

OLPC Bulletin



Edition 1, May 2009



“Welcome to our first bulletin. We hope you will enjoy this snapshot of our progress and become involved in this initiative; designed to help Indigenous children in remote areas realise their potential through education.”

Rangan Srikhanta, Executive Director, OLPC Australia



The Latest

- 400 great kids in Australia's north now have XO laptops to help them open a window to the world
- Three schools - Rawa Community School in WA, Shepherdson College and Newcastle Waters in NT - have grabbed this opportunity for their kids
 - Two homeland schools (part of Rawa and Shepherdson) are now also fitted with laptops and education software
 - One mobile school is also now equipped with XO laptops to reach more children on Elcho Island
- 20 teachers have been trained to use the laptops with more than 100 educational activities, and are spreading the word among their communities
- OLPC Australia's website (www.laptop.org.au) has had a facelift to better reflect our Australian focus and our progress

Rollout Progress



A student of Rawa Community School (WA) learning on the XO laptop.



Schools

003



Laptops

400

What's Happening

- OLPC Australia's Indigenous program has been recognised by the prestigious SBS Foundation, winning free air time on the TV station to help encourage corporate, community and political support for our initiative
- We welcome Professor Barry Vercoe who is helping us to train teachers and children while on sabbatical from MIT
- Look for news on the formal launch of our Australian program to be held on May 27 at Shepherdson College in NT. The school, local community and founding partner Commonwealth Bank will join us and other corporate supporters and government representatives to mark the occasion
- Look for news of events to be held mid-year to introduce OLPC to the corporate community and again raise our profile with government and other stakeholders

Making Reconciliation a Reality

“OLPC has given our people the opportunity to be directly involved in a standout program – we are raising funds, helping with the roll-out of the laptops to some of the most remote schools in Australia and ensuring ongoing technical support is provided. The initiative is an important way to help bring the Bank's Reconciliation Plan to life.”

Michael Harte, Group Executive
Commonwealth Bank

Founding Partner



Supporting Partners

