

Regional Matter

London
Spring 2012

Girls in Physics

One focus of the Network is to engage more girls with Physics. Lampton Academy in Hounslow is working with their Teaching and Learning Coach, Jon Clarke, to plan activities to encourage the girls in this mixed school to continue with the subject. They will have a special focus on Year 11 girls doing Triple Science, provide relevant careers information, and create a girls-only setting for some special events, such as a SEPNet practical activity and meeting a potential mentor, a female physicist from the Rutherford Appleton Lab.

There is a growing portfolio of materials and activities aimed at engaging girls in physics and all the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects. To explore some of the free resources available, visit: theukrc.org/get-involved/wise



Orange Squash Energy?

Following a successful workshop on energy, Greenford High School's science teachers enthusiastically embraced the idea of using orange squash to help understanding. GCSE pupils started with a beaker of squash representing the initial energy store, then decided which stores the energy would be shifted into for different processes, such as a toy car rolling down a ramp, and represented this by labelling new beakers and pouring the squash into them. A wonderfully simple idea that they found very helpful.

All of the experiments are from the IOP's Supporting Physics Teaching: Energy resources, which are free to download, visit: talkphysics.org

Lab in a Lorry

The Lab in a Lorry visited the Globe Academy in Southwark in early November. All Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils took turns with activities such as using an endoscope to recover toys accidentally "swallowed" by a dummy and revealing a "hidden rainbow" by viewing a polythene box through a Polaroid filter. After watching a wine glass vibrate using a stroboscope, two pupils described the activities as "magic", and left saying that they would definitely be opting for triple Science GCSEs the next year, showing the value of letting pupils explore interesting phenomena.

To find out how to book Lab in a Lorry and to see a film of it in action, visit: labinalorry.org.uk



Physics Update

As part of its active involvement in supporting physics in schools and colleges, the Institute of Physics runs termly Physics Update courses to update your knowledge of recent developments in physics and let you explore new practical activities and resources for use in the classroom.

Spring Physics Update: Royal Holloway, University of London, 30 March-1 April 2012

Summer Physics Update: University of Birmingham, 6-8 July 2012

There are a limited number of places available at each Physics Update. Each course costs £140 for a residential place and £80 for a non-residential place; or even less if you or your school/college/ITE centre is a member of the IOP.

For more information, visit: iop.org/education/teacher/cpd/ and select Physics Update.

FREE
CPD
EVENTS

Workshops in London

EVENT	LOCATION	DATE	CONTACT
Supporting Physics Teaching: Energy	Queenswood School Hatfield, Herts	18 January 4.45pm – 5.45pm	Griff John: griff.john@gmail.com
Games Laboratory	Holland Park School London W8	30 January 5.00pm – 7.00pm	Niloufar Wijetunge: niloufar@wijetunge.com
Radioactivity	Holland Park School London W8	20 February 5.00pm – 7.00pm	Niloufar Wijetunge: niloufar@wijetunge.com
Shocked and Stunned	Holland Park School London W8	26 March 5.00pm – 7.00pm	Niloufar Wijetunge: niloufar@wijetunge.com

Go to stimulatingphysics.org/regions-london for updates or contact your External Liaison Officer, Louise Tulip: l.tulip@ioe.ac.uk

If you live or work in the North or East of London then you might find some of the courses being run by the Essex team easier to attend. For details visit the East of England page at stimulatingphysics.org/regions

Free workshops are run by the Physics Network Co-ordinators in London, usually in the evening or at weekends. Please contact the PNC in your area if you would like to be sent details of events in your area already planned or would like to host a bespoke event. Contact details are listed below:

Surrey and South West London Richard Grimmer: rpgrimmer@googlemail.com

West and Central London Niloufar Wijetunge: niloufar@wijetunge.com

Hertfordshire Griff John: griff.john@gmail.com

North and East London Robert Birke: robert.birke@iop.org

London Peter Campbell: p.campbell@ioe.ac.uk



In addition Science Learning Centre London offers several physics-related courses:

○ Physics for Non-Specialists	8 February (4 days)	Course fee: £425
○ Practical Work in Physics	22 February	Course fee: £150
○ Masterclass for A Level Physics	2 March	Course fee: £150
○ CLEAPSS: Physics Training for Science Technicians	6 March	Course fee: £110
○ Technicians Supporting A level Physics	21 March	Course fee: £110
○ Science Demonstrations: Effective and Safe	23 March	Course fee: £150
○ CLEAPSS: Basic Physics Skills	25 April	Course fee: £110
○ Astrophysics	12 June	Course fee: £150

To book and for details about more courses please contact us at: www.slcs.ac.uk/london/courses

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