

Regional Matter

East of England
Spring 2012

Engaging girls in physics

The Stimulating Physics Network is working with schools to engage more girls in physics. Our team of Teaching and Learning Coaches (TLCs) establish close, direct relationships with the selected SPN Partner Schools. so they have the time to work with the whole science department and the whole school. This gives our TLCs both the chance to implement activities aimed at engaging girls with physics and the time to review the impact of different approaches.

One TLC reports on work they have done in a large, mixed school: "I planned activities to encourage the girls to continue with physics. This included a special focus on Year 11 girls doing Triple Science, we provided relevant careers information and created a girls-only setting for some special events, such as a SEPNet practical activity and a meeting with a potential mentor - a female physicist from the Rutherford Appleton Lab. It is still too early to have solid data on the impact of this activity but the response from the girls has been very enthusiastic."

The Stimulating Physics Network is working with several SPN Partner Schools to pilot more activities to engage girls and we will use the results to produce guides and resources that could be used by teachers in any school. There is already a growing portfolio of publications, resources and tools produced for teachers and students, focused on inspiring girls.

The Institute of Physics has published a review of the current research into girls participation in physics and has used lessons



learned to produce a teachers' guide for action as well as videos to be used by departments to review their practice. These resources can be accessed free by going to: iop.org/education/teacher/support/ and selecting the Girls in Physics section.

The WISE Campaign led by the UKRC offers free student resources including games, postcards and interactive tools, as well as guides on work experience, useful links for teachers and parents and profiles of inspirational women. To explore the WISE resources, visit: theukrc.org/get-involved/wise

Get connected across the East

The Stimulating Physics Network has a regional team of teachers who work as Physics Network Co-ordinators (PNCs) to create free CPD workshops for you and some enrichment activities for your students. The free practical CPD workshops are run by the East of England PNCs are usually in the evening or at weekends. Over the page is a list of the workshops so far confirmed for this term but more are being added all the time. To find out what is on offer near you get in touch with the External Liaison Officer (ELO) for the East of England, Jayne Foster: enquiries@eastengland.slcs.ac.uk or visit: stimulatingphysics.org/regions

You can also contact the PNC in your area if you would like to be sent details of their planned events or would like to host an event at your school:

Cambridgeshire Ally Davies: a.davies@jynxy.net
Norfolk and Suffolk Gerry Blake: g.blake@sep.org.uk
Essex Karen Gregory: karengregory@tesco.net
Bedfordshire Terry Horsman: terry_horsman@hotmail.com

Save the date

Y9 Gifted and Talented Competition | 2 July 2012

The Physics Paralympics - a parallel event for year 9 students from across East Anglia. So start getting your team ready. For more information contact Gerry Blake: gerry.blake@iop.org

FREE
CPD
EVENTS

Workshops in the East of England

EVENT	LOCATION	DATE	CONTACT
Radioactivity	Stewards School Harlow, Essex	16 January 4.00pm – 6.30pm	Robert Birke: robert.birke@iop.org
Rockets & Drag Racers 'Make and Take'	Northgate High School, Ipswich	17 January 4.00pm – 5.30pm	Gerry Blake: g.blake@iop.org
Supporting Physics Teaching: Energy	Queenswood School, Hatfield, Herts	18 January 4.45pm - 5.45pm	Griff John: griff.john@gmail.com
Ideas for Teaching Primary Physics	Venue TBC	22 February 2012 Time TBC	Terry Horsman: terry_horsman@hotmail.com
Shocked and Stunned	Stewards School Harlow, Essex	5 March 4.00pm – 6.30pm	Robert Birke: robert.birke@iop.org
Science Fair	Hartismere School Eye, Suffolk	10 March All day	Karen Gregory: karengregory@tesco.net
Physics Masterclass	St Joseph's College Ipswich	21 March 4.00pm - 5.30pm	Gerry Blake: g.blake@iop.org
Rockets 'Make and Take'	National Space Centre Leicester	April Date & time TBC	Terry Horsman: terry_horsman@hotmail.com
Supporting Physics Teaching: Energy	Stewards School Harlow, Essex	30 April 4.00pm – 6.30pm	Robert Birke: robert.birke@iop.org
Rockets 'Make and Take'	Stewards School Harlow, Essex	18 June 4.00pm – 6.30pm	Robert Birke: robert.birke@iop.org
Astronomy close-up with Andy Newsam	Farlingaye High School Woodbridge, Suffolk	21 February 4.00pm - 5.30pm	Claire Seeley: claire.seeley@btopenworld.com
What Happens Next?	Wootton Upper School Bedford	4 July Time TBC	Terry Horsman: terry_horsman@hotmail.com

Go to: stimulatingphysics.org.uk for updates or contact your External Liaison Officer,
Jayne Foster: enquiries@easternengland.slcs.ac.uk



In addition Science Learning Centre East of England offers several physics-related courses:

Impact
Awards of up
to £200 per
day may be
available

- Science Demonstrations Effective and Safe 31 January Course fee: £150 Teachers / £75 Technicians
- Cutting Edge: Performance in Sport 28 February Course fee: £150.00
- Physics for Non-Specialists 20 March Course fee: £650.00 (4 day fee)
- Practical Work in Physics 29 March Course fee: £150 Teachers / £75 Technicians
- Active Approaches in A Level Physics 26 June Course fee: £150
- Stage 2 Masterclass: Active Approaches in A Level Physics 28 June Course fee: £150

To book and for details about more courses please contact us: