



## e-Newsletter 41

### Programme Updates

#### **SFI Discover - Welcome back!**

Welcome back to what we presume will be a very busy year! By now, your 'Welcome Back Pack', which includes a wall planner and information about the SFI Discover Science and Maths Awards, should have reached you. If not, please contact [primaryscience@sfi.ie](mailto:primaryscience@sfi.ie) to request a pack. Each year we are amazed by the incredible science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) work happening in schools like yours.

Our newsletter provides a quick update with what's happening so take a few minutes to check out what's happening in STEM all over the country.

#### **SFI Discover Science and Maths Award**

Last year we presented 549 schools with SFI Discover Science & Maths Awards and we hope even more schools will apply for the recognition they deserve in 2016. Schools tell us that, as well as recognition, the Award brings a range of benefits; it provides a structure for STEM work, raises the profile of science in the school and among parents and increases whole school collaboration.

Registration for our CPD closed on September 18th. This year, we will work with 50 schools by delivering three, two hour workshops. These workshops follow the theme of Mighty Materials, Falling Things and Journey into Space. For more information about our CPD [click here](#).

# ESERO

## World Space Week

[World Space Week 2015](#), happening 4th - 10th of October, highlights the great era of deep space discovery that we are in. More than 1,400 events in 80 countries celebrated the benefits of space and excitement about space exploration in 2014. This year's theme "Discovery" aims to inspire even more events around the world in October 2015. Visit <http://esero.ie/news-item/world-space-week-2015/> for further details including exciting events, CPD and space related classroom activities.

## National STEM Weeks

### Maths Week 2015

The 10th annual Maths Week Ireland will take place this year from the 10th-18th October. For school workshops and a wide range of activity suggestions for classes of all ability levels and sizes visit [our new webpage](#), where you can also find details of registering this activity to be in with the chance of winning fantastic prizes.

### Science Week 2015

This year, Science Week is 20 years old. Science Week 2015 takes place from the 8th to 15th November. Why not celebrate by hosting your own Science Week Party on the 13th of November? Download your free Science Week Party pack [here](#) (this webpage will be active tomorrow, 30th September) and share your celebrations using #ScienceWeek Party on the day!

Check out [our new webpage](#) for the latest news and events happening nationwide as well as exciting cross curricular resources for each day of Science Week.

## Discover Centres

Discover Primary Science & Maths has a network of over 50 Science Centres with approved workshops and/or outreach resources. Check out these for what's happening in your area:

### Imaginosity

Imaginosity have a range of educational workshops for schools on offer throughout the year, including a play based approach to STEM and hands on science experiments. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Lifetime Lab

Lifetime Lab present MathsWork, a series of hands on fun maths based activities covering multiplication, symmetry, problem solving and transformations. [Click here](#) for more details on how to secure a visit to your school.

As part of Science Week 2015, Lifetime Lab are holding a Lifetime Lab / ISTA Primary Science Week Quiz on Tuesday, 10th November. Register your team [here](#) before Wednesday 21st October.

## Galway Atlantaquaria

October is Maths month at Galway Atlantaquaria and they will be holding a range of maths workshops throughout the month for 1st – 6th class students. For more information on modules covered and on how to book your place, [click here](#) for more information.

## Tralee Bay Wetlands

[In our latest video](#) we head south to see children from Moyderwell Mercy Primary School visit Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre, for a DPSM workshop.

Watch as the children learn through hands-on investigation about how wetlands support biodiversity, provide clean water and protect us against drought and floods. While pond dipping and walking on the wetlands the children examine pond skaters and other mini-beasts in their natural surroundings and even get to meet a bank vole!

To find out more visit <http://www.traleebaywetlands.org/>

## Partner organisations

### SEAI

An Taisce Green Schools have been appointed to deliver SEAI's Schools workshops throughout Ireland for the 2015/16 school year. These workshops are directly linked to the curricula and are a great way to inform and involve pupils and teachers in ways to save energy, and will help schools to achieve their Green Flag. Workshops are delivered free of charge and involve inquiry based learning through experiments, videos, games and talks. There are specific workshops for junior and senior primary classes. Also available are CPD Energy workshops for Teachers that qualify for 'Croke Park hours' (subject to school management approval in accordance with DES Circulars) and are particularly relevant for schools applying for their Green Flag for Energy. Workshops are open to all schools and are allocated on a first come first served basis. Early booking is advisable.

To find out more information and to book a workshop see [http://www.seai.ie/Schools/School\\_Workshops/](http://www.seai.ie/Schools/School_Workshops/) email: [seai@eeu.antaisce.org](mailto:seai@eeu.antaisce.org) or phone 01 4002225.

## RDS Primary Science Fair – Dublin and Limerick

The RDS Primary Science Fair is calling for entries for the 2016 Fairs taking place in Dublin and in Limerick, deadline October 7. Participant schools will fulfil steps towards the SFI Discover Science and Maths Award. More information is available by clicking on the following link: [www.rds.ie/primarysciencefair](http://www.rds.ie/primarysciencefair)

## Creativity in Science Education - RDS STEM Learning National Conference

The RDS and SFI Discover invite teachers to attend the first national conference in primary science education. Full details and online registration are available by clicking on the following link: [www.rds.ie/stemlearning](http://www.rds.ie/stemlearning).



### **iriss LEGO figurine floats in Cupola**

The European Space Agency and LEGO Education have paired up to create an exciting contest for Andreas Mogensen's iriss mission.

Andreas has 20 LEGO figurines with him on board the International Space Station. They will be used as very special prizes for activities around the iriss mission.

Credit: ESA/NASA