

February 2017/ [www.eis.org.uk](http://www.eis.org.uk)

## FELA Ballot

FELA members should have received an email late on Friday afternoon (17 February) with details of how to vote in the indicative ballot on implementation of the 2016 national pay agreement. Full details of the issues that have led to this ballot can be found here <http://www.eis.org.uk/FELA/Honourthedeal.htm>. If FELA members have not received an email with their ballot paper they should contact the EIS straight away on 0131 225 6244 or email [membership@eis.org.uk](mailto:membership@eis.org.uk). The ballot closes at noon on Friday 3 March.

### Action for Branch Secretaries:

It's important that we get as big a turnout and as big a YES vote for industrial action as possible. Please prominently display posters enclosed with this bulletin and speak to FELA members to check that they received the email and encourage them to vote.

## Myths of Immigration Booklet

Three new EIS 'Myths of Immigration' booklets were launched earlier this week. The booklets are intended to help teachers in nursery, primary, secondary, and FE feel more confident in challenging some of the rhetoric and misunderstandings that abound about this issue, especially in some sections of the media. It is crucial to counter this misinformation and the racism and faith-based prejudice associated with it; schools and colleges can play an important part in this, with the right support. The booklets are intended to support the wider anti-racist education that is underway in a variety of guises across Scotland. The booklets are for Early Years and Early Primary; Primary; and Secondary and Further Education.

### Action for Representatives:

Copies of the appropriate booklet(s) for your establishment are enclosed with this bulletin; all three booklets can also be downloaded from the EIS website (<http://www.eis.org.uk/Equality/Anti-racism>) or further copies ordered from Ashley in the Education and Equality Department ([agray@eis.org.uk](mailto:agray@eis.org.uk)). Please encourage members to incorporate use of these booklets into their wider approach to anti-racist education within the establishment.

## National Qualifications Assessment: Work in Progress

SQA recently announced some detail of the forthcoming changes to the balance of assessment within National 5 qualifications that are to take effect from session 2017. The CfE Management Board have confirmed their intention to issue advice around this matter. The EIS will thereafter circulate further advice to members. In the meantime, details on the current position can be accessed [http://www.eis.org.uk/Scottish\\_Education\\_Journal/Feb17.htm](http://www.eis.org.uk/Scottish_Education_Journal/Feb17.htm) on [page 25](#).

## EIS LGBT+ Network Event 2017

The EIS LGBT+ Network is holding a national event in the offices of the STUC, Woodlands Road, Glasgow (G3) on Saturday 11 March 2017. This event is open to members who identify as LGBT+ and also to members who have an interest in promoting LGBT equality and inclusive education. Registration and breakfast rolls will be available from 10am and the event will run to 2pm with lunch and refreshments provided. Travel expenses can be paid. Topics will include an overview of findings from research into EIS members' experiences of homophobia and transphobia; a case study of good practice in promoting LGBT inclusion; and practical guidance on transgender issues in education settings. LGBT Youth Scotland and the EIS LGBT Network Convener are among the guest speakers. The final programme for the day will be published online (at <http://www.eis.org.uk/Equality/LGBT.htm>) shortly.

### Action for Representatives:

Please make members aware of this free event and encourage attendance. Members can find out more about the content of the day or register to attend by emailing Ashley Gray at [agray@eis.org.uk](mailto:agray@eis.org.uk) as soon as possible, noting any dietary or access needs.

## 'I, Daniel Blake' Screening – Saturday 4 March

As part of our ongoing Face up to Child Poverty Campaign, highlighting the impact of poverty on education, the Equality Committee will be screening Ken Loach's highly acclaimed 'I, Daniel Blake' and the EIS produced 'School Costs', on the morning of Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017, in Aberdeen (Belmont Filmhouse), Edinburgh (Filmhouse) and Glasgow (GFT). (The Glasgow screening will be followed by Q&A with speakers to be confirmed. The panel session will be filmed and uploaded onto the EIS website for further viewing.)

Members are invited to the screenings on a first come, first served, two tickets per member basis.

Following the national screenings, Local Associations may organise their own screenings, either unilaterally or in conjunction with other trade unions, for a cost of £80 per screening and venue. (Any additional screenings at the same venue are available for a cost of £60.)

### Action for Representatives:

Please make members aware of the national day of screening and encourage attendance. Members can download two tickets each to attend the screenings by visiting [http://www.eis.org.uk/Meetings\\_and\\_Events/DanielBlake.htm](http://www.eis.org.uk/Meetings_and_Events/DanielBlake.htm)

## EIS Representatives' Training

One further training course for EIS Representatives has been added to our programme for this session in conjunction with TUC Education. This course will be held in Glasgow, with the first 2-day block on Thursday 4 and Friday 5 May, and then a further 2 days on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 June 2017.

It is aimed at reps who are relatively new in the role and/or those who have never had any previous rep training.

### Action for Representatives:

If you are interested, please contact your LA Secretary for further details.

## Health & Safety Representatives' Training

A two-day course will take place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May and Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The course is designed to provide Health & Safety representatives with an opportunity to deepen their knowledge and develop the skills required to fulfil the role. This is a pilot course and is targeted initially at Health & Safety Reps who have not received any Health & Safety training to date.

### Action for Representatives:

Please make members aware that they will be hearing from their local association regarding this course very soon.

## EIS Page Scholarship 2017/18

Application forms are now available for the 2017/2018 Page Scholarship to America being offered by the EIS in association with the English-Speaking Union. The Scholarship is awarded annually to a teacher/lecturer in a Scottish school/college and is intended to promote the research and exchange of educational ideas in the field of communication between Britain and America. The successful Scholar travels to the USA to study a specific aspect of American education which interests her/him and which is relevant to her/his own professional responsibilities. The value of the EIS Page Scholarship is £2,400 which gives the Scholar the opportunity to travel widely in the USA. Throughout the tour, the Scholar is the guest of the American Branches of the English-Speaking Union. Besides being EIS members, applicants must also have taught for at least 5 years. There is still time to make an application with the closing date for submission of applications to the Education Department by 28 February 2017.

### Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please make relevant teachers in your establishment aware of this opportunity. Requests for further details and application forms should be addressed to the EIS Education Department at 46 Moray Place, Edinburgh, EH3 6BH (e-mail: [lmeechan@eis.org.uk](mailto:lmeechan@eis.org.uk)).

## Stand up to Racism March / Rally

Stand up to Racism Scotland has organised an anti-racism rally on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March. The rally has been organised to send out a clear message that we will not tolerate racism, discrimination and division in our community. The rally will begin at 11am in Holland Street, Glasgow, and march to George Square.

### Action for Representatives:

Please prominently display flyers and posters enclosed with this bulletin and encourage members to attend.

## Changes to EIS Staff

Lesley Walker has joined the EIS staff as national Professional Learning co-ordinator, and will work closely with EIS Learning Representatives across Scotland to support professional learning opportunities for members. Lesley can be contacted at [lwalker@eis.org.uk](mailto:lwalker@eis.org.uk)

Stephen Stewart has been appointed to the HQ staff as Pensions & Payroll Specialist, based in the Employment Relations department. Stephen will support Local Associations, Reps and members on all pensions and payroll issues. Stephen can be contacted at [sstewart@eis.org.uk](mailto:sstewart@eis.org.uk)

### Action for Representatives:

Please make members aware of relevant staff changes and new contact details.

## Professional Learning Events

All national Professional Learning events and those which the EIS Education Department are advised of by Local Associations and Colleges / Universities are publicised on the EIS website. Members can find information on Professional Learning events by visiting [http://www.eis.org.uk/CPD/Professional\\_Learning\\_Events.htm](http://www.eis.org.uk/CPD/Professional_Learning_Events.htm), as well as by looking out for local publicity of additional Local Association held events.

### Action for Representatives:

Please make members aware of how they can be kept up to date on national and local professional learning opportunities provided by the EIS

