

June 2018

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TEACHERS**

## Message from the General Secretary

Firstly, let me reiterate the thanks I gave at AGM to all our school reps for the sterling work you do on behalf of the members. You are absolutely the backbone of the unions and the applause given by delegates at the AGM is testimony to how much your efforts are appreciated.

I hope you enjoy a well-earned break.

Best wishes,

Larry Flanagan

## Message the Minister – Thank You

The final total of signatures, although they are still coming in, for the Message the Minister campaign amounts to over 25,000 and counting, almost all of those being from EIS members, with a welcome public supplement from recent street stall activity.

Postcards and petitions will be delivered to the Deputy First Minister before the end of term so that he has some holiday reading to keep him busy.

The scale of the return, in what is always a busy time of year for schools, is a strong indication of the mood of members and a very definite “Yes” vote in support of the pay campaign.

A very big thank you to school reps for all the work you did in collecting and collating responses to this campaign.

## New Term Inset Day Member Meetings

Most schools have a slot for an EIS meeting during the inset days on return after the break. We are recommending that every branch uses this time to hold a pay update meeting. Materials are being prepared over the summer and will be available to you on your return. Alongside some new posters there will be a short 5-minute campaign video which can be used as the centre-piece of the meeting. A narrative update on negotiations will be provided to you as school rep and details will be available of planned events across the first term.

If you wish a speaker to come along to your meeting, please contact [dbelsey@eis.org.uk](mailto:dbelsey@eis.org.uk) ahead of the summer break and we will seek to arrange that.

NB You are entitled to three one-hour meetings in school time per year – usually taken on inset days. If your SMT is resistant to this, please contact your local association secretary.

## Regional Pay Campaign Seminars for Representatives and Activists

We are currently planning and making arrangements for a series of Pay Campaign Seminars for Representatives and Activists in a number of cities across Scotland in September. These will be twilight sessions and further details will be shared as soon as possible.

## **New Anti-Racism Resources**

Recent world events, and historic inequalities, have created a difficult climate for Muslim teachers, learners and citizens, who have the same right as all other citizens to feel safe, respected and included at their places of work and learning. This climate has also affected Black and Minority Ethnic staff and pupils who are perceived to be Muslim.

In response to an increase in hostility and prejudice, it is more important than ever for staff and students within educational establishments to understand how to prevent and challenge prejudicial attitudes and behaviours, and for educators to reinvigorate their efforts around preventative anti-racist education.

To support that vital work, the EIS has produced new guidance for members on 'Challenging Anti-Muslim Prejudice' and a new member briefing to support the provision of anti-racist education. Both can be found at [www.eis.org.uk/Equality/Anti-Racism](http://www.eis.org.uk/Equality/Anti-Racism)

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please make members aware of new anti-racism resources.

## **New Online EIS Reps Course**

Schools representatives in the following Local Associations Perth & Kinross, Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland, Moray, Orkney, Shetland, Borders, Argyll & Bute, Western Isles, Dumfries & Galloway and South Ayrshire are asked to consider participating in a new online training course next year. The course is limited to 20 places.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Further details may be found at [www.eis.org.uk/EISreps/OnlineRepsCourse Applications](http://www.eis.org.uk/EISreps/OnlineRepsCourseApplications) and / or further details may be obtained from Area Officer Pauline Buchanan [pbuchanan@eis.org.uk](mailto:pbuchanan@eis.org.uk)

## **Scottish Learning Festival 2018**

Registration for SLF 2018 is now open. SLF is the only free national education event in Scotland with something on offer for everyone involved in Scottish education.

SLF 2018 takes place on Wednesday 19 and Thursday 20 September in the SEC, Glasgow.

SLF offers opportunities to access high-quality and highly engaging professional learning as well as opportunities to explore, discuss and exchange knowledge and ideas with thousands of professional colleagues and experts.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please encourage interested members to book now at [www.eis.org.uk/Meetings-And-Events/SLF18](http://www.eis.org.uk/Meetings-And-Events/SLF18) to guarantee a place and their choice of seminars as many sessions fill up before the summer break.

## **Globe Education – 'Ways into Shakespeare'**

The EIS will again be working in partnership with Globe Education to bring their 'Ways into Shakespeare' workshops to Glasgow on the 4th and 5th October 2018.

These interactive and inspiring workshops are aimed at upper primary and secondary English and Drama teachers and are suitable for teachers working with children and young people with additional support needs. Three workshops will run over the two days with places limited to 25 teachers per workshop. To register visit [www.eis.org.uk/Training-And-Workshops/GlobeShakespeareWorkshops2018](http://www.eis.org.uk/Training-And-Workshops/GlobeShakespeareWorkshops2018)

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please make members aware of the upcoming workshops.

## **EIS Calendar**

Please find enclosed, as a small thank you, the EIS academic year calendar featuring artwork by talented pupils from across Scotland.

You can request additional copies of the calendar by contacting Karen Nicholson [knicholson@eis.org.uk](mailto:knicholson@eis.org.uk) at EIS HQ.

## **EIS Members – Win A Trip to NYC Plus £500 Spending Money**

EIS Financial Services, in conjunction with Cornmarket Insurance Services is running a fantastic competition for EIS members to win a trip to New York with £500 spending money.

Cornmarket Insurance Services is the specialist Teacher insurance partner for EIS, providing car, home, bike, pet and other insurance products for members. Please visit [www.eisfs.co.uk/nyc](http://www.eisfs.co.uk/nyc) and fill in your details to be in with a chance of winning.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please make members aware of the competition.