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| **E-Bulletin No. 5** |  | **December 2021** |

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| **INVESTORS IN FAMILIES NEWS** |
| Welcome to our last Newsletter of the year! It has most definitely been a different year to last year and although there are still challenges and some restrictions, it has been great seeing settings getting back to some ‘normality’.  We have been working hard building our IiF Community and network of schools and are very excited to be working with schools across the country. IiF are currently revising and creating new material including our Family Engagement Audit tool and map. These will be shared on the Padlet as soon as they are ready. The Padlet is where you can find all the forms and information you need whilst working towards your accreditation. We will keep this updated with useful information and presentations we share. <https://padlet.com/lynsey14/orv868tbic9cspjl>  We have had the absolute pleasure of having two accreditations this term, both of which achieved their **Diamond Standard Award**. Huge congratulations to:  **Gwersyllt Primary School**  and  **Ysgol Hen Felin**  You have demonstrated active and engaged participation over many years which has led to this journey of excellence. Inspiring!  Lynsey will be holding free training for a programme called **Talk, Learn, Do** in the New Year. This programme is aimed at Families with children aged 3-11, although does meet the needs of older children too. More information about TLD can be found here: [talk-learn-do](https://moneyandpensionsservice.org.uk/talk-learn-do/)  The provisional date for this training will be Monday, 17th January, 10am - 12 noon. The link to booking will be sent out separately.    We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and are very much looking forward to seeing you in 2022!! |
| We are proud to announce that the below schools/settings have registered with IiF since September 2021.  We will be updating this section every month from now on with the newsletter.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **September 2021** | The Hollies School | Pentwyn, Cardiff | | **November 2021** | Pengeulan Primary School | Mountain Ash, Cardiff | | **December 2021** | Archers Brook School  Howden Junior School | Chester  East Yorkshire | |

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| **RESOURCES/TRAINING** | |
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| **First Aid** | The Red Cross are offering free face to face and online workshops to build confidence and learn lifesaving skills. These could be offered to pupils but also to families as part of your family learning programme. More information can be found here: <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/teaching-resources/community-education-workshops>    Did you know that the Red Cross also have a First Aid App? This will be a valuable tool to share with your school community. <https://www.redcross.org.uk/first-aid/first-aid-apps> |

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| Literacy counts Newsletter contains some free Poetry resources for all KS’s and lots of valuable information. <https://mcusercontent.com/a53e49db5e066a322855abda2/files/79c6e1a8-ece1-289b-38cf-2ebe0a5d1de8/September_2021_Autumn_1_Newsletter_3_.pdf> | A picture containing arrow  Description automatically generated |

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| CE horizontal - full colour (4) | Another one of our favourites that we regularly highlight for FREE informative webinars and courses is Creative Education. Dr Pooky Knightsmith has a PHD in Child Mental Health and there is currently a free course for school staff in relation to suicide and supporting young people during moments of crisis. You can sign up for a free account and find free courses here <https://www.creativeeducation.co.uk/available-courses/?_price=free>  **Suicide**  A 14 year old tragically committed suicide recently at a previous IiF Secondary School in Flintshire. This devastating news has hit the school community hard. Creative Education are offering a free online course in relation to Suicide and also PAPYRUS provide training at £25 per person <https://www.papyrus-uk.org/upcoming-training/?month=12&year=2021> |

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| cmhw-2022-logopng | Although Children’s Mental Health Week is a few months away, we thought these FREE resources would aid your planning. The resources are available for Primary and Secondary schools and include: assembly guides, slides, group activities, fundraising ideas and more to help schools and youth groups explore the theme of Growing Together.  You can view resources here <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/news/children-s-mental-health-week-2022-resources-available-now/>  They are also available in Welsh here <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/news/children-s-mental-health-week-2022-welsh-resources-available-now/> |

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| We have heard some wonderful initiatives schools are adopting in order to look after and support the whole school staff team. There are some great articles, toolkit, resources and links to support your school here : <https://www.mentalhealthatwork.org.uk/toolkit/supporting-staff-wellbeing-in-primary-schools/>  Ysgol Hen Felin in South Wales mentioned Cari which is an online offer where you can assess your own wellbeing. It provides you with a report and suggests activities such as exercises, webinars, coaching etc You can find out more information here <https://www.cariwellbeing.co.uk/about-cari/> | A picture containing logo  Description automatically generated  **Supporting Staff Wellbeing** |

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| SSCE Cymru | Supporting Service Children in Education (SSCE) Cymru is a Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) programme initially funded by the MOD’s Education Support Fund and funded by Welsh Government from 2019.  SSCE Cymru has developed guidance and digital resources for schools and families, hosted conferences and stakeholder days and commissioned research to better understand the needs of Service children in education. <https://www.sscecymru.co.uk/aboutsscecymru/ourmission/default.htm> |

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| **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT** | | | |
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| A picture containing text, clipart  Description automatically generated | Have you read Parentkind**’**s Blueprint for Parent-Friendly Schools? We are always looking at material that supports your IiF journey and enhances your engagement. This blueprint has **five** key drivers that we like and you may benefit from. You can view the Blueprint here: <https://www.parentkind.org.uk/For-Schools/Blueprint-for-Parent-Friendly-Schools> | |

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| We think this Kind Christmas Activity Pack is a wonderful idea to either share in school and pick out some key activities during the festive season or share the link/resources with families. They are FREE to download here: <https://schoolofkindness.org/kind-christmas-activities-for-children?utm_source=School+of+Kindness&utm_campaign=d9c7285b81-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2021_11_15_11_05&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1ca4d44da5-d9c7285b81-325597494> | **The foundations for building effective home-school partnerships**  Text  Description automatically generated with medium confidence |

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| Text  Description automatically generated | Do you have a family in an immediate crisis that is spiralling and threatening the stability of families and individuals? Or a family struggling to purchase an essential household item? This grant was not mentioned in the presentation we carried out a few months ago. Family Action provide welfare grants, more information can be found here.  <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/grants/?gclid=Cj0KCQjwrJOMBhCZARIsAGEd4VEpxDMpQvU__yqY0gHftlN4OK6DM6oY_sXTCqUQkvOiGFVfTrmPQwkaAmwmEALw_wcB> |

[**Addressing the deepening digital divide**](https://educationendowmentfoundation.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cb569f99caaaedff117cdc74c&id=1ef34400a4&e=702143b8f2)

Like many of you, we have experienced the impact of digital poverty for our families during the Pandemic. We thought this report useful in understanding the need and impact. This report discusses the results of a survey of over 1,500 teachers representing 92 countries on barriers to digital learning. You can view the report here:

<https://oup.foleon.com/report/digital-divide/contents/?mc_cid=7dd3e8a0be&mc_eid=702143b8f2>

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| I know I have mentioned this many times but there are still some schools who are unaware Parentalk run two programmes called The Primary Years and the Secondary Years. These programmes are FREE to download currently and are a fantastic Family Learning opportunity. In essence, it is a 5 week programme where parents can come into school (or delivered virtually on line which I know some schools are doing) in an informal environment with refreshments. They watch DVD clips, have a workbook and basically talk about the trials and tribulations of being a parent. The Programme can be tailored to meet the needs of your school community.  You can view and download the resources here: <https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/courses/courses-for-parents/parentalk> | Logo, company name  Description automatically generated  A picture containing text, indoor, cat  Description automatically generated |
| **GRANTS & FUNDING** | |

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| THE NINEVEH CHARITABLE TRUST | [**Funding for Projects that Promote a Better Understanding of the Environment and Countryside (UK)**](https://www.ninevehtrust.org.uk/) UK-based schools and not for profit organisations can apply for funding to the Nineveh Charitable Trust for a broad range of projects and activities that promote a better understanding of the environment and countryside, whilst facilitating improved access, education and research. Whilst the Trust does not specify a minimum or maximum grant amount that can be applied for, an analysis of previous grants would suggest a maximum of £5,000 per year for up to three years. Previous projects supported include Castlemilk Day Nursery which received a grant of £5,000 to build a multi-function shelter with provision for special needs teaching; and St Joseph's Specialist School & College, which received a grant of £4,000 towards a community garden expansion. Applications can be submitted at any time. |

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| Persimmon Homes Charity Foundation is providing grant funding of up to £1000 to registered charities, clubs, schools and other organisations which have already raised vital funds themselves towards projects to enhance their local community.  The total available each month to support local good causes is £60,000.  The type of projects supported to date have included support for foodbanks; projects within schools; and sports projects; etc.  <https://www.persimmonhomes.com/community-champions> | A picture containing text  Description automatically generated |
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| **Grants to Support Outdoor Learning for Primary & Secondary School Children (UK)**  Grants of £500 are available to UK State funded Primary and Secondary Schools to enable them to get their pupils learning outdoors.  The Ernest Cook Trust’s Outdoor Essentials Grant scheme will award 180 grants to support school travel and transport costs to outdoor learning venues, including outdoor learning centres, forest schools, countryside parks, woodlands, national parks, farm parks, farms (including city farms), coastal areas and beaches. Trips to outdoor adventure centres for outdoor activities (such as kayaking and climbing) may be considered.  Applications must be made by a member of staff employed by the school, and approved by the Head Teacher. Multi Academy Trusts can also apply, but applications must be made by the individual schools.  This round will close to applications when sufficient grant applications have been approved.  <https://ernestcooktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/everything-outdoors/outdoor-essentials-grant/> | Logo  Description automatically generated |

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| Wilko - The Home Of Family Value | [Wilko - Helping Hands (England, Scotland & Wales)](https://www.grants4schools.info/members-area/grants-4172.html)This grant is **open to applications**. Applications can be submitted at any time.  Every Wilko store has a budget to enable it to provide a helping hand to local groups and community projects. Support can be in the form of raffle prizes to help with fund raising, products such as tins of paint to be used on community projects or volunteers to help with work in the community. Applications are welcome from schools, playgroups, nurseries, parent or family groups, disabled groups, youth clubs, elderly groups, luncheon clubs, community and tenants' associations, local police, fire service and local councils. Wilko is unable to support political parties, private or fee - paying schools, branches of national charities, profitable organisations or third party private fundraising groups.  <https://corporate.wilko.com/stories/supporting.php> |

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| [**£3.5 Million Fund Launched for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (UK)**](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/the-platinum-jubilee-fund) The National Lottery Community Fund has launched a new £3.5million fund for community-led commemorative events and activities to celebrate The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. The Platinum Jubilee Fund will award grants of up to £50,000 to seventy projects across the UK that bring people together to celebrate, build relationships, and create new opportunities and a legacy for future generations and the environment. Charities, voluntary and community organisation, schools, statutory bodies, and other not-for-profit organisations can apply for funding to cover costs such as events and activity costs, equipment and materials, staff costs, transport and utilities. The deadline for applications is 5pm on the 15th December 2021, or once 700 applications are received, whichever comes first.  <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/the-platinum-jubilee-fund> | Logo  Description automatically generated |