A limited number of places are still available for the forthcoming open day of the Bio-imaging Unit at the John Innes Centre on September 17th, a chance to see and hear all about the latest techniques in microscopy. There will be a small exhibition, talks and tours throughout the day and schools can book into sessions at 09:30, 11:30, 13:00 and 14:00. Please contact dawn.barrett@bbsrc.ac.uk or call 01603 235328 to reserve places.

It would help if teachers did some preparation with parties before they come using the dedicated part of the JIC website [http://www.jic.ac.uk/microscopy].

We were delighted to see science education singled out in this year Queen’s birthday honours announced on 14th June. Professor Phil Smith, TSN coordinator since April 2003 received an M.B.E. ‘for services to science education’ which he firmly believes reflects the outstanding work of TSN over 14 years in addition to his own science outreach activity. Phil first joined TSN in 1999 and has worked with the same partner (Maxine Woods) for almost 10 years and they have received over £5K in school engagement grants from the BBSRC and Royal Society during that time.

TSN provides a real stepping stone for scientists wanting to share the passion of their research with teachers and schoolchildren by facilitating the partnerships and building upon lessons learnt over the years. His transition from JIC scientist to TSN coordinator would not have been so successful without the pivotal role played by his teacher partner, the TSN Steering Group and founders Frank Chernell (previous coordinator) and Keith Roberts.

Of the 959 awards issued this year, Phil is probably one of the younger recipients of the award, he’s passionate about the need for the science community to do more to engage effectively with schools and excited by the future for TSN.

Birthday honour for TSN Coordinator

Over 50 teachers from across Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire came together to hear invigorating speakers and cutting-edge science during our recent Stem Cell Master Class held at the Institute of Food Research and University of East Anglia earlier this year.

All our speakers contributed to a stimulating day that was warmly received by all the attendees.

“a wonderful day, its left me thinking complex thoughts, something I haven’t done in a while.”

A full resume of the day that covered stem cell biology, current developments, therapy potential and ethical issues in the UK and beyond will appear on our website shortly.

Thankful thanks for input from Mohammad Hoseini & Jelena Gavrilovic (University of East Anglia), Austin Smith (University of Cambridge), S J Cedar (South Bank University) & Amanda Dickins (Kings College, London).

Microscope Day JIC

Year 11 and above, Sept. 17th

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**Science in School - FREE subscriptions**

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Science in School is freely available. Online articles are published in many European languages and a print version is distributed in English. Go to www.scienceschool.org/ subscriptions to subscribe.

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**Primary Science conference, 24/09**

For the first time we are delighted to announce a joint venture between ourselves, The East of England Science Learning Centre and Norfolk Children Services with a day long Primary Science Conference geared towards the needs of Primary Science coordinators across the county.

The event will take place at the John Innes Centre, a satellite venue for the SLC on 24th September. By the end of the day it is hoped participants will:

- be confident in promoting effective teaching and learning in science in their school;
- know the range of support and professional development opportunities available to promote primary science in Norfolk schools;
- have explored creative approaches to teaching and learning in science;
- taken part in workshops selected from assessment in science, environmental education, using puppets in science and developing the role of the subject leader in science.

Course fee, £130 per teacher. Bookings and further information from Norfolk Children Services by emailing lisa.poplock@norfolk.gov.uk or book online at http://www.cpd.norfolk.gov.uk/submit/

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**Funding Opps.**

Whether you are thinking of a one off event (possibly during National Science and Engineering Week, NSFW 2009) or a more sustained project there are two schemes well worth considering for a funding application in either primary or secondary science. We are more than happy to assist with the application and give some tips for success, just get in touch...

Partnership Grants from the Royal Society encourage teachers & scientists to work together and so they like the idea of you already being partnered and know all about TSN. They offer £3,000 for activities in any area of science for projects that give school students a taste of science and engineering today, and show their relevance for society. More details at http://royalsociety.org/landing.aspx?id=10

TSN Annual Meeting

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**Planning Ahead**

**International Polar Year**

Next Polar Day, Sept. 24

**‘People at the Poles’**

Here is an opportunity to build stronger relationships with our ‘neighbours’ by connecting Arctic and non-Arctic schools in an exchange of ideas and experiences about where you live, what issues affect your everyday lives and the vision you have for your communities. The idea of the day is to expand our knowledge of life experiences and impacts of polar versus non-polar community life and to encourage a broader concept and understanding of our global community. Why not use a science experiment as a topic for discussion and compare results?

An activity is available through a link on the News & Events page of the TSN website (www.tsn.org.uk), there is a chance to listen to and talk with researchers during a live radio event (web-streamed or live) and the launch of a virtual Balloon on the IPY site to see communities pop-up across the globe (www.ipy.org). With thanks to Lars Poort, Greenland for the image.

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**Cells Alive!**

- Exploring the Science of life

From the single cell of a bacterium to the millions of cells that make you, life on Earth is quite remarkable, but what is it that makes life so amazing? Become a DNA Detective and find out how science works in the pharmaceutical industries in our immediate vicinity, teachers may be interested in a new website from GlassSmithKline with information about how science works in the pharmaceutical industry, a virtual tour of a chemistry plant, coursework information for Applied Science courses and much more. Visit www.atworkwithscience.com

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