



# Primary Schools Newsletter

## March 2019

Blackrock Education Centre

Ionad Oideachais na Carraige Duibhe



### Making Connections: Inclusion, Team Teaching and Literacy, Monday 4<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 9:30 – 15:30

PDST, in conjunction with Blackrock Education Centre, invites schools to nominate a Special Educational Teacher (SET) and one other teacher (maximum) from your school to attend a **one-day seminar**. This is a full day seminar for SET and mainstream classroom teachers to further deepen their understanding of inclusive practices and the SEN Guidelines for Primary Schools (2017). The day will be framed around the six actions from these guidelines, including how to identify pupils with SEN, how to set literacy targets, planning team-teaching methods and approaches that may be used to meet the targets and organising early intervention and prevention programmes. [PDST ONLINE BOOKING](#)

### Primary Deputy Principals' Support Group, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 16:00 – 18:00

Carmel Lillis will be giving a presentation on *Resilience for School Leaders*. Sandwiches provided, [booking essential](#).

### Nurture Day, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 9:30 – 15:30

If your school has a Nurture Group, or if you have already done one of our Nurture Group Theory and Practice courses, this Nurture Day is intended to provide some further CPD in nurture and to create a network of Nurture Group teachers/SNAs/principals and create local support groups going forward, in which you can share experience, challenges, ideas and learning. There is no cost for those of you who have trained on one of our courses already. For further information and bookings please contact Sandra Kinsella (Sandra@blackrockec.ie or (01) 236 5005

### Nurture Group Training, Thursdays 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March, 17:00 – 20:00

Based on the principles of a Nurture Group (an intervention for the social and emotional wellbeing of children within U.K. primary schools), this course will provide teachers with the information, case studies, skills and strategies needed to create nurture among the busy school community. Teachers will be trained in using Boxall Profile Assessments, talked through a typical day in a Nurture Group, given strategies of how to spot a child's nurture needs and create strategies to implement positive change in their school communities. [Limited places available](#)

### Active School Flag – Nearly There workshop, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 16:00 – 18:00

March 2019 – This workshop is designed to support schools that are advanced with the process and hoping to submit their application for the coming months. Advice will be given about how to prepare for the ASF accreditation visit. [Bookings directly with Active School Flag](#)

### Measures in Primary Mathematics – An Inquiry Based Approach to Measures and STEM, Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 9:30 to 3:30

This seminar provides participants with an engaging and stimulating Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) approach to Measures in Mathematics with meaningful connections to STEM. By experiencing practical activities that embody IBL, teacher participants will explore pupil misconceptions in Measures and respond by giving consideration to developing pupils' mathematical proficiencies. Participants will also explore innovative approaches to planning and assessing IBL lessons. Two teachers per school can apply to attend and substitute cover is available. [PDST ONLINE BOOKING](#)

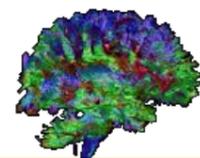


### Middle Leaders/Shared Leadership, Thursdays 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> April, 19:00–21:00

Facilitated by Carmel Lillis, this is a course that aims to further develop the leadership capacity of teachers. The course will focus on discussion of school leadership, understanding self, curriculum leadership and team building. It is hoped that participants will gain an understanding of the school as an organisation and how its complexity demands a team response. [Limited places available](#)

### Neuroscience Workshop for Teachers, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 15:30 – 18:00

Facilitated by Dr Alex Colcutt, Education and Engagement Officer at the British Neuroscience Association (BNA), with topics spanning core neuroscience, the scientific process, careers in STEM and brain health, this session will grow the student's 'science capital' and will give them a fascinating introduction to the field. A free toolkit of curated lesson plans, activities and resources has been developed for neuroscientists and teachers to take into the classroom.



VENUE: O'Brien Science Centre, UCD. Bookings [through our website](#).

### Physical Literacy Fundamental Movement Skills – Seminar Day 3, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March and Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 9:30 – 15:30 (also 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April)

The purpose of the seminar is to

- demonstrate the PDST's *Move Well, Move Often* Physical Literacy resource pack through active participation
- upskill participants in using Fundamental Movement Skills as a lens for developing Physical Literacy through the PE curriculum
- enable participants to support other teachers in their school using the PDST Physical Literacy resource pack

[PDST ONLINE BOOKING](#) VENUE: KILL O' THE GRANGE NATIONAL SCHOOL, DEANSGRANGE



### Dabbledoomusic, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 17:00 – 19:00

This course will introduce teachers to a new online resource for specially designed for primary music education. Using a range of free interactive online resources we will look at all areas of the primary school curriculum. Participants will become familiar with the [www.dabbledoomusic.com](http://www.dabbledoomusic.com) website and its technical setup in the classroom, gain experience with a range of simple classroom instruments and learn how to organise group performance and composition in the classroom. This course is designed to be accessible and engaging for all primary school teachers regardless of prior musical experience. Bookings through [our website](#).

### Primary Internet Safety, Cyberbullying & Bullying Seminar, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 9:30 – 15:30

PDST is delighted to announce a one-day training course for principals and teachers on Internet Safety, Cyberbullying & Bullying for Primary Schools. The purpose of this seminar is to:

- address internet safety, cyberbullying and bullying within the context of SPHE
- address explicit teaching and understanding around cyberbullying and internet safety
- enable children to deal more effectively with interpersonal conflict
- support schools in resolving any issues and restoring, as far as is practicable, the relationships of the parties involved. [PDST ONLINE BOOKING](#)



### CESI.CS Meeting – A Community of Practice for Educators Interested in Teaching Computing, Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 19:00 – 21:00

These meetings will give you a chance to address personal needs, build relationships with other local stakeholders and discuss issues relating to the development & practice of computing in education. At meetings we will begin by catching up, then negotiating activities to collaborate on, and finally forming groups to work on those activities. Activities in the meeting are to address YOUR needs in practice.



The application process for [Reading Recovery Programme for school year 19/20](#) is now open on the PDST website:

[www.pdst.ie/ReadingRecoveryTraining](http://www.pdst.ie/ReadingRecoveryTraining)

- Please note that the **closing date for this application form is Thursday 4th April 2019**
- Please note that an application for Reading Recovery training does not guarantee a place for 2019/2020

All schools who apply for Reading Recovery training 2019/2020 will receive a letter to inform them if their application has been successful or not. All schools will receive this letter by the end of June 2019.

### Connect Beyond, Tuesdays, 26<sup>th</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April, 17:00 – 19:00

This course is an advanced course for those who have already completed the CONNECT IN & CONNECT OUT (Circles & Meetings). It is aimed at living the practices in 'our bones' and facilitating approaches to address serious harm. Cost €160 For further information please check [www.connectrp.ie](http://www.connectrp.ie) Bookings through [our website](#)



## COMING IN APRIL TO BLACKROCK EDUCATION CENTRE

3/4/19: SPHE: Whole School Food Policy Development

30/4/19: BEC Local Course: Puppet Performance in the Classroom

### Other events of interest happening in March

- 2nd March: CESI Conference: Creativity, Collaboration and Computers – (Athlone IT)
- 2nd March: IASTA Conference: Putting Theory into Practice – (Westgrove Hotel Clane)
- 11th – 17th: National Brain Awareness Week (UCD)
- 29th March: ILSA Spring Conference