



REAL SPECIAL TIMES



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Real Special News

Welcome to the last Real Special newsletter of 2008 – a big thank you to all our subscribers and customers. We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and new year. Although we are still working over the summer holidays there will be no newsletter during the January holiday so the next issue will be February



Free Christmas draw

The names of all customers placing an order between 1st December until Friday 19th December will be put in a free draw to win a pack of Scotch / Post It items (including Christmas Post Its!)



The winner will be notified by phone and email and the result will be published in our February newsletter.

New Products – 2 free trials!

Mathbase 2 and Mathbase 6 can both be downloaded for free and used until the end of January 2009 (the download will stop automatically at that time).

All Mathbase software has the instructions in both English and French.

MathBase2 includes:

- One more and one less
- Doubling and halving
- Squaring and square rooting
- Mental addition and subtraction
- Partitions of numbers
- Counting in 2's, 5's, 10's etc
- Ordering numbers
- Rounding numbers
- Place value in the context of calculation
- Missing number problems and equations

Mathbase 6 includes:

- Further basic skills in addition and subtraction
- Smallest and largest
- Mental multiplication and division
- Integer division
- Prime numbers and factors
- Multiplication and division by 10, 100 & 1000
- Order of operations and expanding brackets

When you do wish to purchase, each home user version is only \$56 (inc GST), School single user version \$135 (inc GST) See our website sections - Maths Primary or Free Stuff for free trial downloads.



Featured websites



<http://www.hectorsworld.com/>

Hectors World is a netsafe information site. It has free puzzles, colour in story books, and fun but educational cartoons to help kids learn about safely using the internet. Each section has downloadable colourings and story text to reinforce the onscreen messages. e.g. don't give out personal details.

Another part of the hector programme is the Hector's World Safety Button™ to help children/students aged 3–10 stay safe while online, (also available in te reo Māori).



The freely downloaded file installs a swimming Hector's World™ character in the upper right-hand corner of the computer screen. The button is a child-activated safety tool which children can use if something on screen upsets or worries them. A child can just click on Hector (or one of his friends) who then covers the screen with an underwater scene and gives the child a positive written message for clicking on the character, while encouraging them to get adult help.

<https://www.blogger.com/start>

Blogs seem to be everywhere, but what actually are they? In simple terms, a blog is a web site where you write stuff on an ongoing basis, post your photos, etc. New stuff shows up at the top, so your visitors can read it, then they can comment on it, link to it, email you etc.

If you want to set up a blog account (perhaps to tell everyone about your adventures over the coming summer holidays!) you can get this all for **FREE** from Google.



www.allfreecrafts.com

'All free crafts' has over 1000 original crafts, free craft projects and easy homemade gift ideas. The free crafts include photos and how-to instructions so you learn new craft ideas and enjoy great results.

There are lots of different categories, so if you are looking for some Christmas craft ideas for the holidays, this website has some great ones. This cute snowman is made from a recycled CD and a juice lid!



Edith the poodle

Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot. As you can see I am getting ready for the Christmas parties with my lovely red dress with holly wreath pattern.



Over the summer holidays I have found a hobby for my mum - knitting me some new jumpers (I am sure it will take her so long that the winter will be back again!) There are some great patterns on the Wellington SPCA website – one for a puppy jumper (just my size), another for girl dogs and a different one for boy dogs. The patterns are free to download (see link below). This photo shows how the puppy jumper looks when it is finished.



<http://www.wellingtonspca.org.nz/documents/Puppyjumperpatternv2.pdf>

The Wellington SPCA are trying to raise \$7 million dollars to move into new premises with an education wing that will allow up to 160 schoolchildren to visit at a time to learn about caring

for animals. The SPCA do not receive any government or lottery funding so rely on fundraising. In case you are still looking for some ideas for Christmas they sell Christmas cards, calendars, and a whole range of merchandise.

Just for fun

More duck jokes from Edith (maybe she got them from a Christmas cracker!):

Q: What do you get when you cross a rooster with a duck?

A: A bird that gets up at the quack of dawn

Q: What did the evil duck lay?

A: Deviled eggs

Q: If fruit comes from a fruit tree, what kind of tree does a duck come from?

A: Poul-tree

Sudoku for December

Each line must have the numbers 1 – 9, no number may be used twice in a line or square. Good luck - solution on P4.

			2	7	8	4
	9			1	7	
4				6 8		1 5
		3			9	8 7
1		9				4 2
7	6		5			9
9	4		8	5		
		1		2		6
5		7	6		3	

Easy recipe - Banoffi Pie

This recipe came off the back a tin of Highlander condensed milk – it is a favourite of our family and is perfect for any celebration, especially Christmas and New Year.



Ingredients:

Base

150g butter
250g packet of crushed gingernut biscuits

Topping

125g butter
395g can condensed milk
2 tbsp golden syrup
300ml cream whipped
2 bananas
Chocolate (grated or shaved)

Method:

Base

Melt the butter over medium heat and stir in the crushed gingernut biscuits. Press into the base and sides of a greased 20cm loose-base flan tin.

Refrigerate until firm, approximately 45 minutes.

Topping

Combine the butter, sweetened condensed milk and golden syrup in a saucepan, stirring over medium heat until boiling.

Reduce the heat and stir constantly for 5 minutes only (more than this makes it too solid).

Spread this caramel topping over the base and refrigerate for 30 minutes or until firm.

Slice the bananas and spread in a layer over the caramel topping.

Cover with the whipped cream and decorate with shaved or grated chocolate.

Sudoku solution from page 3

6	1	5	2	3	7	8	9	4
3	9	8	4	1	5	7	2	6
4	7	2	9	6	8	3	1	5
2	5	3	1	4	9	6	8	7
1	8	9	3	7	6	4	5	2
7	6	4	5	8	2	9	3	1
9	4	6	8	5	1	2	7	3
8	3	1	7	2	4	5	6	9
5	2	7	6	9	3	1	4	8

Orders

To order any of the items featured in our newsletter, please go to www.realspecial.co.nz or email carole@realspecial.co.nz **Postage:** \$5 per order **Subscription notice.** You have received this free newsletter because you have requested to subscribe to it – thank you. We respect your privacy so none of your details will be passed to other agencies. If you have received this newsletter in error or do not wish to receive future editions, please email: newsletter@realspecial.co.nz to unsubscribe or phone us on 03 540 2804 and we will arrange this for you. We welcome your feedback - if you have any comments or contributions for the newsletter, you can also contact us via the same email address or phone number.