

Welcome

Welcome to the 5th issue of the JCT Science newsletter.

Check out www.jct.ie where you will find the [key documents](#) you will need to assist you as you enact the specification in your classrooms.



Sample questions and annotated examples of students' work to date are available on www.curriculumonline.ie

Latest News

Our recent webinar recording on preparing for CBA 1 and the SLAR process can be found on our website [here](#).

The 3-week window for CBA 1 happens in the timeframe Fri 20th April to Fri 18th May 2018. We hope that you and your students enjoy the process and we are looking forward to hearing all about their investigations.

Examples of student learning in Classroom-Based Assessments are now available to view [here](#).

The [Assessment Guidelines \(2nd Edition\)](#) and the finalised [Features of Quality](#) have been issued to schools and are now available. These should be used when assessing CBA 1.

Cluster Days 2017/18

Teachers explored professional collaboration by engaging with colleagues from other schools, allowing teachers to work on planning documents. The templates teachers used to engage in planning can be accessed [here](#). For further guidance on the process of planning click [here](#).

Teachers also experienced a SLAR (Subject Learning and Assessment Review) meeting and through using Features of Quality, began to develop a shared understanding of standards. A CPD booklet on SLAR facilitation can be found [here](#) and an accompanying PowerPoint [here](#).

Make sure you are on our mailing list to get

details of all our events, of upcoming elective opportunities, as well as details of how to register for webinars and other opportunities for engagement.

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



Teachers across the country are excited about our new JCT CPD initiative, STE(A)M in Junior Cycle. Addressing areas such as sustainability, the work of scientists and scientific innovation, they have considered the interplay between science and society through rich debate about the nature of the human condition.



Teachers at a STE(A)M CPD day in Science Gallery Dublin engaging with molecular biology and debating bioethics

STE(A)M CPD allowed teachers to engage with LOs **NoS 1 and 10**, and a range of LOs from the contextual strands with a specific focus on planetary data, space exploration, sustainability and ecosystems. Check out our STE(A)M [newsletter](#) for more information. Thank you to all teachers who attended STE(A)M workshops this year and keep an eye out for more exciting developments.

JCT Science Out & About

We were delighted to meet Science teachers at conferences such as IoP, Frontiers of Physics and Gaeloideachas. The Science Team were delighted to attend the Chem-Ed conference at the Bernal Institute, UL on Saturday 21st of October. We ran a highly attended 'Learning Outcomes in Action' workshop, focusing on how to translate learning outcomes into classroom practice. In keeping with the conference, our focus was on chemical world learning outcomes and the Nature of Science, looking at modelling of atomic structure and sustainability through

the extraction, use and disposal of materials. Resources used at these workshops can be found [here](#).

ISTA 2018 was another opportunity to meet and work with teachers. We facilitated four workshops based on Classroom-Based Assessments and resources used will assist when [supporting students in developing questions for investigations](#) and when students are [exploring the SSI topics](#).

Keep in Touch

We are delighted to welcome three new members to our team- Niall Kelly, Liz Smith and Margaret Cooney. Remember that JCT is support provided **by** teachers **for** teachers, so if you need to get in touch you can always connect with one of the team at info@jct.ie or at our individual addresses [here](#). Follow us on Twitter [@JCTScience](#) and join our 1290 followers in the sharing of teaching ideas, classroom learning experiences and online resources that support engagement with the Junior Cycle Science learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes in Focus

We have explored a 'learning outcome in focus' in previous newsletters and developed a Padlet space around them from resources that **YOU** suggested. Here is a reminder of our LOs from our previous newsletters: [E&S 6](#), [BW 5](#) and [CW 9](#)

You might want to use the Padlet as a 'seed wall' for work in your own schools. Information on how to use Padlet can be found in [Issue 4](#), of our newsletter.

Do continue to contribute. Our next chosen LO is **CW3**. Only you can make this work! Email ideas pictures or video clips to margaret.cooney@jct.ie

ICT Corner

It has come to our attention that Padlet is no longer free software. Other options similar to Padlet are [lino.it](#) and [wakelet](#). You might like to try these with your students and let us know how you get on.

Looking forward to working with you all again throughout the year.

Kind regards
The JCT Science Team