

10 wriggle newsletter

Issue 10 / Autumn 2016 / Newsletter

Connect with us!

facebook.com/Gowriggle

twitter.com/Gowriggle



In this Issue

Cover: Junior Cycle Results Round Up

Page 2: Mastering Maths

Page 3: Focus on the teaching not the technology!

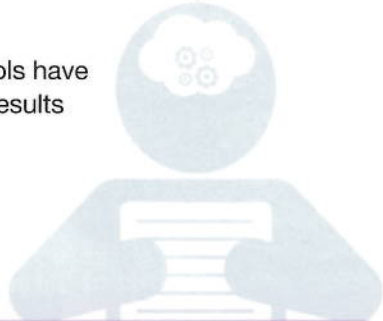
Page 3: Wriggle Sponsor F1 in Schools Irish team

Page 4: Apple Update

Junior Cycle Results Round-up

We are delighted that our schools using devices and associated teaching resources are experiencing really strong results in the State Examinations. Emerging technologies have enabled these schools to enhance their teaching and facilitate active learning within their schools.

Here is what some schools have to say about the recent results they have achieved.



We were extremely pleased with our recent Junior Certificate results which were excellent. The results for English in particular were outstanding. The use of digital devices coupled with training to support teachers to successfully use and embed digital technologies have enabled this success. The training was provided by our own staff in addition to that provided by the JCT English support service team. We are confident now that we can build on this going forward to the benefit of all our students.

Alan Mongey, Principal, Coláiste Bhaile Chláir.



Our 2016 junior certificate results were the best we have had for many years. Changing teaching methodologies and the introduction of digital devices in the school have really contributed to our student's success. The use of Office 365, iPads and Microsoft Surfaces as tools to support the teaching and learning has brought about this very positive change which is impacting our results.

Cathnia Ó Muircheartaigh, Priomhoide, Coláiste Pobail Osraí.



We had a really strong set of Junior Cert results in Lusk Community College. Without doubt iPads and associated teaching technologies in our classrooms had a significant impact. Our weaker students particularly performed significantly better than we had anticipated. It is fantastic that these students have been enabled to reach their potential by using these new teaching methodologies.

Patricia Atkins, Principal, Lusk Community College.



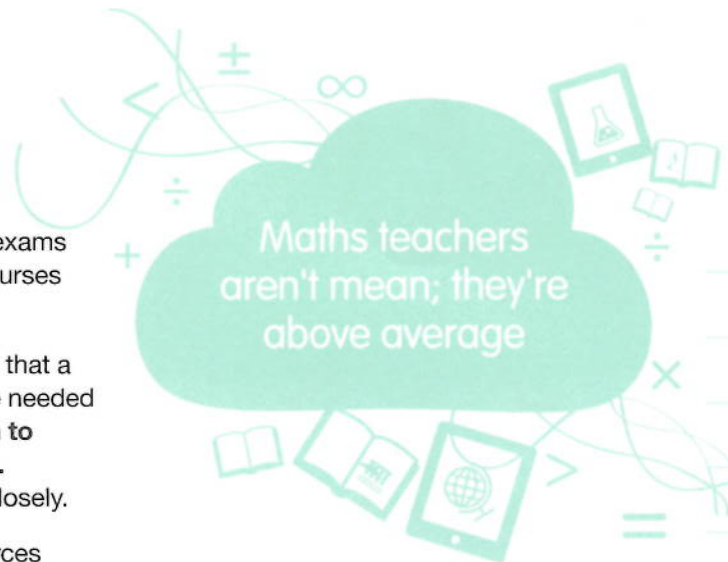
Mastering Maths

More than 4,000 students failed their Leaving Cert Maths exams in 2016, effectively locking them out of many third-level courses which require a pass as a basic entry requirement.

The Irish Times recently featured a study which concluded that a greater focus on Maths teaching at primary school may be needed to improve children's performance. **The ability of children to tackle problem-solving has emerged as a real concern.**

This is a really worrying trend and one we need to watch closely.

We have selected a sample of some of the best digital resources to assist students and teachers when mastering Maths.



GeoGebra

www.geogebra.org/

GeoGebra is free dynamic maths software that is being used in many Irish schools on a daily basis. It brings together geometry, algebra, calculus, statistics etc in one App.

GeoGebra can take an abstract concept and make it more meaningful. It enhances conceptual understanding and allows students to visualise related concepts and creates correlations between different areas of maths.



Build Up

www.buildup.ie/

We see more and more schools adopting this resource, some schools reporting a performance increase averaging 8% in students... not to be sniffed at! Build Up is not designed to grade students from 1 to 30 in a class but rather utilises an adaptive learning engine that is able to accurately profile the knowledge state of each student. Build Up then uses this information to deliver personalised content to each student based upon their own unique learning needs. We really love this personalised learning approach!



Microsoft OneNote

www.onenote.com/download

Microsoft OneNote is the canvas that can be used to deliver classroom content. It allows the teacher to create interactive lessons that students will remember long after the bell has gone. Many teachers could not imagine teaching without it!



Fluid Math

www.fluidmath.net/Maths

Maths teaching and learning software that facilitates classroom preparation and exploration allowing students to delve deeper into mathematical concepts and bring the content to life.



Desmos Graphing Calculator

www.desmos.com/calculator

Desmos allows the teacher to easily display and support a wide variety of mathematical content during the class.



Come on IRELAND...

Wriggle Sponsor F1 in Schools Irish team

The team from St Brigid's College Loughrea are currently gearing up for the F1 in Schools world finals in Texas this winter. A team of two girls and four boys from the school have qualified from the National Finals to represent Ireland. They have designed and manufactured a 1/20th scale CO2 powered Formula 1 car, capable of traveling at speeds in excess of 120km/h down a straight track.

The team have been working on this project since September 2015 and they won the prestigious award for the 'Best Engineered Car' at the F1 National Finals in the RDS last April. They also won additional awards for their marketing strategy and social media activity.



Pictured is Beryl Furlong from Wriggle with the successful team.

Microsoft Office 365 for Schools

Focus on the teaching not the technology!

Microsoft Office 365 provides students and staff with the Office applications they know, optimised for their devices, so they can work wherever they happen to be. Free for schools, Microsoft's Office 365 offers exciting new ways to collaborate and to deliver curriculum. Wriggle is a Microsoft Office 365 Education Partner with the capability to ensure that your school is using this fantastic resource to its optimum. Our research in schools has highlighted that many already have Microsoft Office 365 but are not using it to its full potential. Wriggle can provide the following Microsoft Office 365 services:

- Roll out of Office 365 to teachers and students.
- Management and support of your Office 365 environment.
- Training for teachers in using Office 365 in their teaching regardless of their subject area.
- Development of a strategy for using this resource in your school.

Our Office 365 lead Fintan Costello is on hand to offer you direction and support for your Microsoft Office 365 journey. Contact him at fintan@wriggle.ie for more.



Fintan

Welcome to Brendan!



Brendan

Wriggle welcomes Brendan Cawley as our Teacher Engagement Manager. Brendan previously was a teacher, Assistant Principal and year head in Coláiste Pobail Setanta and we are delighted that he will be joining the ever-growing Wriggle Team. Brendan will provide support to teachers, school leaders and planners in enhancing teaching and learning using technology. Furthermore, he will develop plans and strategies to implement innovative and digital teaching practices in schools. If you would like to connect with Brendan, please email him at brendan@wriggle.ie



Apple Update

There have been several new developments from Apple since our last issue. So, for your convenience, we have summarised some of these which may be relevant for you below.

Apple School Manager and Managed Apple ID's
Schools can now sign up to this service which ensures that the student has a 'Managed Apple ID'. This Apple ID which cannot be used to purchase anything from the App Store means the student can only have Apps on the device that are prescribed by the school and 'pushed' to the device. This is really important from a Data Protection and classroom management perspective.

Apple Classroom

A free classroom management App from Apple that is used in conjunction with devices that are enrolled in Apple's Device Enrollment Programme. Classroom turns an iPad into a powerful teaching assistant, helping a teacher guide students through a lesson, see their progress, and keep them on track. With Classroom, you can easily launch the same app on every student device at the same time, or launch a different app for each group of students. Classroom helps teachers focus on teaching so students can focus on learning. There are limitations around the use of this App. For further information please call Wriggle.



Swift Playgrounds

The new coding language from Apple designed for students in Junior Cycle. Learning to code with Swift Playgrounds is really fun. The app comes with a complete set of Apple-designed lessons. Play your way through the basics in "Fundamentals of Swift" using real code to guide a character through a 3D world.

Then move on to more advanced concepts. There is a really useful iBook available on the iBook Store which is a teacher guide for Swift Playgrounds.

This Teacher Guide is designed to help you bring Swift Playgrounds into the classroom, no matter what your level of experience with coding is. It includes lesson plans with learning objective, rubrics and Keynote presentations. Whether you plan to introduce coding as a short course or want to integrate problem solving into other subjects, it is well worth considering.

You must have a device with iOS10 to use Swift Playgrounds.



Wriggle
Unit G6, Calmount Business Park,
Ballymount, Dublin 12.

w. www.wriggle.ie
e. info@wriggle.ie
f. 01 5009060 Wriggle
f. 01 5009065 Wriggle Helpdesk

Wriggle is brought to you by

