

Welcome to the 32nd issue of *Science in School*



I am delighted to report that as we go to press, EIROforum – our publisher – has just agreed to continue funding *Science in School* until the end of 2020.

This financial commitment represents an even more important commitment from EIROforum: to the young people of Europe and to you, their teachers. EIROforum is a partnership of eight world-class scientific research organisations, and like all other research organisations, they need inspired, committed and knowledgeable scientists now and in the future. For that reason, *Science in School* makes perfect sense to EIROforum, as it invests in Europe's teachers, in Europe's young people and in the future of European science.

With this in mind, Laura, Isabelle and I are looking forward to bringing you many more inspiring teaching ideas, cutting-edge science features, interviews with scientists and teachers, and much more over the next few years. So, if you haven't already thought about submitting an article to *Science in School* and sharing your ideas with colleagues worldwide, perhaps now is the time to do it.

While we look forward to the future, we also have an archive full of useful articles that you can use right now. This year is the International Year of Light and Light-Based Technologies and we have made a collection of more than 40 light-related articles on the *Science in School* website, many of them translated into other European languages. You can find them at <http://www.scienceinschool.org/IYL2015>. The collection includes teaching activities, science articles and profiles of scientists, and covers a broad range of interesting topics across the sciences, including space telescopes, fusion energy, art conservation and how fish survive in the Arctic. Over the course of this year, we will add even more articles and translate existing articles into other European languages, so do keep visiting our website.

Speaking of which, we continue to welcome feedback on our new website. If you'd like to share your views with us, please complete the questionnaire at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7WBM8F6>

In the meantime, we hope that this issue sheds some light on new and interesting scientific topics. For example, did you know that some cancers are infectious (page 6)? And do you know what exactly you're doing when you dye your hair (page 10)? We also answer the question of how mathematicians can help to predict the spread of Ebola (page 14). If you'd like something more hands-on, why not get your students to investigate the chemistry of magic sand (page 37) or the physics of chocolate eggs (page 41)? Experiments with blood can be dangerous, so you might like our chemical simulation (page 33). Or – a topic close to our hearts – you could help your students to write creatively about science (page 27).

We'd also like to take a special moment to celebrate other news as we go to press: the reawakening of the Philae lander on comet 67P. We heard the news through the tweets from Philae – or, more accurately, from the scientist tasked with tweeting for Philae, our former intern Karin. You can read her story on page 20.

Eleanor Hayes

Editor-in-chief of *Science in School*
editor@scienceinschool.org
www.scienceinschool.org

About *Science in School*

The European journal for science teachers

Science in School is the **only** teaching journal to cover all sciences and target the whole of Europe and beyond. Contents include cutting-edge science, teaching materials and much more.

Brought to you by Europe's top scientific research institutes

Science in School is published and funded by EIROforum (www.eiroforum.org), a partnership between eight of Europe's largest intergovernmental scientific research organisations.

Inspiring science teachers worldwide

The *Science in School* website offers articles in 30+ languages and is read worldwide. The free quarterly journal is printed in English and distributed across Europe.

Advertising: tailored to your needs

Choose between advertising in our print journal, or on our website. For maximum impact, reach our entire readership with an advertorial (online and in print). Online and in print, we have a total of over 150 000 readers per quarter.

- The majority of our readers are secondary-school science teachers.
- Our readership also includes many primary-school teachers, teacher trainers, head teachers and others involved in science education.
- The journal reaches significant numbers of key decision-makers: at the European Commission, the European Parliament and in European national ministries.

For more information, see www.scienceinschool.org/advertising or contact advertising@scienceinschool.org

Subscribing

Register free online to:

- Subscribe to the e-newsletter
- Request a free print subscription (limited availability)
- Post your comments.

How can I get involved?

Science in School relies on the involvement of teachers, scientists and other experts in science education.

- Submit articles or reviews
- Join the reviewer panel
- Translate articles for publication online
- Tell your colleagues about *Science in School*
- Make a donation to support the journal.

See www.scienceinschool.org or contact us.

Contact us

Science in School
European Molecular Biology Laboratory
Meyerhofstrasse 1
69117 Heidelberg
Germany
editor@scienceinschool.org