We are consistently blown away by the talent and dedication our students are showing, and can't wait to see what they have to show us next term!

World Merit Day

This term The Studio hosted the launch of the first ever World Merit Day, inviting visitors from across Liverpool to celebrate the upcoming event. This summer, World Merit Day will act as a finale for the International Festival of Business, which is set to be the largest global concentration of business events targeting young people in 2014. Being held on 24th July at Liverpool Echo Arena, attendees will be invited to experience a one-of-a-kind festival blending music and entertainment with entrepreneurial workshops, hosted by the World Merit team.

To celebrate, The Studio opened its doors to visitors including the Lord Mayor of Liverpool and the CEO and founder of World Merit, Chris Arnold. Chris spoke passionately about the work he is doing with World Merit to allow young people to make

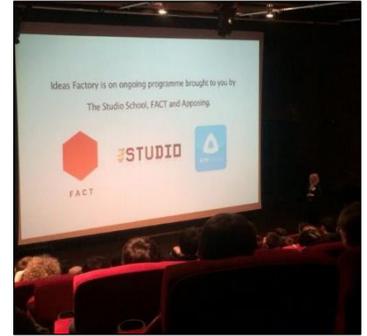


changes to their lives through the use of the inspirational programme that combines business with creativity. We hope our students were inspired by the event and speakers, and hope to see them getting involved with World Merit Day this July!

BBC Ideas Factory Visit

Rt Hon John Bercow MP Speaker of the House of Commons and the BBC News team visited The Studio to see what our current students and visitors have been working on as part of the Ideas Factory series. The series of events aims to encourage young people to pursue careers in the creative sector, focusing on three distinctive pathways; coding, creativity and entrepreneurship. Local development studios are hosting a variety of Pop-Up App Studios, allowing attendees to come up with their own concepts and ideas for an educational app that could help students in their day to day school lives.

Studio Principal Shaun McInerney welcomed Mr Bercow and gave him a tour of our innovative learning space, allowing him to meet with various students and visitors working on their educational mobile applications as part of Ideas Factory. They spent the morning in the Mac Suite, talking to students about their career plans and which specific pathways they are interested in pursuing. He also had a chance to sample some of the work our students have been creating during lesson time and their enrichment programmes.

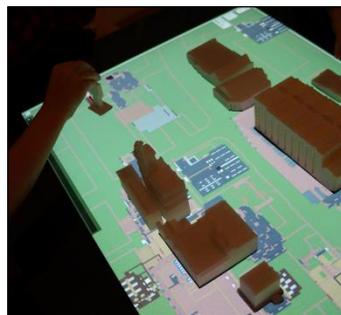


Minecraft - A Powerful Learning Platform

This term our students worked hard to test some of the ideas and processes that will go on to form a learning resource for other school children to use. Through the Minecraft Cloudmaker project they learnt about the design process by used 3D printing, Minecraft and programming to consider how to redevelop a collection of disused buildings and land close to their school.

Studio teacher Ceredig Cattanach-Chell said;

“The goal of Cloudmaker is to provide tools and teaching materials which make it easy to use Minecraft as a platform for collaborative design between young people. We have achieved this through a process of working together called ‘co-design’ which access the tacit skills and knowledge of teachers, students, researchers, artists and developers to create something none of us could have created alone.”



Looking Forward...

The term theme is:
'What Enhances our Creativity'

The term CREATE theme is:
Communication

Students will learn to convey information and ideas so that it is received and understood by others.

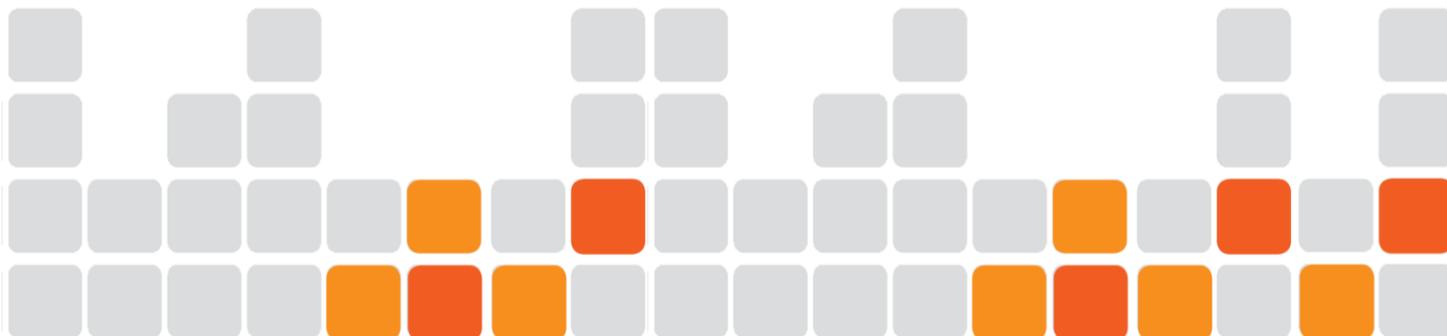
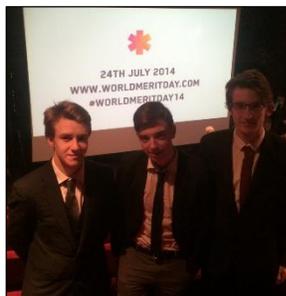
Join us for a Creativity Focus Day on Friday 23rd May



Parent Focus Group

We held a Parent Focus Group meeting on Thursday 27th March in which we reviewed our Behaviour Policy and presented proposals that would enable students to bring their own digital devices into school. We also got very useful feedback about a technology leasing scheme and will give you more details of this next term. This group meets 3 times a year to consider policies and ways we can work together to improve students' learning and achievement.

If you would like to be part of this Parent Focus Group in the Summer term please contact Peter Webb at P.Webb@thestudio-liverpool.co.uk.



THE STUDIO

Term Dates 2013-2014

Start of Summer Term: 22nd April 2014
 CPD – No Students – 22nd April 2014
 Students Return – 23rd April 2014
 May Half Term: 23rd May – 1st June 2014
 End of Summer Term: 25th July 2014

Term Dates 2014-2015

Autumn Term 2014
 Starts: Tuesday 2nd September
 October Half Term: Monday 27th to Friday 31st October
 Ends: Friday 19th December

Spring Term 2015
 Starts: Monday 5th January
 February Half term: Monday 16th to Friday 20th February
 Ends: Thursday 2nd April 2015

Summer Term 2015
 Starts: Monday 20th April
 May Day: Monday 4th May
 May Half Term: Monday 25th to Friday 29th May
 Ends: Tuesday 21st July 2015