



e-Newsletter 51

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

DPSM Programme Updates

By now you should have received your "Welcome back pack", which includes a wall planner and information about the Science Foundation Ireland Discover Science and Maths Awards.

Registration for our whole school [Teachers' CPD programme](#) is still open but places are limited and are going fast so to avoid disappointment register here!

Why not get the recognition you and your class deserve for your STEM work by applying for a Science Foundation Ireland Discover Science & Maths Award? Recent research shows it's beneficial at both whole school and classroom level and provides a focussed opportunity for engaging, hands on science that generates enthusiasm for the subject. From October 2017 until March 16th 2018 you can register your school's intention to apply for an award [online](#). Check out the step-by-step guide and the Awards Toolkit and get stuck in!



Space Week is Ireland's newest national STEM week. In parallel with World Space Week, it will take place during

the first week in October each year. It is a week where we will ask the people of Ireland to focus on:

Our Planet, Our Space, Our Time

Students, families, community groups and members of the public will come together with the space community, professional astrophysicists, the broader educational community, artists, hobby astronomers and space scientists to use the powers of creativity, critical thinking, science, technology, engineering and maths to focus on the wonders and realities of the Universe around us. For more information visit www.spaceweek.ie.

Classroom Resources

Explore science, technology, engineering and maths with a Space twist. Classroom resources are available at: <http://www.spaceweek.ie/for-organisers/for-teachers/>

Astro Pi Challenge - Calling all coders!

Following the huge success last year, ESA is happy to announce that the European Astro Pi Challenge is back for the 2017-2018 school year, giving more students the exciting opportunity to run their codes on the International Space Station (ISS).

Astro Pi is the name of a small computer that comes with a set of sensors and gadgets that can be used to run scientific experiments. ESA have put two very special Astro Pi's, named Ed and Izzy, on board the International Space Station (ISS), especially for students to use. The European Astro Pi challenge invites school students (16 and under) to design a scientific experiment that can be run using Astro Pi sensors, and to write the computer code to execute the experiment on the ISS.

Astro Pi launches on 25 September 2017, [visit here for details](#).

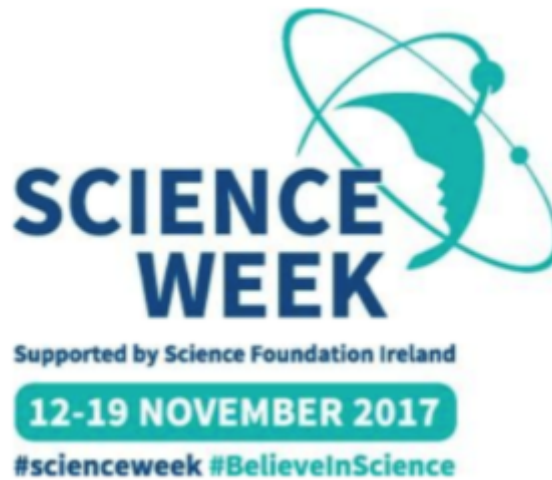
National STEM Weeks

We've plenty of STEM events coming up this term so make sure you're in the know!



Maths Week Ireland 2017 from October 14th to 22nd

Maths Week Ireland promotes awareness, appreciation and understanding of maths with plenty of events and ideas for maths-based fun and games. [Find out more.](#)



Science Week 2017 will take place from November 12-19th with [events](#) taking place all around the country. This year, [Science Week Festivals](#) will run in 12 locations nationwide.

If you plan to run an event, don't forget to register it [here](#) where you can also order Science Week merchandise before October 13th.

Any queries, please email: scienceweek@sfi.ie.



Science Foundation Ireland Discover Centres

Check out what's happening at the network of over 50 SFI Discover Centres and find events in your area for Space, Maths and Science Weeks.

Also, check out our Science Foundation Ireland Discover Centre Video. Join the children of Scoil an tSeachtar Laoch as they get to grips with the [science and maths of the GAP Ballymun Glás Community Garden](#).

Special news this month from the following Discover Centres -

[Clara Bog Visitor Centre, Offaly](#)

[Brigit's Garden, Galway](#)

[National Aquarium, Galway](#)

[The Rediscovery Centre, Dublin](#)



Partner organisations

SEAI Workshops for Teachers

"Most enjoyable and worthwhile experience, all teachers involved in the workshop were very positive about it"

Maureen Hally, Portlaw NS, Waterford.

SEAI are offering all primary schools a 2-hour teacher workshop, demonstrating how energy can be integrated into the primary science curriculum with the Exploring our Energy resource.

These workshops can be done as part of a schools' planning day or Croke Park hours. During the workshop, which takes place in the school, facilitators will explain the key features of the resource - interactive whiteboard activities, inquiry based science approaches and the spiral nature of the programme, which enables learning from junior infants to 6th class. To book your CPD workshop, contact Chloe on (01) 400 2225 or email seaiworkshops@eeu.antaisce.org

SEAI

SEAI One Good Idea is open for applications from the beginning of October. The competition, which is celebrating 10 years, is open to Primary and Post Primary schools. We are looking for your One Good Idea on energy efficiency and climate change. Visit www.seai.ie/onegoodidea for all the details where you can also register and get ideas to start working on your project.

RDS



The annual RDS STEM Learning National Conference for Primary School Teachers will take place on Saturday, November 25, in the RDS. Featuring keynote speaker Rosa Doran from NUCLIO, Portugal, this one-day event will focus on astronomy and space exploration at primary school level to inspire children to develop their core 21st century skills and competencies through science and maths.

For more information and online registration, please visit: www.rds.ie/STEMlearning.

Early bird registration is €50 until November 3. Email: STEMlearning@rds.ie

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