



LLITUP NEWS

ISSUE 1 • FEBRUARY 2020

The learning edition



Back from left to right: Samuel Mampa, Annèl van Rooyen and Gontse Mthelebofu. **Front:** Jody Joubert

NEW LLITUPIANS

New team members on board for 2020

Mr Samuel Mampa and Mrs Annèl van Rooyen have joined the LLITUP team this year. Samuel is doing his BEd Honours and Annèl her MEd, both in CIE. The new LLITUPIans, along with Jody and Gontse, hope to be of great assistance to any lab visitors.

"We strive to contribute innovative ideas to the LLITUP lab." -Samuel and Annèl

LLITUP NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER TEAM

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E-VENTS

Introductory coding and robotics workshop for first year Education students

The coding and robotics club kicked off for 2020 on Friday, 21st of February. This club meeting was aimed at first year education students. Except for the first years attending the session, the LLITUPians also took part in the fun. Every team had to create an innovative story using all the possible movements of the Bee-bots. After completing their stories, students assessed each others' work. Students shared their thoughts on how Bee-bots can be used for a variety of classroom activities.



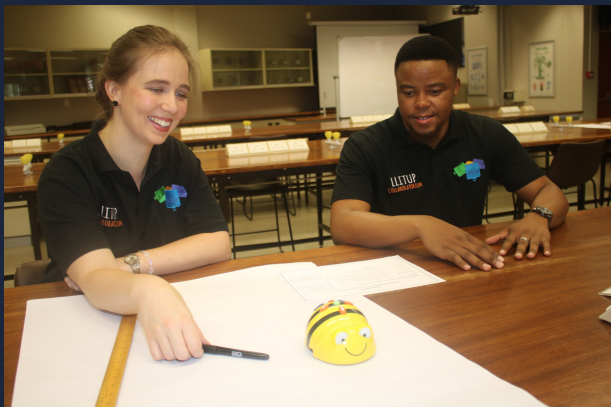
GALLERY



First years planning their Bee-bots story



Gontse and Jody actively participating



Annèl and Samuel enjoying the Bee-bots



Professor Callaghan guiding the students in using the Bee-bots



FROGGY'S TECH CORNER

The MaxHub X3 collaborative interactive display

Compiled by Annèl van Rooyen

The first technological innovation that paid a visit to LLITUP this year was the MaxHub X3 collaborative interactive display. For one week, the LLITUPians experimented with its features and possibilities. Only after our initial exploration, did some SMTE staff members attend a demonstration by the device provider.

Here are some comments from the staff members:

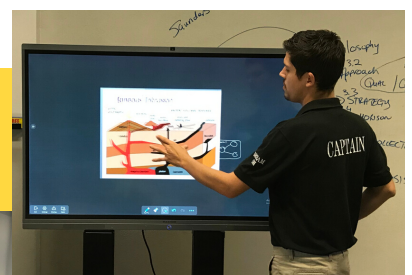
- The MaxHub 55" slimline is a good equivalent of the more popular SMART products.
- The screen is not too big and easy to move.
- It is advantageous that the screen, when not mounted, can be adjusted to the individual teacher's height.
- The board's compatibility with Microsoft Windows makes it user-friendly.
- The device can easily connect to other devices (e.g. other PCs and smart phones).
- Four devices' screens can be displayed simultaneously via screen-casting.
- The connectivity between the board and other devices is explained step-by-step on-screen, making it quick and easy to use.
- Once connected, a smart phone can easily be used as remote control for the device.
- The board's video call feature which can be used to show documents and make notes while talking, as well as the option to record conversations, is very helpful.

In terms of 21st century learning and teaching, MaxHub's features to connect to more than one venue and to different locations promise to enhance collaboration across time and space. Furthermore, it enables lecturers/teachers to work within an active learning and modular approach.

At this stage, this interactive whiteboard is still on the more expensive side of LTSMs. A concern was raised regarding the device's ability to withstand the abuse of school and public display.

Attendees included Jody Joubert, Gontse Mthelebofu and Annèl van Rooyen from the lab along with Dr Maryke Mihai and Lindiwe Mokotjo, SMTE staff members. Overall, it was an enjoyable, insightful experience for all.

Right: Jody playing with the board's functions



Left:
Demonstration of the board



OUR 2020 VISION



This year, our vision is **LEAP**.
This acronym stands for Learn,
Empower, Activate and Play