

JCSP

Newsletter

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE SCHOOL PROGRAMME



Issue 5 **September 2007**

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Launch of Stars Read Reading Campaign

On 30th April last there was great excitement in Croke Park, not because there was an All Ireland about to kick off but because JCSP was about to witness the launch of the Stars Read Campaign by An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern, featuring five of the nationally best known GAA stars.



Jerry McCarthy, Eoin Kelly, An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, Seán Kelly, Bernie Kiely and Aideen Cassidy.



Ciarán Whelan, member of the Dublin Senior Football team who is an outstanding midfield player and a leader on the pitch came to represent the players at the launch.

Eoin Kelly is a member of the Tipperary Senior Hurling team and a dynamic and prolific score-getter making him one of the most exciting forwards to have ever played hurling. He is a past pupil of a JCSP school Scoil Ruain in Killenaule who were well represented at the launch. Eoin also came to the launch to represent the players.

Colm Cooper is a member of the Kerry Senior Football team and widely regarded as being one of the greatest GAA players ever.

Henry Shefflin is a member of the Kilkenny Senior Hurling team. "Hurler of the Year" in 2006 and already considered to be one of the "greats of hurling" confirmed by the team's recent win.

Seán Óg O'Alpín is member of the Cork Senior Hurling team. One of the famous O'Alpíns and has been a successful dual player for Cork and for his club Na Piarasaigh.

All these great players have given so generously of their time to encourage others to reach their dreams, all heroes for the students, both boys and girls.



Ann Gibbon, Syngé St., Ann-Marie Everiston, Palmerstown Sr. Anne, Navan



An Taoiseach, Mr. Bertie Ahern addressing guests



Mary O'Hanlon, Aileen O'Sullivan, Paul McDonnell, Isabel Baker, Heather Keane, Cork



Eoin Kelly, Jim Windsor McGlynn, Banagher/Ciarán Whelan, Gerry Barry, Limerick



Maria Allen, Ted O'Mahony, Limerick, Suzanne Barrett, New Ross, Clare Kinsella, Gorey, Maeve Waters, Limerick



Eoin Kelly with JCSP School Librarians

Sports Stars Read is part of the wider Stars Read Project

Sport Stars Read, A Collaborative Project between the Junior Certificate School Programme, Gaelic Athletic Association and the Limerick School of Art and Design College/LIT.



Many JCSP students regularly attend GAA games and list inter-county players as their "sporting heroes". The high-profile of gaelic games among students led the JCSP support service to consider how these stars could be part of a campaign to recognise and celebrate positive role models for reading. Some sporting heroes were approached and invited to participate in the project to produce a set

of posters and other resources using the players' images to emphasise and highlight the importance of engaging with reading to support successful learning in schools.

The aim of the project is to:

- * increase awareness of the benefits of reading for pleasure and recreation
- * recognise and celebrate the work of sporting stars as reading role models
- * change negative perceptions and overturn the myths associated with reading



Eoin Kelly, Ciarán Whelan and Adrian Byrne with students from Limerick's School of Art and Design

- * elevate the status of reading for pleasure
- * support schools that value reading
- * disseminate good practice for promoting reading for pleasure

Many thanks to the Gaelic Athletic Association, its Former President Seán Kelly and all the players who participated namely Seán Óg O'hAlpín (Cork), Eoin Kelly (Tipperary), Henry Shefflin (Kilkenny), Colm Cooper (Kerry) and Ciarán Whelan (Dublin).

Also thanks to the Limerick School of Art and Design/LIT's Graphic Design Department, course co-ordinator Adrian Byrne and final year students Ivor, Gillian, Eric, Iorna, Billy and Mandy, who undertook the project, as part of their client project assignment. The students worked in collaboration with Fiona Richardson and Jerry Mc Carthy of the JCSP support service.



Sudents Day Out at Launch Of Stars Read Campaign

Students from Coláiste Chathail Naofa, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford and Scoil Ruain, Killenaule, Co. Tipperary travelled to Dublin to meet a select number of GAA stars who participated in the Junior Certificate School Programme Stars Read Campaign and also the Taoiseach Mr. Bertie Ahern.

For the students of Scoil Ruain, it was a very exciting and proud day as they arrived to meet their Hurling Hero and former student of their school, Eoin Kelly.

The students from Coláiste Chathail Naofa, wearing Waterford jerseys following on from Waterford's magnificent League win the previous day were congratulated by members of the public along route, including some Kilkenny Cats!

*"We were made feel like VIPs!!
On arriving at Croke Park we were greeted by former GAA*



Display of signed Jerseys



Students from Scoil Ruain and Coláiste Chathail Naofa with Jason Sherlock, Eoin Kelly and Ciarán Whelan

President, Mr Seán Kelly. Our presence was requested for a photo shoot with the Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern. A large media presence awaited the Taoiseach's arrival after his announcement that weekend of the date for the forthcoming election. TV3's television cameras captured Mr Ahern shaking hands with us and we featured on its evening news slots. We were then asked to stand in again with the Taoiseach alongside the JCSP team and GAA players, Dublin's Ciarán Whelan and Tipperary's Eoin Kelly."

Student reporting

Before lunching in the Ash Suite, the students visited the GAA museum where much was discovered on GAA past and present. From the Ash Suite the students could step out onto the Hogan Stand and take in the size and magnificence that is Croke Park. The students did the school and their families proud at this memorable event.



Students from Coláiste Chathail Naofa with Eoin Kelly, Ann O'Donnell, JCSP Co-ordinator and Jane O'Loughlin, JCSP School Librarian



Ciarán Whelan with student from Coláiste Chathail Naofa

JCSP Initiatives 2007 – 2008

Since 1997 schools participating in the Junior Certificate School Programme have enhanced their students' experience of the Junior Cycle through the use of initiatives. The initiatives programme provides schools with support to run and measure the effectiveness of innovative teaching strategies. The evolution of JCSP initiatives during the past ten years and the documented impact of these on students and teachers alike, reflect the range of elements considered to be integral to developing a culture of life-long learning. The JCSP initiatives offer teachers the opportunity to adapt or devise teaching strategies that entail active learning and that focus on whole child development. The procedure built into the programme whereby teachers review the process of conducting initiatives and disseminate their findings through evaluation reports and inservice seminars has created a JCSP knowledge network that encompasses, supports and provides for students, teachers, and schools, as well as for the wider community.

In recent years the concept of "adolescent literacy" has been identified and investigated as a key to ensuring positive educational outcomes and addressing social exclusion. Adolescent literacy is seen as crucial because "To participate fully in society and the workplace in 2020, citizens will need powerful literacy abilities that until now have been achieved by only a small percentage of the population...Being literate in contemporary society means being active, critical, and creative users not only of print and spoken language but also of the visual language" (Vacca, 1998, p.5). Research has shown that traditionally the focus of pedagogical concern has been on early childhood and adult literacy with active reading education ending at the primary school level (Bean and Readence, 2002; Damico, 2005; Grosio de Leon; 2002, Moje, 2002).

Since 1998 the JCSP, as an integral component of its whole school approach to literacy, has supported the creation, evolution, and expansion of initiatives that directly address the literacy needs of students. The impact of established JCSP literacy initiatives such as the Reading Challenge, Readalong, and Who Wants to be a Word Millionaire, is evident not only in students' improved reading test results, but also by the number of schools that continue to use and develop these interventions from year to year. The scope for a creative approach to general literacy is illustrated by the array of new JCSP initiatives that schools have been encouraged to try this year including Drop Everything and Read and Digital Storytelling.

In JCSP the development of literacy skills is coupled with empowering children to become numerate. The importance

of addressing numeracy is highlighted not only by the extensive range of everyday life activities that require calculation skills but also by the evidence of an increasing rate of developmental dyscalculia in schools throughout Europe (Shalev, Auerbach, Manor, and Gross-Tsur, 2000). JCSP numeracy interventions offer a variety of strategies for developing students' numeracy based on the position that arithmetical and numerical knowledge can only be achieved through the balanced integration of procedural and conceptual knowledge (Baroody, 2003; Resnick, 1982; Van Lehn, 1990). Research suggests that an informal approach to numerical concepts and procedures results in more effective learning (Copley, 1999; Nunes, 1992). Mathematical games and active instructional interventions, components of the JCSP numeracy initiatives, have been shown to have a range of benefits including increasing children's motivation, supporting positive attitudes towards mathematics, allowing student's to try new strategies and stimulating logical reasoning (Blum and Yocum, 1996; de la Cruz, Cage and Lian, 2000; Quinn, Koca, and Weening, 1992).

While the critical emphasis on literacy and numeracy is demonstrated in the development of specific initiatives, the JCSP's whole school approach philosophy is evidenced in the wealth of cross-curricular and subject specific initiatives that are taking place in schools throughout the country. Initiatives as varied as Christmas Celebration, Trips to an Art Gallery, Physical Education Initiatives, and Samba Music are being developed and personalised by teachers to impact not only on student's academic outcomes but on their holistic, long-term development. The opportunity provided by these initiatives for students to engage directly in an active learning experience contributes to both their self-esteem and self-efficacy. The long-term benefits of developing these areas are clear in that "children's beliefs in their efficacy to regulate their own learning activities and to master difficult subject matters affect their academic motivation, interest, and scholastic achievement" (Bandura, Barbaranelli, Caprara, and Pastorelli, 1996, p. 1206). Research in child development has shown that the strength of a child's efficacy beliefs will determine the extent of their occupational aspirations, the degree of effort they will invest in developing an educational basis to pursue a range of careers as well as the effort and success of their academic work (Betz and Hackett, 1986; Lent, Brown, and Hackett, 1994). The JCSP students, who, traditionally, would have had limited chances in school to gain beliefs in their own abilities, are, by taking part in initiatives, able to explore their individual potential, set and achieve personal goals, and, in so doing, perhaps gain an enhanced vision of their own membership in an inclusive knowledge society.

JCSP Initiatives 2006 – 2007

This year we are delighted to be able to offer schools the widest range of initiatives yet. The more established initiatives such as Readalong and Paired Reading continue to grow in strength while new and innovative initiatives are continually being developed. A full listing is provided to JCSP Co-ordinators at the start of the school year. Schools can now apply on-line – jcsp@iol.ie for the following initiatives. Schools can only apply for a maximum of eight initiatives and the Christmas celebration. Schools will be informed of the initiatives they are successful in getting. Initiatives will be granted based on the proposal and are subject to funding being available. New schools are confined to a number of particular setting up initiatives.

Have you returned your evaluations from last year? If not please let the support service know if the initiative is still underway. However if the initiative is finished please do return the initiative evaluation on – line if you have not already done so. Remember, it will affect your successful application for initiative this year so go on – line to get in line.....

Subject Specific Initiatives

Gaeilge

Irish Morning: schools host an Irish morning.

Simulation: simulating real life eg village street etc gives opportunity for practicing Irish.

Gaeltacht: JCSP students turn their school/class into a Gaeltacht or visit a Gaeltacht region.

Software: software purchased for use with JCSP students in the Irish department.

Ceili: Host a ceili with a snack shop 'as Gaeilge'.

Storytelling: Bilingual Storytelling with an outside storyteller / seanachai.

Bodhrán Initiative: combining music and Irish Cultural Studies.

Disposable Camera Initiative Gaeilge: student photos to generate interest in creative writing and project work in Irish.



Bodhran – Kylemore College



Readathon

English

English – Pen pal: can be used with English Statement No.8 and the Letter Writing workbook.

English JCSP Readathon: a day's celebration / promotion of reading for pleasure.

English Disposable Camera Initiative: schools can use the student photos to generate interest in creative writing and project work in English.

Literacy Initiatives



Story-Telling – St. Tiernan’s Community School, Balally, Dublin

Reading Interventions

“Who Wants to Be a Word Millionaire?”: a short-term reading intervention, which challenges a class group of JCSP students to engage in recreational reading, at home with the support of their parents, and to collectively read a total of one million words. Support materials are provided to schools.

“Who Wants to Be a Word Millionaire?”: Top Up Initiative enables schools to acquire additional reading materials to repeat the initiative.

Reading Challenge Initiative: a short-term reading intervention, developed by a JCSP school Co-ordinator. Students are challenged to read a book a week for six weeks. Parental involvement is an element of this intervention. Reading Challenge motivates students to read and review books; they also track their reading and are awarded for successfully meeting the reading challenge. Support materials are provided.

Also, Reading Challenge Top up.

Readalong Initiative: a short-term reading intervention where students read while listening to the book being read on tape or CD. Students can also review the books and track their reading. Support materials are provided

Also, Readalong Top Up.

Paired Reading Initiative: a short-term reading intervention. Student reading is supported by a tutor. Paired Reading runs 3 to 4 times a week for six weeks. A Paired Reading initiative can work where JCSP students act as tutors to a primary school class, or senior cycle students are reading tutors for a JCSP class or parents work with students as tutors. Support materials are provided.

Also, Paired Reading Top Up.



Paired Reading

Reading Programme in the English Classrooms

Initiative: for this initiative schools are asked to consider the most appropriate reading laboratory e.g. SRA and to use it outside of the learning support context with a first year JCSP class group. Schools run a six week programme using a reading laboratory resource, aimed at accelerating reading and providing students with a regular opportunity to read at their own level and track their progress.

Keyword Initiative: Students are challenged to learn keywords and key spellings across subject areas. Support materials are provided.

Spelling Challenge: subject teachers interested offer students a challenge in order to motivate the learning process. Spelling journals are available for the challenge.

Author in Residence Initiative: This programme would particularly focus on creative writing skills development where an author would work for a period of time with a group of students. Schools could link with Poetry Ireland Writers in Schools Residencies Scheme.

Storytelling: Storytelling with an outside storyteller / seanacháí who will introduce the art of storytelling.

Drop Everything and Read (DEAR): promoting reading across the whole school or year group. At a set time everyday for a week everyone reads together.



Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)

Primary Picture Books: JCSP students link with a primary school class and choose an appropriate picture book to read to the students.

Reading Corners: this initiative can be used to create a classroom reading corner. Bean bags and walkmans could be a feature of the classroom reading corner.

Digital storytelling and Oral Language Development:

Everyone has a story to tell! Digital storytelling revolves around the idea of combining telling stories with any of a variety of available multimedia tools. Digital stories are short films made by students using computers and photographs, drawings, sound etc. The short film/video can be created by an individual or group of students.

Book Reviews: students given book tokens and supported in buying books to be reviewed.

General Literacy Initiatives: this will allow schools to come up with their own imaginative response to the literacy difficulties that they are encountering among their students.



End of Year Celebration – Inver College

New schools literacy Project



Numeracy Initiatives



Numeracy – Arklow Community College, Co. Wicklow

Paired Maths Initiative: the “Paired Maths” Initiative provides opportunities for schools to develop a framework for linking Fifth Year/TY students with JCSP students to support the development and enhancement of mathematical and numerical competencies among JCSP students.

Maths Games Initiative: this initiative provides opportunities for teachers to source and acquire maths games and/or maths activity packs.

“Make Your Own Opoly” Initiative: using and adapting the “Make Your Own Opoly” starter pack (which is based on the “Monopoly” boardgame), teachers can construct and develop their own boardgames to generate interest in maths.



Make Your Own Opoly – Firhouse Community College, Dublin



Make Your Own Opoly – Firhouse Community College, Dublin

Cross Aged Paired Maths Initiative: the establishment and implementation of a cross-aged paired maths programme.

General Numeracy Initiative: enables schools to acquire and use age-appropriate experiential resources and games in mathematics and numeracy.



Flash Master Maths Initiative

Flashmaster Maths Initiative: This initiative introduces a new piece of Maths equipment that has been used successfully in the States for a number of years. The Flashmaster is a handheld device that looks like a calculator but does much more. It allows students to practise their maths facts Multiplication Tables, Division Tables, Addition



Flash Master Maths Initiative

Tables, and Subtraction Tables in a fun way. Students can set goals for speed and accuracy at different levels in any of the 4 table areas. Teachers can monitor and customise the Flashmaster to practise particular skills or revisit special problem areas. The Flashmaster can be set to 'remember' the areas that cause difficulty.

Developing the Arts Initiatives



Samba – Larkin College, Dublin.

Samba Music in a Cross Curricular Initiative: students learn to perform Samba Music and participate in a cross-curricular project related to Brazil and/or carnival.

Trip to an Art Gallery: aims to enrich the students' artistic and aesthetic education in a stimulating and inspiring environment where they are allowed to interact with and respond to works of art.

Drama or Dance Initiative: schools look to local or regional drama and dance groups who offer workshops to schools in areas such as performance, improvisation, mime, clowning, dance and movement, storytelling etc.

Co-ordination Initiatives

Team Building Initiative: developing profiling meetings and the cross-curricular dimensions of the JCSP.

JCSP Student Folder Photographs: co-ordinators purchase a photo printer and cartridges for JCSP student and teacher use. This adds an exciting dimension to student folder work and displays of students' work.



Christmas Celebration – Jobstown

Christmas Celebration: this enables JCSP students; their parents and teachers to join in a celebration.

Physical Education

PE Initiative: students complete statement 6 for Physical Education by participating in one of the following activities: hill walking, canoeing, rock climbing, orienteering, sailing or windsurfing.

Science

Science Initiative: developing creative approaches to the teaching of Science to JCSP students.



Science – Colaiste Mhuire, Co. Kilkenny

Modern Language

Modern Languages Initiative: purchase of relevant software/ magazine or website subscriptions/materials.

Modern Languages Camera Initiative: schools can use the student photos to generate interest in creative writing and project work in a Modern Language.

Home Economics/Materials Technology Wood Materials Technology Metal: developing creative approaches to the teaching of these subjects to JCSP students.

Humanities – Geography/History /ESS Projects: developing creative approaches to the teaching of these subjects to JCSP students.

General

Twinning with another school: includes a joint collaboration on a cross curricular project.

Study Skills and Guidance Initiative: developing study skills and transfer programmes.

Field Trip Initiative: students to work on a field trip statement in Geography, History, Science or ESS.



Field Trip To The Burren – Salesian Secondary School, Limerick

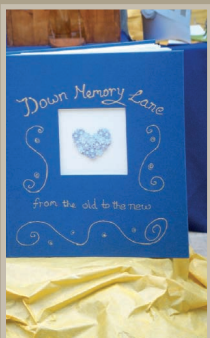
Subject Topic Boxes: topic books and resources related to individual subject areas are gathered.

Project Box: (only available for new schools) the JCSP Project box is a very useful and practical initiative. Schools put together a box of materials – markers/pritt stick / pencils / paper clips/ staplers etc to support the students in their various projects.

A Book 2007



Student Exhibits



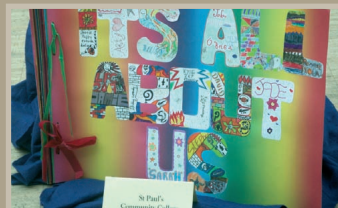
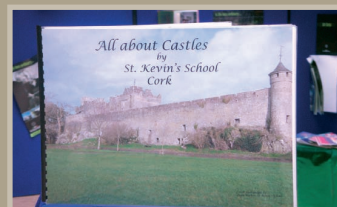
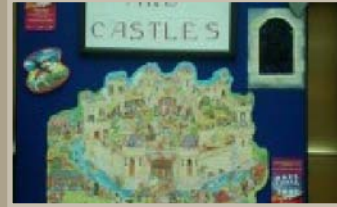
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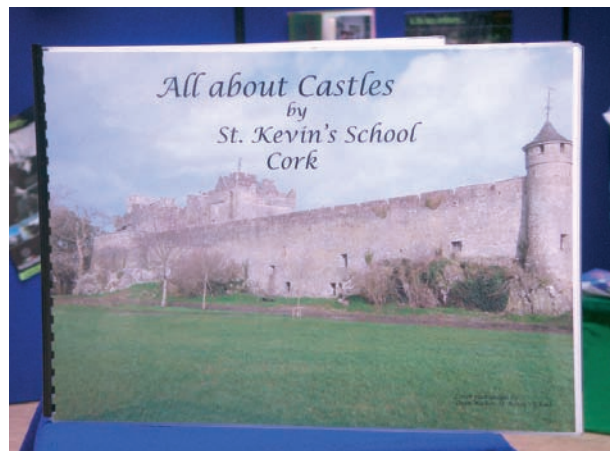
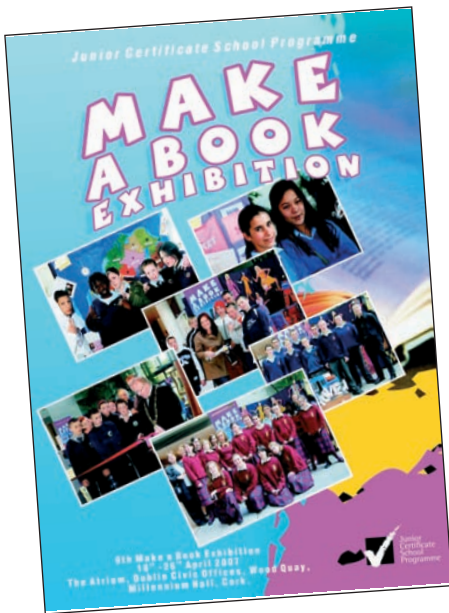
A Book 2007



JCSP Make A



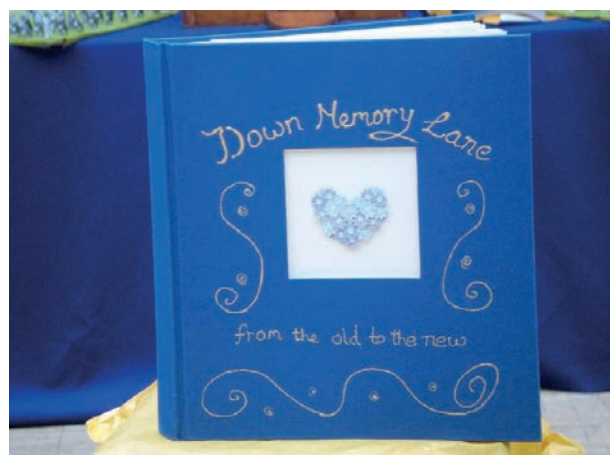
Make A Book 2007



St. Kevin's Book on Castles based on the Camera Initiative



St. Enda's Limerick display on EU countries



A Wonderful Trip down Memory Lane from Our Lady's Training and Education Centre, Quarters town, Mallow, Co.Cork



Lord Mayor Of Dublin.....officially launches the 2007 Make A Book at Dublin's Civic Offices, pictured with JCSP Staff

Make A Book 2007



Staff and students from St. Necessan's, Limerick with their book and display on Past, Present and Future



St. Paul's Waterford. It's All About Us



Students enjoying Make A Book in Dublin



Students eagerly searching for answers to quiz



Europe Comes to St. Aidan's

A Cross Curricular Approach to Make A Book



Mr Barry O'Brien, CEO, Cork County VEC presenting Make A Book Certificates to students at St Aidans

As part of the Junior Certificate Schools Programme, class Antoin of St. Aidan's Community College, Dublin Hill, Cork undertook a task of making a book. The subject selected was the European Union and the students invited Mr. Simon Coveney MEP to come to visit them. Each student did a report on their chosen country and, to get more information, letters were written in English to ambassadors of their countries requesting materials and information. Work was also under way in other subject areas.

Science: Reading temperature, Ms Karina Buckley, an RTE weather presenter visited the class.

Maths: Two graphs were made, one on the enlargement of the EU done on the computer and another showed the temperature of their country and the mean and mode had to be figured out.

Woodwork: Maps of the countries were drawn on wood and cut out in the woodwork class.

Metalwork: a stand was made to display the book.

Irish: Students wrote an acknowledgement in Irish in the book.

CSPE: Students worked on flags of countries and learned about government.

ESS: Students learned about the beginning of the EU, the countries and the history of these countries.

Computers: Graphs were drawn and letters typed up. Slide presentations were prepared for each student's country

Home Economics: Food was prepared for visitors to give a flavour of the cuisine from each of the different countries.

A programme to present the book to the school was planned. It gave the students the opportunity to inform other students in St. Aidan's about the European Union. Letters were again written to Presidents, Kings and Queens of the EU countries inviting them to the programme. Ambassadors were also invited as well as MEPs, local politicians, the Board of Management, parents and students. Each student prepared a slide presentation on their country and displayed the materials they had gathered. They also displayed the letters received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Taoiseach and Queen Elizabeth's Office, just to name a few!



Scottish Piper joins St. Aidan's students on Europe Day

Welcome to the new JCSP Website

The screenshot shows the JCSP website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'Skip Navigation', 'Accessibility Information', 'Site Map', and 'Site Help Page'. Below this is a search bar and a menu for subjects: slss, Transition Year, lcvp, lca, jcsp, cspe, English, Physics, Chemistry, biology, Home Economics, Maths, and Gaeilge. The main header features the 'Junior Certificate School Programme' logo and a colorful background graphic.

On the left side, there's a 'Site Links' menu with options: Home, Contact Us, About JCSP, Inservice Schedule, Subjects, Initiatives, All Statements, Co-ordinators, Resources, Forum, and Login. A red arrow points from a callout box to the 'Login' link.

The main content area has a 'Welcome to the new JCSP website' section. It contains a paragraph about the program's concept, a 'New Publications' section with links to 'Co-ordinators Overheads 2007', a 'Vacancies / Fólúntais' section with links to 'JCSP Regional Development Office (RDO) - Advertisement / Job Description / Application Form', and an 'Initiative Applications, Evaluations and Final Profiling are now available online' section. A red arrow points from a callout box to the 'Login' link in this section.

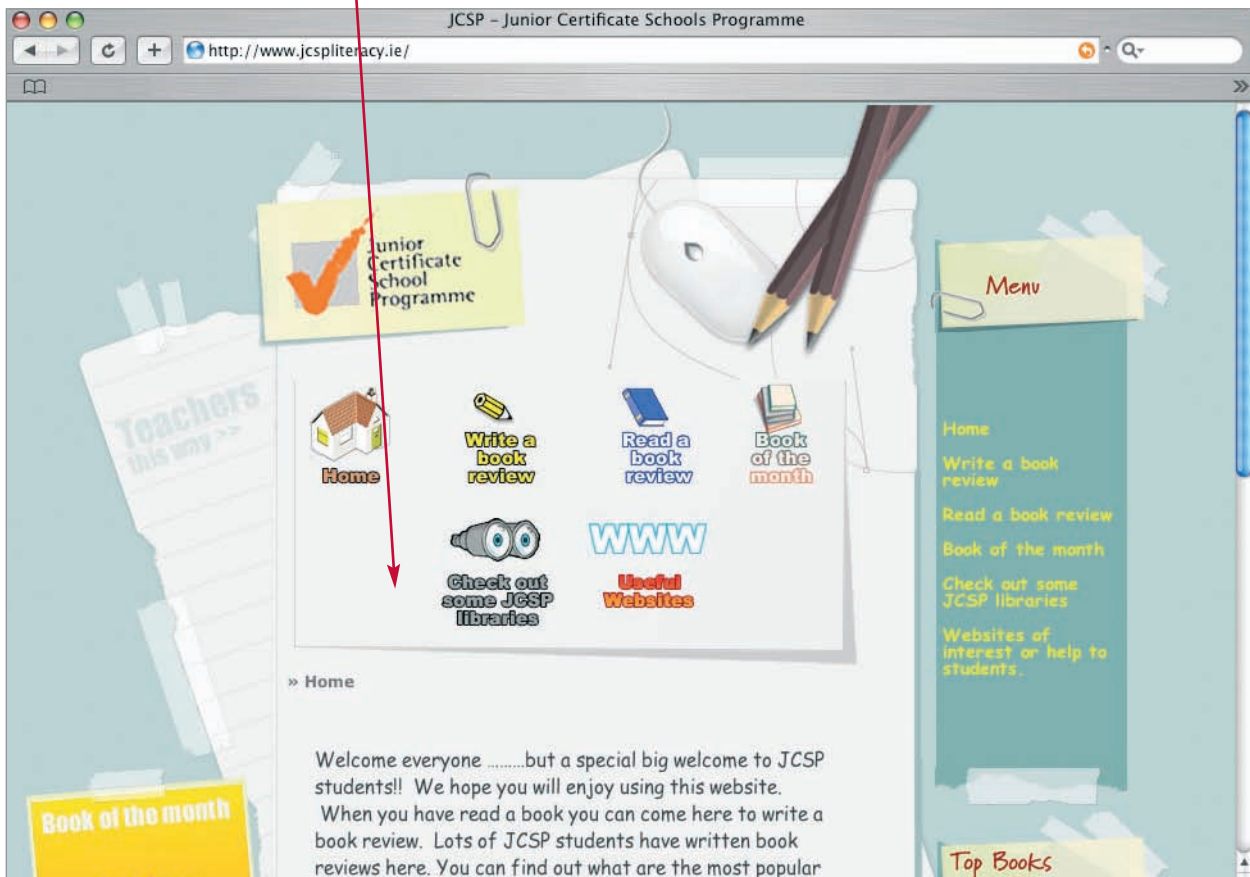
On the right side, there's a vertical menu of sections: HEADLINES (with a 'STARS READ' graphic), SUBJECTS (with a graphic of a globe), PROFILES (with a graphic of a person), INITIATIVES (with a graphic of a person playing a guitar), RESOURCES (with a graphic of a sunflower), and FORUM (with a graphic of a group of people). A red arrow points from a callout box to the 'RESOURCES' section.

At the bottom, there's a footer with 'Page created on Thu, 29 Sep 2005, last updated on Fri, 14 Sep 2007.', a 'Jump to top' link, and a navigation bar for 'SLSS.ie' with links for TY, LCVp, LCA, JCSP, CSPE, English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Maths, and Gaeilge. There are also logos for W3C XHTML 1.0 and W3C CSS, and the Department of Education and National Development Plan logos.

Three callout boxes provide additional information:

- Callout 1 (left):** Login here to return final profiles and initiative evaluation reports online. If you don't have a user name and password please contact JCSP office and they will be happy to assist.
- Callout 2 (middle):** View and order resources and materials online.
- Callout 3 (right):** Visit the forum for JCSP Co-ordinators and teachers. Ask a question. Share ideas.

A fourth callout box at the bottom right says: Visit the JCSP literacy site by clicking here, with an arrow pointing to the 'www.jcsp-literacy.ie' link in the 'Login' section of the Site Links menu.



New Schools joining JCSP Demonstration Library Project

A big Welcome to the ten new schools and their Librarians joining the library project this year

School	Librarian
Abbey Community College, Wicklow	Stephen Doherty
C.B.S. James's St., Dublin 8	Dympna Kiernan
Coláiste Dhulaigh, Coolock, Dublin 17	Ann Hughes
Enniscorthy Vocational College	Eadaoin Quinn
Jobstown Community College, Tallaght, Dublin 24	Karen O'Shea
Killinarden Community School, Tallaght, Dublin 24	Helen McMahon
Kylemore College, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10	Joseph Peelo
Mount Carmel Secondary School, Dublin 1	Jane Shee
St. Kevin's Community College, Clondalkin, Dublin 22	Derbhail O'Connor
Trinity Comprehensive School, Ballymun, Dublin 9	Sinéad Cunningham

Also, best of luck to Ann Masterson who will be joining the project as school librarian in Terence MacSwiney Community College, Cork

Junior Certificate Support Programme (JCSP) Demonstration Library Project for ten more post primary schools as part of the DEIS Action Plan.

The Demonstration Library Project began in 2001 as part of the Department of Education and Science Early Literacy Initiative to provide literacy and numeracy support for students up to Junior Certificate level. Introduced in 1996, the JCSP is aimed at providing support for Junior Certificate students who are experiencing difficulty or who may be at risk of leaving school early. Minister Hanafin said "This project is just one in a broad range of supports this Government has introduced to provide additional supports for children who are at risk of leaving school early. These students need extra help to make the most of the opportunities available to them in school. Ten extra schools will now benefit from quality school libraries staffed by professionally qualified librarians who will have professional research support. Last year almost 3,700 students benefited from these enhanced supports. In order to further support numeracy and literacy initiatives, funding will increase from €2.5million to €4million next year."

Launched last year, the DEIS Action Plan (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) is a comprehensive programme involving over €40million extra each year, aimed at providing all of the supports that children from socially and economically disadvantaged areas need to make the most of the educational opportunities available to them. Under DEIS the Demonstration Library Project will be extended on a phased basis to an additional 50 Postprimary schools.



Some of the JCSP Librarians at the launch of the Stars Read Campaign with Eoin Kelly and the JCSP Senior librarian Kathleen Moran

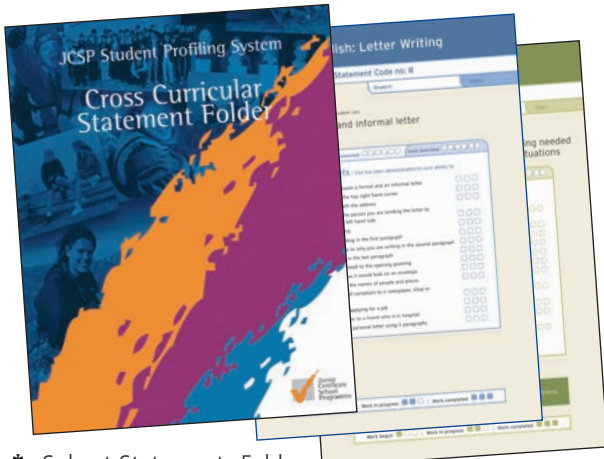
These schools, catering for disadvantaged students, will be encouraged to reinforce the concept of the whole-school approach and will be supported to:

- * set up and equip high quality school libraries
- * develop structured library based strategies with ICT support for JCSP students with literacy difficulties
- * employ professionally qualified school librarians who will work with the teaching staff to develop and implement the JCSP Literacy Strategy and who will be supported by the Project Librarian and the JCSP Support Service
- * participate in an ongoing monitoring and evaluation process which is a major part of the project.

New Materials

Student System Profile Handbook

The support service undertook a revamp of the Student System Profile Handbook over the summer and in due course 3 new folders will be available to all JCSP Co-ordinators.



- * Subect Statements Folder
- * Cross Curricular Statements
- * Co-ordinator's Folder

The statements have been redesigned and based on feedback from co-ordinators it was felt that having the statements in a loose leaf folder would be very useful. Additions can also be added as the profiles are further developed or refined. We hope you find the new look a refreshing change.

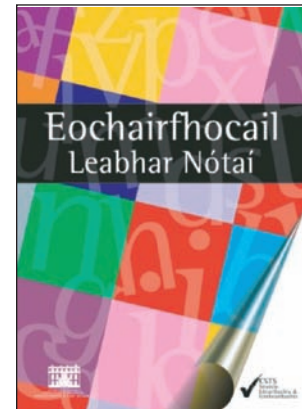
Make A Book

Make sure you get your copies of the Make A Book magazine for any students that were involved this year. It will give you lots of ideas for what you might do next year with your JCSP students.



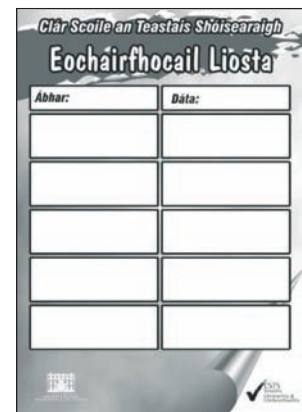
New Maths Poster

Irish Keywords Notebook



JCSP Irish Poster

Irish Keywords Poster



Irish Certificate



New Paired Reading Support Materials

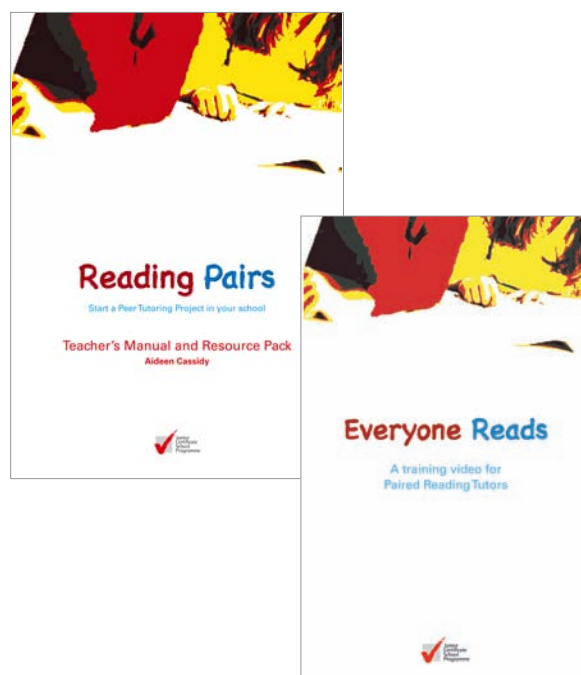
Paired Reading has become one of the most popular and successful of the JCSP Literacy initiatives and schools have found that the intervention is very effective in raising literacy levels of students, improving their attitude to reading and giving the students a great injection of confidence. The JCSP research showed too that cross age peer tutoring is particularly effective as the tutor can gain so much from the role.

In the new guidelines there are some suggestions as to how JCSP students themselves can be trained as reading tutors to 2nd class students. There are also suggestions for running paired reading with parents as tutors. The training materials can also be used with your senior cycle students being trained as tutors. Useful forms and templates that may be useful in running a project are included in the resource pack.

We hope that you will find the materials useful. Included with the new materials are the following:

- * a resource book for teachers offering some guidelines and resources for running a paired reading project.
- * posters to highlight the initiative in your school
- * bookmarks
- * paired reading folder for the students involved.
- * certificates for the tutors and for the younger readers for participating in the initiative

There is also a separate paired reading guidelines booklet to offer your tutors as part of their tutor training programme.



Junior Certificate School Programme

Wanted JCSP Folder Dividers

Inviting all students to design folder dividers for your JCSP folder.

You may choose any section of the folder for your design
e.g Cross Curricular, New Statements, Maths, Events, Gaeilge, Celebrations,
Geography, Statements Completed, Good Memories, Woodwork,
Certificates and Awards, English

Design your folder divider on an A4 page.

Closing date **November 22nd 2007**

All entries to:

JCSP Support Service, Folder Divider Competition, Curriculum Development Unit,
Sundrive Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12

Don't forget to put your name, class and school on the back of your entry

Useful Contacts

Drama and Rap Workshops

Eileen Holihan, JCSP Librarian at Larkin Community College recommends **Catherine Simon**, who did workshops on anti-bullying and drug awareness with Larkin's JCSP students.

Email: cassimon@hotmail.com
Phone: 086 874 7024

Comedy Workshops

The comedienne and actress Sinead Culbert has recently done comedy workshops with JCSP students in two schools which have reportedly gone down a bomb. Sinead brought props – wigs, enormous plastic ears etc and got students in groups to perform sketches around these. She does follow up workshop also, recording the students. Her contact number is **087 640 6565** and she works under the business name Seriously Funny.

Creative Writing

Author and playwright Neville Thompson has done many creative writing workshops with JCSP classes, most recently at Collinstown Park Community School. He works very well with JCSP students. Neville is part of Poetry Ireland's

Writers in Schools scheme which part-funds visits by authors to schools.

Poetry Ireland: www.poetryireland.ie
01 475 8601
Neville Thompson nevthompson@eircom.net
087 235 7418

Traditional Music

Jane O'Loughlin, organised a lunchtime "seisiun" in the library at Colaiste Cathail Naofa recently. The visiting musicians were Seanan Brennan and Martin Crossan from Donegal. Jane reported that they worked very well with all students and she would highly recommend them.

Email: seananbrennan@gmail.com
Phone: 087 414 4411

Tanglewood Designs

Trophies, medals, personalised items suitable for Prize Giving. Catalogue available on request.

Tanglewood Designs
Rockmarshall
Dundalk
Co Louth
Email: mgordon@iol.ie
Phone: 042 9376323 (after 6pm)

Welcome/Céad Míle Fáilte to schools joining the JCSP 2007

Vocational School – Muine Bheag, Co Carlow

Kilrush Community School – Kilrush, Co. Clare

Coláiste Rossa – Skibereen, Co. Cork

Bishop McEgan College – Macroom, Co. Cork

St. Patrick's College – Gardiner's Hill, Cork

Bishopstown Community College – Bishopstown, Cork

Deerpark CBS – St. Patrick's Road, Cork

Crana College – Bunrana, Co. Donegal

Gairmscoil Chuige Uladh – Lifford, Co. Donegal

O'Connell School – North Richmond St., Dublin

Loretto College – Crumlin, Dublin

St. Michael's Holy Faith – Finglas, Dublin

Rosary College – Crumlin, Dublin

St. Patrick's College – Tuam, Co. Galway

Scoil Chuimsitheach Chiaráin – Carraroe, Co. Galway

Community College – Kilorglin, Co. Kerry

St Aengus Post Primary School – Mountrath, Co. Laoise

Scoil Uí Mhuirí – Dunleer, Co. Louth

Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa – Clara, Co. Offaly

Ballinodde College – Ballinodde, Co. Sligo

Gairm Scoil Mhuire – Thurles, Co. Tipperary

Meánscoil San Nioclás – An Rinn, Co. Portlárige

Columba College – Killucan, Co. Westmeath

Bridgetown Vocational – Bridgetown, Co. Wexford

Coláiste Abbain – Adamstown, Co. Wexford

St. Kevin's Community College – Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow

Coláiste Mhuire – Buttevant, Co. Cork

Coláiste Chiaráin – Croom, Co. Limerick

Welcome aboard the JCSP to all and hoping your first year will be a successful one

Inservice Calendar September to December 2007

Course	Dates	Venues
Implementation Meeting for Principals and Co-ordinators new to the JCSP	Tuesday 11 th September 2007	The Regency Hotel, Drumcondra
Implementation Meeting for Schools New to the JCSP and New co-ordinators	Wednesday 12 th September 2007	The Regency Hotel, Drumcondra
Co-ordinators meeting	Monday 24 th September 2007	Limerick Education Centre
Co-ordinators meeting	Monday 24 th September 2007	Regency Hotel, Drumcondra
Co-ordinators meeting	Tuesday 25 th September 2007	Monaghan Education Centre
Co-ordinators meeting	Tuesday 25 th September 2007	The Ambassador Hotel, Cork
Co-ordinators meeting	Thursday 27 th September 2007	Venue to be announced
Teachers New To The JCSP	Monday 8 th October 2007	The Days Hotel, Galway
Teachers New To The JCSP	Monday 8 th October 2007	The Ambassador Hotel, Cork
Teachers New To The JCSP	Tuesday 9 th October 2007	Dublin West Education Centre
Teachers New To The JCSP	Tuesday 9 th October 2007	Donegal Education Centre
Digital Presentations and the JCSP	Monday 15 th October 2007	Dublin West Education Centre
Creating and Using Reading Spaces in Your School – Modular	Tuesday 16 th October 2007	Larkin Community College Library
Whole School Approach to Literacy Development at Junior Cycle – Modular	Thursday 18 th October 2007	The Regency Hotel, Drumcondra
Mind Mapping	Tuesday 23 rd October 2007	The Ambassador Hotel, Cork
Developing Coping Strategies Among JCSP Students: Circle Time and Choice Theory	Wednesday 24 th October 2007	The Sheldon Park Hotel
Science and the JCSP	Tuesday 6 th November 2007	Dublin West Education Centre
Religion and the JCSP	Thursday 8 th November 2007	Drumcondra Education Centre
Reading and Reader Development at Junior Cycle	Monday 19 th November 2007	Days Hotel, Galway
Outdoor Activities and Cross Curricular Links	Thursday 22 nd November 2007	Kilmurry Lodge Hotel, Limerick
Making sense of Maths and Numeracy at Junior Cycle	Tuesday 27 th November 2007	Drumcondra Education Centre
English and the JCSP	Tuesday 4 th December 2007	The Sheldon Park Hotel
Art and the JCSP	Thursday 6 th December 2007	Irish Museum of Modern Art

The Support Team



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The Junior Certificate School Programme Demonstration Library Project is funded by the Early Literacy Initiative and the Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) Action Plan.

Do Get in touch...

...if we can support your school in any way in implementing the JCSP. We are available to visit your school, as well as engage in a process of professional development with the team of teachers or the full staff. We can provide inputs on any aspect of the JCSP, as well as the JCSP Literacy and Numeracy Strategy, in the context of a process of professional development.

Additionally, please let us know of your views or comments on any aspect of the Student Profiling System. We need to hear how you are finding the use of statements in your classroom and how the process of positive feedback to the students is going.