



COMMONWEALTH BANK \$5000 E-LEARNING GRANTS: PRIMARY SCHOOLS URGED TO APPLY

Sydney, 11 April 2003: The Commonwealth Bank is again inviting all primary schools across Australia to apply for one of 70 grants of \$5000 to help in the development of literacy and numeracy skills through an on-line project.

The Commonwealth Bank's Chief Executive Officer, David Murray, said the Bank was heartened by the success of the inaugural e-learning grants program last year.

"We were very impressed by the creativity and innovation shown by the primary schools that participated," Mr Murray said. "The wide range and high quality of the applications was outstanding."

"One reason why the schools were so responsive is that e-learning is a new and developing method of learning and teaching. The Bank's support of schools through the grants will help teachers and students implement and develop e-learning in their schools."

The Bank wants to recognise and encourage the increasingly important role played by on-line initiatives in helping develop essential literacy and numeracy skills amongst school-aged children."

The grants are available in conjunction with National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2003 and were developed by the Bank in consultation with the Department of Education, Science and Training and all major education departments and authorities, including Government, Catholic and Independent.

The e-learning grants were offered for the first time in 2002, with a total of 1300 applications received. The number of grants (70) remains the same in 2003.

Applications are being sent to all primary schools for lodgement between 28 April and the closing date of 6 June 2003. Information about how to apply is available at commbank.com.au/elearninggrants

Successful schools will be announced at the launch of National Literacy and Numeracy Week on 29 August 2003.

ENDS

For further Information:

Paul Rea
Executive Manager, Media & Community
Group Corporate Relations
Tel (02) 9378 5965 or Mob 0416 073 730
Email reapn@cba.com.au