



e-Newsletter 45

Welcome to our June newsletter, we've lots of news about what's happening in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths all over the country, we hope you enjoy!

Programme Updates

Science Foundation Ireland Discover Science and Maths Award

Firstly, a huge congratulations to all 546 very deserving schools that received a Science Foundation Ireland Discover Science & Maths Award in 2016. Yet again we are amazed at the quality and variety of STEM work going on in schools all around the country and our panel of adjudicators were extremely impressed with the standard of log books received.

A special shout out to these 14 inspirational schools that received their 12th Award this year!

- Tubber National School, Co Clare
- Fanore National School, Co Clare
- Bishop Murphy Memorial School, Fermoy, Co Cork
- Gardiner Street Primary School, Dublin
- Our Lady of Good Counsel Girls National School, Drimnagh, Dublin
- Scoil Cholmcille Senior National School, Donaghmede, Dublin

- Scoil Chaitriona Junior, Renmore, Galway
- Gaelscoil Mhic Amhlaigh, Cnoc Na Cathrach, Gaillimh
- Scoil 'n Fheirtearaigh, Tralee, Co Kerry
- Scoil Náisiúnta An Spioraid Naoimh, Roxborough, Co Limerick
- Mary Queen of Ireland Girls' National School, Caherdavin, Limerick
- St. Tiarnach's Primary School, Clones, Co Monaghan
- St Edward's National School, Ballytivnan, Co Sligo
- St Peter's National School, Athlone, Co Westmeath

[View the full list of award winning schools now.](#)

Successful schools should receive the award by the 15th of June. If you have not received your award by this date, please contact the plaque company directly.

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Summer courses

Make sure you check out the DPSM/ESERO summer courses on [Using Space to Teach Science Through Inquiry \(3rd-6th class\)](#) and the DPSM/SEAI summer courses on [Teaching Science and Maths through Inquiry](#) , which are being held around the country from July 4th-8th 2016. You can find full details in the ESERO and SEAI articles in this newsletter.

Are you interested in DPSM/ESERO Continuing Professional Development?

Since 2009, over 6,000 primary teachers have availed of in-school CPD in over 500 schools. This year could be your opportunity to avail of CPD if you have not received a DPSM workshop since 2014/15. The CPD aims to support schools to operate a whole school approach to engaging with science and maths, grow a love of investigation amongst children and make science teaching easier by using the DPSM Classroom Activities Planning Guide and DPSM/ESERO framework of inquiry to deliver the science curriculum in a cross curricular manner.

We're delighted to announce that we will be offering our [Continuing Professional Development Programme of Support](#) to 100 schools in the autumn and we will write directly to principals in June with more details.

Happy holidays from the DPSM Team!

ESERO Ireland



Using space to teach science through enquiry

Just a reminder that The European Space Education Resource Office (ESERO) Ireland, and Discover Primary Science & Maths are offering places for teachers on a 5-day professional development course at five unique space related locations across Ireland from 4th to 8th of July.

The course '**Using space to teach science through enquiry**' explores teaching approaches that develop numeracy skills in an integrated way across the curriculum, specifically through Science and Geography, with an emphasis on the theme of Space. The focus will be on inquiry based learning and how to use the "DPSM/ESERO Framework of Inquiry". Participants will qualify for 3 EPV days for full attendance.

Reserve your place now by applying online at these locations:

Dunsink Observatory – Co. Dublin

July 4th to 8th 2016

Course Number: 510

Book on-line at Blackrock Education Centre
www.esero.ie/upcoming-workshop

Birr Castle Observatory – Co. Offaly

July 4th to 8th 2016
Course Number: 511
Book on-line at Laois Education Centre
www.esero.ie/upcoming-workshop

CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory – Co. Cork

July 4th to 8th 2016
Course Number: 512
Book on-line at Cork Education Centre
www.esero.ie/upcoming-workshop

Lough Gur Heritage Centre - Co Limerick

July 4th to 8th 2016
Course Number: 513
Book on-line at Limerick Education Centre
www.esero.ie/upcoming-workshop

Lismore Heritage Centre - Co. Waterford

July 4th to 8th 2016
Course Number: 514
Book on-line at Waterford Education Centre
www.esero.ie/upcoming-workshop

The ESA Space Education International Workshop 2016

Every year, the European Space Agency (ESA) organises a training workshop for teachers in association with the Galileo Teacher Training Program (GTTP). In 2016, the event joins forces with the European Project, Space Awareness, for a five day workshop in space and education. The [event](#) will be held in Leiden, the Netherlands, from 18 to 22 October 2016.

But Hurry - registration closes on 15 June 2016.



National STEM Weeks

Space Week - The Universe in your Class! October 3rd - 8th



Space Week is Ireland's newest national STEM week in parallel with World Space Week. It is YOUR week to focus on the wonders and realities of the Universe around us. Participating in Space Week with your class means you will use the powers of creativity, critical thinking, science, technology, engineering and maths to help shape your understanding of life on Earth and our place in Space.

How to get involved?

Find classroom toolkits on PrimaryScience.ie that can boldly take your class where no class has gone before! (ok – not really, these have all been tested and trialled). These toolkits are based on two different themes and each theme includes a variety of activities, with suggested class levels and a DPSM/ESERO Framework for inquiry overview.

- Sizes and Scales in the Solar System: how big is big and how do all those planets fit into the solar system?
- Mars: the Red Planet: could we ever live on Mars? Is there life there now?

Completing these toolkits, ideas or your own activity is considered an event so simply register this on www.spaceweek.ie and receive Space Week goodies for your class!



Science Foundation Ireland Discover Centres

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

Science Foundation Ireland Discover Centre Video – Oceanworld, Dingle

Join the children from Scoil Caitín Naofa, Cillmhicadomhnaigh as they explore life under the ocean and get to meet the penguins at [Oceanworld Dingle](#).

Ballyhoura Outdoor Classroom, Griston Bog



Ballyhoura Outdoor Classrooms were asked to have a stand at the recent conference in Mary Immaculate College entitled “Ecological, Education, Policy & Spirituality - Caring for our Common Home” organised by the Geography department under Dr Brendan O Keeffe.

Teachers from all across Ireland attended the conference across 2 days in May and interaction the Ballyhoura Outdoor Classrooms were very positive.

ECO-UNESCO



ECO-UNESCO specialise in DPSM workshops with an environmental focus. Our topics include Climate Change, Energy, Water, Waste and Biodiversity, and we deliver in your school! All of our workshops are fun and interactive – piece together the water cycle, learn new words, take our predators quiz, and much more! Contact youth@ecounesco.ie for more information or to make a booking! Available year-round.

Global Action Plan

Is your Primary School aiming for STEM Excellence? Would you like some help and inspiration in delivering the SESE curriculum in an interesting, inquiry-based and visual manner? [Global Action Plan](#) is delighted to offer the popular ‘Garden Biodiversity’ workshop; the ideal class trip to our working Community Garden in Dublin! We also have a selection of DPSM accredited workshops that we can deliver in your school; ‘Water Wise’ is our environmental outreach workshop and ‘The Colour of Science’ is our science outreach workshop!

Phone Gráinne on 01 883 2185 or email grainne@globalactionplan.ie for further information. Now accepting bookings for September 2016!



Partner organisations

SEAI

SEAI and Discover Primary Science and Maths have teamed up to deliver a teacher summer course workshop in Airfield Estate, Co. Dublin and The Maldron Hotel Galway from 4th – 8th July.

The objective of the course, 'Teaching science through inquiry with DPSM/ESERO and SEAI' is to assist participants to teach Science and Maths through inquiry using Discover Primary Science & Maths resources and SEAI's Exploring our Energy Programme.

For more information, please visit <http://www.seai.ie/Schools/>

One Good Idea 2016 Winners

Congratulations to all the finalists and winners who presented at the One Good Idea National Final on 11th May 2016 in The Printworks, Dublin Castle.

The Overall Winner and AIB Innovation Award Winner were Showerlite from St. Mogue's College in Cavan who wanted to educate teenagers on taking a shorter shower to conserve water and combat climate change.

The Primary School winner was the Energy Guards from Ardfert National School in Kerry.

Full details of the winners is at www.seai.ie/onegoodidea

RDS STEM Learning - Join us 2016/2017

Congratulations to the 300 teachers who graduated from RDS STEM Learning Facilitator and Whole School CPD Programmes this year. It has been a fantastic community of shared learning among primary school teachers across Ireland who have embraced new approaches to teaching science and maths in the classroom.

If you would like to be part of the 2016/2017 RDS STEM Learning Programme, please email stemlearning@rds.ie and you will be the first to hear our plans for September 2016.

RDS STEM Learning is an initiative of the RDS and DCU in partnership with SFI's Discover Primary Science and Maths Programme. For more information please visit www.rds.ie/stemlearning.



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