

Information enclosed on the following courses: (Booking Essential)

- RSE Parent Workshop-Tuesday 28th February, 7-9pm in Central Hotel, Tullamore**
- Board of Management Course -Thursday 23rd Feb, 1st & 8th March, 7.30-10pm in Laois Education Centre**



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Spring Primary Programme 2012. Please note there is **NO FEE** for our local courses.

French for Primary Teachers

Problem Solving in Maths

This workshop will provide purposeful direction and structured opportunities to enable teachers to engage with problem-solving activities, to contribute to professional dialogue and to plan collaboratively on return to school. The emphasis will be on problem-solving and on active participation and engagement. All activities will be embedded in the methodologies and principles of the Primary School Curriculum. A range of support materials will be made available.

Date: Wednesday 14th March
Venue: Central Hotel, Tullamore
Time: 4.00pm—6.00pm
Facilitator: Anne Goggins, PDST Associate

Practical Approaches to Maths

This workshop will look at the following:

- Multiplication/Division-Practical Approaches
- Cross-curricular approaches to teaching Maths
- Measures. Open-ended questions
- Integrating Literacy and Maths(introducing Journal Writing for Maths)
- Decimals 3rd-6th classes

Dates: Thursday 1st & 8th March
Venue: Laois Education Centre
Time: 7.00pm—9.00pm
Facilitator: Florence Gavin PDST Associate

Art for Easter with a Difference

Come and learn how to blow out eggs, dye them and make them into a stunning Easter tree. Using natural materials, you will learn how to put together Easter baskets. Easy and accessible Easter crafts will also be shared.

Date: Monday 27th February
Venue: Laois Education Centre
Time: 4.30pm—6.30pm
Facilitators: Finola D'Arcy, Primary Teacher with experience in teaching in Ireland & abroad

Interview Training for Teachers

The aim of this two-evening workshop is to help teachers in preparation for an interview—the following areas will be addressed:

- Session 1:**
- CV
 - Presentation of Self
 - Preparation
 - The Interview
 - Application Form
 - Research
 - First impressions

Session 2:

- Marking system/Criteria for interview
- Camera Interview-one person
- Feedback on Camera interview
- Application of marking system
- Questions & Summary

Date: Wednesday 29th February & 7th March
Venue: Laois Education Centre
Time: 7.00pm—9.30pm
Facilitator: Mary Walsh, National Interview Counselling Agency

Music in the Classroom

This three-evening course concentrates on the following strands of the music curriculum and includes:

- Practical Music in the Classroom:**
- Introduction to basic playing techniques on a variety of instruments.
 - Developing an awareness of musical arrangements
 - Dealing with playing and rhythm difficulties
 - Starting a school band
- Composing:**
- Introduction to composing music and lyrics using a variety of methods.
 - Exploring rhythm patterns
 - Composing using pictures and sounds
 - Arranging a new composition

- Listening and responding to music:**
- Developing listening skills
 - Listening and responding to games
 - Learning a tune by “ear” (listening only)
 - Exploring dynamics and pitch
 - Responding through actions

Dates: 27th February, 5th & 12th March
Venue: Laois Education Centre
Time: 7.00pm —9.00pm
Facilitator: James Donohoe, Musician & Music Teach.

In conjunction with the Modern Languages in Primary Schools Initiative (MLPSI), Laois Education Centre is pleased to offer a five-week course in the French language which will offer primary teachers an opportunity to refresh their language skills with a view to introducing French to their classes. The course will be designed in such a way as to ensure teachers can maximise and build on their own level of French in order to teach the modern language curriculum. All ten topics; Myself and Others, My Family, Classroom Language and School, Numbers and the Calendar, My Hobbies, Time and Daily Routine, Where I Live, Colours, Weather and Holidays, Food and Shops, Body and Clothes will be covered.

Dates: Monday 20th & 27th February, 5th, 12th & 26th March
Venue: Racket Hall Hotel, Roscrea
Time: 7.00pm—9.00pm
Facilitator: Caroline Duff, MLPSI Local Facilitator

Aistear –New Curriculum

Do you want to make learning more playful and more meaningful for the children in your infant classroom? This three-evening workshop will look at how *Aistear*, the early childhood framework will help you in organising and planning for play as well as curriculum integration in the classroom. Packed with practical and accessible ideas, strategies, games and resources that will enable you to maximise the learning potential of play. With particular emphasis on enhancing the teaching of oral language, literacy and numeracy these workshops will give you the skills and confidence to implement *Aistear* with your infant class.

Dates: Tuesday 21st, 28th February & 6th March
Venue: County Hotel, Birr
Time: 7.00pm—9.00pm
Facilitator: Aistear Facilitators

PROJECTS

Scríobh Leabhar Project

Write-a-Book as Gaeilge, project for schools being offered in partnership with Foras na Gaeilge.

Dates to remember:

- Books brought to Centre Wed 8th February
- Books returned to Centre no later than Wed 22nd Feb
- Awards night in Killeshin Hotel on Wed 13th March

Co-operation is Cool Project

The aim of this initiative is to promote awareness of co-operation and how it works around us in the 21st century aided by modern technology. Schools are invited to submit projects from any class.

‘Co-operation’ must be evident in all projects and included in the presentation to Judges on March 31st. The use of technology in the project must also be evident.

Exhibition of projects will take place in Laois Education Centre on Thursday 22nd March at 4pm.

Write-a-Book Project

If you have not notified the Centre that you are participating in this year’s Write-a-Book Project, please do so immediately.

Dates to remember:

- Closing date for entries will be **Tuesday 27th March**
- Books returned to Centre no later than 4.00pm on Tuesday 19th April
- Awards Nights:
9th May—Racket Hall Hotel Roscrea
16th May—Heritage Hotel Portlaoise

Gymnastics in the Primary School

The aim of this workshop is to provide teachers with an overview of gymnastics in the primary curriculum. It will also highlight activities and resources that can be used by teachers and discuss ideas on how to use the resources available to us in our own schools. This will be a practical session.

1. Date: Wednesday 25th January
Venue: Scoil Bhríde, Knockmay, Portlaoise
2. Date: Thursday 1st March
Venue: Shinrone NS, Shinrone, Birr
Time: 5.30am —7.30pm
Facilitator: Vincent Mulvey, PDST Advisor

Watercolour Painting

A day to **relax, have fun and let your creativity flow!** Whether you are familiar with the medium of watercolour or have never used it before, this is a day for you. Artist Mary Dillon will take you through the day using various skills and techniques to allow you to experience watercolour painting in a new and exciting way. After the day you will have your own painting to bring home. You will have new confidence in using watercolour. You will have many new ideas to bring to your students in your classrooms from junior **infants** through to **leaving cert**.

A follow-up workshop will be available in May
Date: Saturday 10th March
Venue: Laois Education Centre
Time: 9.30am —3.30pm
Facilitator: Mary Dillon, Artist

(NQTs) Newly Qualified Teachers

The six workshops planned for this term are:

- Differentiation
- Literacy
- Gaeilge
- Behaviour Management
- Inclusion
- Numeracy

NQTs who have not registered with the Centre are welcome to join the programme. Please contact the Centre for further details. Registration is essential.

Teaching Happiness—Positive Psychology in Your Classroom

This course will provide an overview of the principles of positive psychology and its implications for the classroom. Learn how to enhance behaviour and learning, reduce stress and boost resilience and wellbeing in pupils and teachers alike. This session will present research on core issues such as the nature and importance of happiness, learned optimism, motivation, signature strengths, flow and mindfulness and we will also explore evidence-based practices for use in your own life and with your pupils.

Date: Thursday 9th February
Venue: Central Hotel, Tullamore
Time: 7.00pm—9.00pm
Facilitators: Dr. Moya O’Brien & Dr. Deirdre Mac Intyre, Clinical Psychologists, I.CE.P.E.

To book a place on any of the above courses, please contact Yvonne at 057 8672400 or by email to yvonne@laoisedcentre.ie or return completed application form available in school or downloadable from our website www.laoisedcentre.ie. You can now book a place on www.ateci.ie/cpd-courses.html. Booking is essential, places are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.