

Welcome

Welcome to our second Newsletter of the 2016-2017 academic year. National roll out of CPD Day 2 took place last term, via cluster model for the first time, giving full science departments an opportunity to access CPD as a group. For a flavor of the cluster model, please check out this [video](#).

It was great to meet and build on our work with science teachers. We are using your insights to inform our work going forward. You will see action on some of your suggestions outlined here and we are working on more of your suggestions to include on our website.



In response to teachers' suggestions the website has been overhauled to make it more user friendly, in particular for phone and tablet use. Why not pay us a visit? Check out www.jct.ie.

Professional Time

On CPD day 2, you discussed how you might use the 8 hours' professional time available to you. See [here](#) for more helpful suggestions.

If you couldn't attend CPD Day 2

In session 1 we worked on developing clarity around the expectations of the learning outcomes, both for classroom practice and for assessment, through consideration of the action verb. An action verb poster was distributed to teachers and can be found [here](#), along with some other documents you can use when working with LOs.



In session 2 and 3 we explored a developmental approach to both of the Classroom-Based Assessments, studying the essential features of the Extended Experimental Investigation (EEI) and the Science in Society Investigation (SSI).

A "Features of an Investigation" poster was distributed to teachers and is available on our website [here](#)



Further opportunities to attend CPD Day 2 will be offered in September. Schools will be contacted in due course.

JCT Science Out & About

BTYSTE

We were delighted once again to have the opportunity to meet science teachers at the BTYSTE. We had a "drop in" station where teachers could come and talk about planning, interpreting learning outcomes and looking at how they could be realised in classroom practice. Thanks to the many who visited!

ISTA



The ISTA Annual Conference took place in Maynooth in April where we once again were available to support teachers at our stand. This year, we also hosted a workshop entitled 'Learning Outcomes in Action' which was very favourably received by teachers on the day. Apologies to those who were on the waiting list and did not get to attend this oversubscribed workshop. All resources used in the workshop are available on our website under the Other Elective Workshops tab [here](#).

JCSP

Now that the new JC Science Specification is underway, the JCSP team have begun engaging with science teachers from across the country. The JCT Science Team were delighted to be asked to participate in a workshop with teachers in April to begin the process of writing new statements for JCSP Science. Please see www.jcsp.ie for further information.

If you didn't receive this newsletter from us via email then please click [here](#) to join our mailing list.

Learning Outcomes in Focus

During national roll out of CPD Day 2, teachers often asked about the possibility of sharing resources with other teachers. We have decided to trial a way of doing this by having a 'learning outcome in focus' for each newsletter. Check out the first one as a demo of what is possible - [E&S 6](#).

We are asking you each month to share with us via email resources, websites, video links etc. that you think could be useful in the teaching of a chosen LO. We will then choose a selection of the submitted resources and send it out to you as a Padlet page. Our next chosen LO is [BW 5](#). The more teachers that share, the better these Padlet pages will be! Email: scienceteam@jct.ie.

ICT Corner

Now that you have checked out our "starter" Padlet for E&S6, you and your colleagues might like to edit it and add to it. Here's how:

1. Set up a free [Padlet](#) account.
2. Follow the [link](#) to our Padlet and then click "remake" in the top right hand corner
3. Select 'Share' in the top right corner. Change the privacy settings so that your colleagues can all edit the wall. Then email the URL to your colleagues.
4. Both you and your colleagues are now free to add to the wall of your Padlet even if they don't have an account. (Only 1 member of the department needs to have a Padlet account.) Works great on phones too!

New Twitter Account

[@JCTScience](#) has over 250 followers on Twitter. Please follow us to keep up to date on news and events, check out highlighted resources or simply to say hi and share what's going on in your classroom.

Please feel free to contact us with queries via info@jct.ie or at our individual email addresses [here](#). Finally, best wishes to you and your students in the final term and congratulations on completing the first year of Junior Cycle Science!

Kind regards,
The JCT Science Team