



NCHENZ Quarterly Newsletter

September 2015

Dear NCHENZ Member,

Welcome to our quarterly update.

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Quick Links

Check out last month's popular blog post about creating **home education yearbooks** for your family [here](#).

Need some tips and ideas from other home educators on how to **get some time out** while being with children 24/7, read more [here](#).

What does a **typical day** look like for a variety of home educating families? Click [here](#).

Maths-Whizz starts 24th September, \$52 per child, one year subscription, follows NZ Curriculum, more info [here](#) - close off date for enrolments is 20th September.

Reading Eggs for Term 4 is \$7 per child, expiry 28th February 2016 (you will be able to renew at that stage for a year if wanted), more details [here](#).

Mathletics for Term 4 is \$19.50 per child, expiry 28th February 2016 (you will be able to renew at that stage for a year if wanted) - a great way to check out the program for just a term [here](#).

Spellodrome is \$15.75 for Term 4, click [here](#).

See **resource links** on the NCHENZ website - [literacy](#); [maths and statistics](#); [science/environment](#); [social studies, history, geography, languages](#); [technology/applied science](#); [household skills](#); [all-in-one curricula](#); [teen specific](#).

Minutes Secretary Vacancy

Have you considered joining the NCHENZ Team?

We have an opening for a Minutes Secretary as one of our committee members is stepping down from this role to devote more time to another role within the committee.

Full instructions and guidance will be provided. Attendance at our online monthly meetings is essential. An estimate of the time required for this role is about 6-8 hours per month including the meeting.

If this sounds like you, email us [here](#).

Member Resources

Did you know that we are posting regular resource posts on both the NCHENZ group, and the NCHENZ – National Council Home Educators New Zealand page, on Facebook? We post about all kinds of subjects, themes, and resources, pouring over the internet looking for free homeschooling aids to share with you all. This month, one of the best finds we had was a full primary science curriculum, completely FREE for a limited number of sign ups for a full year! Their promotion has now finished, BUT you can still sign up for the remainder of this school year for FREE! Click [here](#) - to secure your spot by signing up, and enjoy all the video lessons for free!

Don't forget to check in on the group or NCHENZ page on Facebook each day to see all the new resource posts.

Government Liaison

by Meredith Connolly

EXEMPTION FORM and APPLICATION PROCESS

The draft for the new application form is coming along, with MOE trying very hard to make it easier to understand while at the same time non-prescriptive. They are intending to add in a lot more reasoning behind each question, which takes away the guess work of what it is that they

are asking for...and why.

If you are submitting an application, the processing time MOE are working towards is 4-6 weeks from the time they receive it, regardless of the child's age.

Please contact us if this is not happening.

RESOURCES

We are working hard on gaining earlier access to Te Kura from NCEA1.

MOE sees the value in this but it is not as easy as saying "yes you can have it!" in order for it to happen. This will require policy change which all takes time, and also requires staff, who are already overworked, to take on the task of heading this change.

NCHENZ is going to write a letter of support to this change, to the Secretary of Education noting all of the benefits of allowing free access from NCEA1. A few extra letters from fellow Home Educators wouldn't go amiss.

If you would like to join us in this please email peter.hughes@education.govt.nz.

Please make it as positive as you can with as many reasons why it would be a great idea.

HEADS UP

Next year there will be a review of the Education Act. This is not intended to scare the living daylight out of everyone...but just a heads up. Watch this space!

LEOTC Providers

The Ministry funds different organisations to provide "Learning Experiences Outside of The Classroom". These are technically for groups/schools that follow the NZC but there is some leeway in this as alternative schools such as Steiner and Montessori are also able to access these activities.

It's usually available on a 'first come, first serve' basis as they don't have unlimited funding. If there is an activity that you would like to organise for one of your local groups, under the LEOTC scheme, approach the provider in the first instance and ask them about needed group size, ages etc. Taking Home Ed groups is not "business as usual" for some providers so they may not be aware that our groups can also be included within their funding.

Ultimately providers have discretion, but if they are helped to understand that kids are kids..often they'll come around.

Feel free to contact [me](#) if you are hitting any brick walls with a provider and I'll be happy to follow it up.

Calling All Home Education Groups - Joining is now Free!!

by Debbie Thomas

At the 2015 AGM the Group Membership was brought in to line with Individual Membership and became free. We would love your group to join us. Click [here](#).

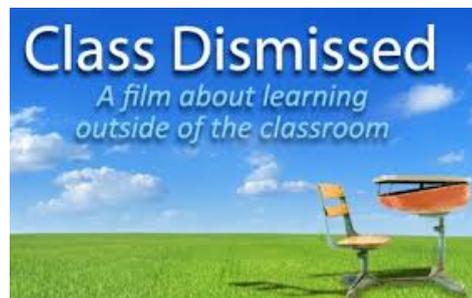
We've purchased the screening rights for the recent Home Education documentary "Class Dismissed" and are offering it to each region if they'd like to organise a viewing for their local group or region. Our member groups will have priority but this opportunity is open to all.

Member groups = \$20 + \$10 refundable bond. (Heavily subsidised)

All other groups = \$48 + \$10 refundable bond. (At cost).

This includes a return postage and packaging.

We have ONE DVD which cost NCHENZ \$380 to purchase. If this DVD is damaged or lost we will not be able to justify replacing it so we would expect any damage or replacement to be covered by the group responsible.



A couple of conditions:

- As screenings are limited we would encourage your group to include/invite as many people as possible to attend;
- Acknowledge and make available some small fliers with information about NCHENZ (that we will provide); and
- If you are making a profit from the event, that you consider donating a portion of the profits back to Jeremy Stuart, the creator of Class Dismissed (NCHENZ is happy to facilitate this).

Email info@nchenz.org.nz for further details.

Membership Renewals

by Tanya Vivier

Thank you to all the members who have updated their details. You won't be required to update your details again until later next year or unless any of your details have changed.

A friendly reminder to the members who have yet to update their details, you have until 30 September 2015. Failing to do so will mean that you might lose out on being a registered member, resulting in missing out on some of our great deals, important news and updates and any other information that might be relevant to you.

Please click [here](#) to update your details.

About NCHENZ

Set up in 1998 for the purpose of [advancing the cause of home education](#) in NZ at a national level, NCHENZ is the only national homeschooling body in New Zealand. NCHENZ is a neutral

organisation with no affiliation to any political or religious groups. NCHENZ is run by an elected [Executive Committee](#) who volunteer their time for the benefit of NZ home educators. If you are not yet a member of NCHENZ please join, it's free - [just go to our website](#).

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