

North Lakes School

triumphs with FrogLearn at Golden
Apple Education Awards 2017



North Lakes School in Penrith have been announced as winners of the prestigious CN Media Golden Apple Education Awards 2017, for the **'Best Use of Technology'** with Frog Learn.

Martyn Soulsby, a teacher at the school and member of their Leadership and Management Team, invited Frog to the school to see if they could help take the school into the future by replacing their outdated VLE. Mr Soulsby talks to us about his Frog Learn experience, and shares how Frog Learn helped North Lakes to become an award winning school.

The beginning

"Our new staff dashboard, launched in September, is already reducing workload and contributing to staff wellbeing – the forms, polls, file sharing widgets are popular tools."

Martyn Soulsby

Before Frog Learn, we'd been using Moodle as our school's VLE, and as time passed we realised we needed something that could offer more and provide greater personalisation and independent learning for the school. North Lakes is a very creative school and we needed something to help enable that. I'd heard of Frog at several technology events but didn't know much about them; so I decided to take the plunge and invite them to our school to find out more. We've now been working in partnership with Frog for 3 years and have a great relationship with Frog. The whole team is just brilliant to work with as they help us go from strength to strength as we develop it across our school (and beyond) and unlock more of its potential.



For example, in July of last year, to celebrate the Centenary of the Battle of the Somme, we paired with a school in France to collaborate, share work, history and ideas which culminated with the students traveling to France to take part in the Ceremony and contribute to a 'mini museum' exhibited at Amiens. This was a big project for us, so we set up a site on Frog Learn specifically for the Somme project. By doing so we had a safe space for the children to share thoughts and ideas about things they'd found out about the First World War. We were also able to collaborate with other partners such as the Cumbria Museum of Military Life, who could login and share and contribute to the children's stories and ideas.

***Frog** gives us a safe space for the children to share thoughts and ideas.*

The Frog Learn platform was great in helping facilitate communications between the students in France with ourselves; we issued the French students with logins so they could easily create and share resources on the site and collaborate with our students at North Lakes. They also had a private section of the site in which they could discuss what they were learning about the war in England internally. The whole project was a great experience for all the students, and Frog Learn was able to give the project

Evidence capture with FrogSnap



“Frog has transformed the way we do things in our school by **personalising learning and collaboration**, enabling us to design and make unique content for our learning. We are now developing this beyond learning and using FrogLearn as an everyday tool – from admin, to parents”

Martyn Soulsby

a greater level of collaboration between the schools than perhaps would otherwise have been possible.

Frog Learn has now become an integral part in the way we work as a school. When our students went on a theatre trip to to the musical Mary Poppins, they were able to share the experience on our Frog forum page, in which they could post pictures with the cast, share their research links and discuss what they learned in a completely safe and controlled environment. This social, interactive and collaborative approach to learning is a great advantage to the students, and something that is made simple with Frog Learn.

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As a Philosophy for Children Gold Award school, we have developed online enquiries for our pupils at class, year group and whole school level. We've also noticed that it can be great for those pupils who don't feel confident contributing to class discussions; often they'll go home and log into Frog, and start to share their views there instead. This was particularly evident in our London Calling site where children were able to talk about their

Polls and Comment Walls

YHA St Pauls

How would you rate this your accomodation? Please leave comments on the wall below if you would like to...

<input type="radio"/>	0 votes
<input type="radio"/>	3 votes
<input type="radio"/>	7 votes
<input type="radio"/>	20 votes
<input type="radio"/>	33 votes
<input type="radio"/>	52.38%

Please use this space to make comments about this experience

Post a message on the wall...

100 Mile Challenge

Home | 100 Mile Discussion Wall | 100 Mile FrogSnap | **Progress Polls**

Milestone Miles 5, 10, 25 & 50 | Milestone Miles 75 & 100

100 Mile Progress Poll - 26th June 2017

How far have you progressed in the 100 Mile Challenge so far...

<input type="radio"/>	0 - 5 miles	4 votes	10.81%
<input type="radio"/>	6 - 10 miles	0 votes	0%
<input type="radio"/>	11 - 20 miles	0 votes	0%
<input type="radio"/>	21 - 30 miles	1 vote	2.70%
<input type="radio"/>	31 - 40 miles	1 vote	2.70%
<input type="radio"/>	41 - 50 miles	3 votes	7.73%

My Notes

Every two weeks we will be carrying out a progress survey - make sure you record your progress!

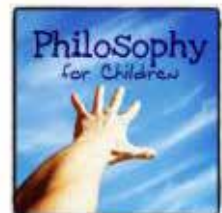
London Residential prior to departure, then afterwards they were able to evaluate and reminisce through what was effectively our own version of TripAdvisor.

Frog is so flexible that we use it for almost everything we do!

It's so well ingrained and embedded within the school now, that we use it for almost everything! For instance, the students participated in the Cumbria 100 Mile Challenge, in which they had to walk 100 miles over a certain period of time and would be awarded a certificate at the end. This was good, but I thought 'there must be a way of making this more interactive?' So, after discussion with our PE Subject Lead, I built a page on Frog Learn and invited the students to update it regularly with any activity they'd done for the challenge, as well as what they'd liked about it and so on. Then they were issued with certificates for each milestone, to help them to stay motivated. This is something we never could have been able to do without Frog Learn, but it really enhanced the experience for the students.

We've simply found that Frog is a great way of making everyday learning

Learn Sites for projects



London Calling

Y5&6 London Calling 2017

Location >

Transport >

Residential >

Links >

The London Eye Mystery >

P4C Discussions >

Singing >

Make your own London Landmarks >

Rivers >

London FrogSnap! >

Y5 U Dance - London >

LONDON CALLING



"It's taken a lot of planning but we now reach out to parents that we hadn't been able to before - Our Parent Portal has been a huge success with **95% engagement** by parents and carers."

Martyn Soulsby

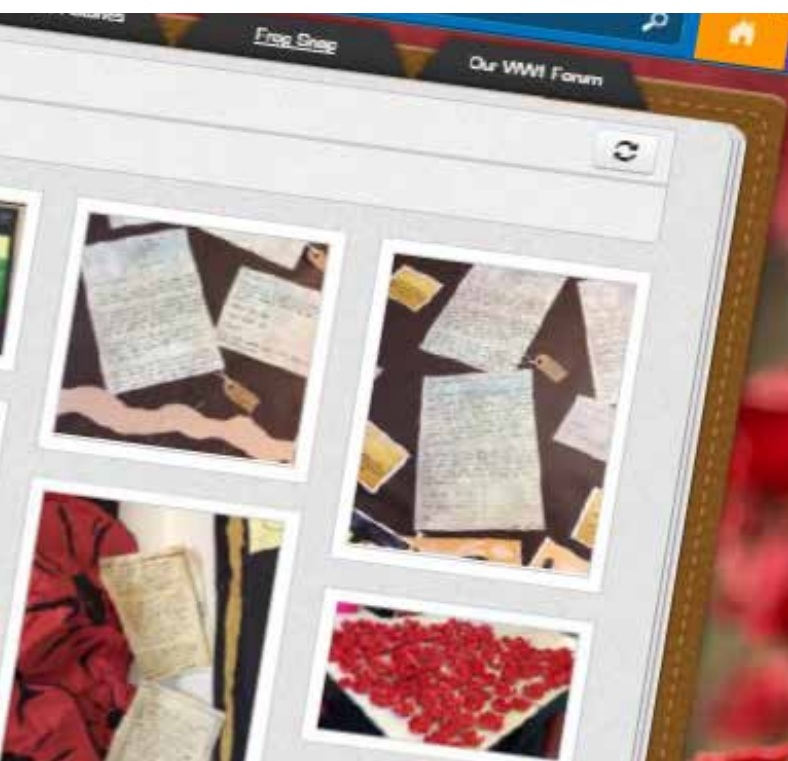
more interactive and collaborative. It's so easy to evidence learning, and share the work you're doing with students. It's gone from being a tool just for students to being something for staff, pupils and even governors and parents use, with us developing things like the NLS Parent Portal, a bespoke page on Frog Learn. This page will enable better communication with parents and help them stay up to date with what their children are doing, as well as news about schools events and keeping abreast of administration documents.

"In the pipeline – A new governor portal is already in the pipeline with a Local Area Heads Hub site also in development – this will help to demonstrate and showcase the potential of Frog across others schools in our locality and develop collaboration."

Martyn Soulsby

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All this is far more than we ever thought Frog Learn could be when we first started looking for something to replace our old VLE, and our winning the Golden Apple Award is a testament to that. We couldn't have imagined then how Frog would change the way we approach teaching and learning. It's helped to foster a real sense of community within the school, ensuring that we're all better connected. The best bit? The fact that it's still growing and evolving, and I can't wait to see how we'll be using it in the years to come.



frog

