



Northside Partnership Newsletter

Issue 14—October 2015

PAX Good Behaviour Game Evaluation Is Launched

On 1st October, Preparing for Life together with partners in the Midlands Area Partnership launched the first formal evaluation of the internationally recognised PAX Good Behaviour Game in Irish classrooms. 21 teachers from DEIS schools in Dublin and the Midlands took part in the pilot in early 2015 when the evaluation was conducted by Professor Mark Morgan and Dr Margaret O'Donnell from St Patrick's College, Drumcondra. The results emerging from the evaluation are promising and include:

- A 43% reduction in off-task behaviours across the 21 participating classrooms.
 - Highly significant reductions in the incidence of hyperactivity and emotional symptoms for children and a highly significant increase in pro-social behaviours (as per the SDQ).
 - Almost one third of children reported as displaying challenging behaviours at the start of the study were reported as showing behaviours within the normal range after 12 weeks.
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PAX Good Behaviour Game Launch (continued)

Qualitative feedback from teachers also demonstrated the positivity generated by the PAX Good Behaviour Game in their classrooms. Classrooms have become calmer, children are taking positive control of their behaviour and teacher / pupil relationships have been positively impacted.

To download a short overview of the PAX Good Behaviour Game and the pilot research results, [click here](#). The launch event was the subject of substantial media interest with Northside Partnership's Noel Kelly and local teacher Denise Carter featuring on the RTE Six One News, Morning Ireland on RTE Radio One and in a number of other print features. [Click here](#) to view the Six One News piece.



Triple P Parenting Courses Begin

Preparing for Life is now offering Triple P parenting courses to parents of all children aged 2—12 years old, living within its target area in Dublin 5 and 17. The first seminars on the topic of "The Power of Positive Parenting" were held in early October in the Bell Building, Darndale, Scoil Ide in Kilmore West and in St Joseph's NS in Bonnybrook. Further seminars on the same topic will be offered again to parents on Wednesday 21st October @ 9am in St Francis JNS, Priorswood and Tuesday 10th November @ 9am in Scoil Ide, Kilmore West. Parents who attend the seminars are then offered the chance to join an 8-week Triple P Group Parenting Course which will run before Christmas. For more information, call 01-8771509.

Our Young Community Leaders Are A Busy Bunch

Our Young Community Leaders team have been busy as always with a number of special events taking place in recent weeks. On 30th September, a group of our Young Community Leaders visited Leinster House at the invitation of Senator Averil Power. Then on Saturday, 17th October the 2014/15 group of Young Community Leaders formally graduated at NUI Galway with their Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action. In total, 96 young people have now graduated over the past four years.





Students and Universities Turn Out In Force For Education For All Fair

On 15th October, Northside Partnership's annual Education for All Fair took place in Parnell's GAA Club, Coolock. Almost 1,400 students from 18 local post primary schools attended the event which connects North Dublin students with all the major further and higher education providers in order to help them make choices about their future education options. In total, 37 higher and further education providers were present to exhibit at the fair including University College Dublin, Dublin City University, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin Institute of Technology, NUI Maynooth, National College of Ireland as well as the Defence Forces and many other smaller further education providers located in the Dublin area.

Rosie Moyne is Guidance Counsellor with Coláiste Dhúlaigh and was present at the fair to accompany a group of sixth year students. She told us that, "This is my fourth year attending the fair. It is brilliant to have all of the colleges in the same room, particularly the colleges that we know our students tend to go to such as DCU, IT Blanchardstown and Coláiste Dhúlaigh College of Further Education. As a guidance counsellor, you can only tease things out so much with a student. Sometimes a bit of extra information and a direct conversation with college personnel can really help to clarify something or plant a seed for a student. What is also brilliant about this fair is that students are within their comfort zone attending an event in their own area, sometimes they can feel a little out of their depth at the larger fairs."

One exhibitor at the fair was Anne Skelly from Marino College of Further Education who told us that, "I do a lot of these events all over Dublin but I really do find this to be the best one for us. You can count on seeing a high volume of students coming through the doors every year. It is a great one for us because of its location too – the students coming to the fair are the students who will come to our college and it is great to be able to access them all in one place."





David McCullagh Hosts Greendale Jobs Club Networking Event

On Thursday, 10th September, David McCullagh from RTE's Prime Time programme hosted a networking event for job seekers and employers organised by our Greendale Jobs Club. The event was attended by over 60 job seekers who had taken part in Greendale Jobs Club's two-week programme as well as 11 major north Dublin employers with real jobs on offer.

To begin the employers spoke about their companies and the opportunities which they had on offer ranging from manufacturing operator positions with pharmaceutical company Allergan to places on the Swissport Aviation Academy which upskills job seekers with a view to gaining employment in Swissport's operations in Dublin airport.



A number of Jobs Club participants then spoke about their own experiences before David McCullagh described how he had progressed his career in journalism. Once the speeches were finished, job seekers were then given the opportunity to speed network with the companies present that included Allergan, Butlers Chocolates, Irish Shipping Cargo, Swissport, Croke Park, Novum Overseas Ltd, The Juice Store, Noel Recruitment, Ergo, Logi Skills and Fab Cow Design.

Speaking at the event, Greendale Jobs Club Coordinator Jackie Rynn said that, "We're delighted with the turnout today both from employers and job seekers. The employers have been very generous not only in giving their time to attend but also in donating some wonderful raffle prizes for our job seekers that included a €250 One4All voucher from Allergan Group, a meal for two at Aqua restaurant in Howth from Irish Shipping & Transport, a €200 voucher for Swords Pavillion Shopping Centre from Novum Overseas Ltd, premium tickets to the International Rules game on 21st November from Croke Park, art work from Fab Cow Design and two €25 vouchers for Penneys."

Already this event has produced results with 5 clients employed by companies present on the day, one client placed on the Swissport Aviation Academy and three more gaining interviews.



Full Steam Ahead for Northside Education Support Network

October and November are busy months for our Northside Education Support Network with two workshops already taking place in October. On Saturday 3rd October, seven primary teachers attended a full day workshop with global technology company Oracle on Educational Programming using the company's customised training programme ALICE. This was followed by an evening workshop on Social Skills, Behaviour and Children with SEN delivered by Carmel Ní Laoire from the Special Education Support Service on 13th October. This was attended by 22 teachers. November will see the network host two further workshops starting with Social Media & Cyber Bullying: Practical Strategies for Teachers on 10th November at 4pm in Marino Institute of Education. Then on 24th November, Caitríona Crowe from the National Archives of Ireland will deliver a talk on Exploring 1916 which will support teachers to use primary sources to help students connect with the theme of 1916. For the full NESN timetable and booking details, [click here](#).



Our Enterprise Clients Take Part in NDCC Business Networking Event

On 25th September, our enterprise clients Simone Nelson from 2borganic, Jamie Regan from Hand on Heart Enterprises and Simon Revill from Revill Property Management attended the North Dublin Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Networking Event in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry. The event was launched by Richard Bruton TD, Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation. Attendees at the event then had the opportunity to "Meet the Buyer" where they met with procurement officers from large North Dublin organisations including Ryanair, Dublin Airport Authority, Dublin City Council and DCU. Attendees also took part in a Perfect Pitch Workshop with Catherine Moonan - Pitch Coach with RTE's Dragon's Den.





Our Finance Manager Irene Beare Retires

On Friday 9th October, Northside Partnership bid farewell to one of its longest serving employees Irene Beare. Irene has worked with the Partnership for over 21 years as our Finance Manager and will be hugely missed by all in the organisation. At an event to mark her retirement, our CEO Marian Vickers and Chairperson Lorcán Ó hÓbáin spoke of Irene's great commitment to the company, her diligence and tight management of the company's finances, her big heart and her tremendous passion for Northside Partnership's mission—in particular for the organisation's work to support students from low income families to attend third level education. We wish Irene all the best of luck and hope she will enjoy her retirement!



Exciting Developments For Our Healthy Food Made Easy Programme



Our Healthy Food Made Easy Programme will see a number of exciting new developments over the next month, starting on 21st and 22nd October when two groups of participants will receive their certificates at a ceremony in our Employment Services Building in Bunnary Drive. Monday 9th November will then see the beginning of a collaboration with Coláiste Dhúlaigh to run Healthy Food Made Easy with three groups of adult education students. Finally on 10th and 12th November, our HFME Peer Leaders will receive training that will enable them to deliver the new Cool Dude children's nutrition and cookery course in local schools. For more information contact Linda Scanlan on 01-8485608.



Men's Shed Celebrates First Birthday and Finalises Autumn Programme

The Priorswood and District Men's Shed celebrated their first birthday in September with a trip to the Guinness hop store and a lunch in Parnell's GAA Club. The Men's Shed also held their AGM on 7th October and finalised their autumn programme which includes creative writing and stained glass courses. There are still places remaining on the eight-week creative writing group which started on 8th October. The group meets on Thursdays from 2—4pm and no experience is needed to join. The Men's Shed is still accepting new members. For further information, please contact maureen.downey@nspartnership.ie.



Northside Community Forum AGM Is Held

Northside Community Forum held their AGM in Le Chéile Community & Youth Centre on Wednesday 30th September 2015. The event was organised by the Steering Group and chaired by Declan Cahill. It was very well attended with 26 people present representing 20 Community Groups. As there was just one nominee for the Steering Group no election was necessary and Fiona Nolan from Northside Enterprise Centre was appointed to the Steering Group.

Odran Reid from Northside Partnership made presentations on The Code of Governance, the Charities Regulatory Authority, and the new Lobbying Act. Following Odran's presentation there were very vibrant small group discussions on the challenges facing community groups as they put all this new regulation into place. There were also presentations from three member groups: Age & Opportunity, Priorswood & District Men's Shed and Dublin Northeast Drugs Task Force. For more information on the Community Forum, please contact Mary Doheny by emailing mary.doheny@nspartnership.ie.



Great Turnout For Aistear Workshop with Professor Nóirín Hayes

On 15th September, our Preparing for Life project welcomed Professor Nóirín Hayes from Trinity College Dublin as a special guest for an Aistear workshop entitled "How to Plan, Assess and Document." The workshop focused on planning and assessing in early years settings and introduced some of the key ideas from the Aistear Síolta Practice Guide (www.aistearsiolta.ie) such as emergent and inquiry-based curriculum approaches, Aistear's short term planning sheets, and the use of assessment techniques for learning. The workshop was organised as part of the Preparing for Life Early Years Practice Programme and was attended by 25 early childhood professionals from six of our partner settings. For more information, please contact Sandra O'Neill by emailing sandra.oneill@nspartnership.ie.



New Stop Smoking Supports Available in North Dublin

Our Stop Smoking Programme is offering a number of new supports for people living in north Dublin who would like to quit smoking. The programme now offers two weekly drop-in sessions: Mondays from 10.30—12.00 in St Luke's Parish Centre, Kilmore West and every Wednesday from 11am—1pm in the Bell Building, Darndale Belcamp Village Centre.

The service will also run another We Can Quit programme in association with the Irish Cancer Society starting in January. We Can Quit is a free, friendly and supportive 12-week programme for women to help you to quit smoking and stay quit for good. It offers free nicotine replacement therapy (NRT), a weekly smoking cessation group and one-to-one support. For more information, contact Bernie or Michael on 085-8478961 / 085-8478960.





Challenger Programme Gets Into Gear For Another School Year

Our Challenger Programme has been getting into gear for another busy school year. 120 students and parents attended their registration evening in early September with a further 80 students registered individually at a later date. An information evening for parents of 6th class children who would like to join the programme was held on 30th September and attended by 90 parents. 50 parents and students will attend interviews over the next few weeks to allocate places for this years 6th class group. Conversational Irish classes for 1st and 2nd year students started in St Patrick's College on 12th October with 54 students in attendance. 3rd year students and their parents also attended a subject choice meeting on 13th October.



Find Out More About Northside Partnership

To find out more about the employment, education, children & family, youth, enterprise and local development programmes and supports that we offer, please visit our website

www.northsidepartnership.ie.

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Northside Partnership is a local development company. We work to improve the opportunities for people and communities in north east Dublin to bring about positive changes in their own lives and the life of their community. We offer a range of programmes and services to support individuals, local organisations, groups and communities in Dublin 3, 5, 13 and 17. Our work is funded by the Irish Government, charitable organisations and private sources.

A full listing of our funders can be viewed [here](#).

For more information on the articles in this newsletter, please contact Sinead Murphy by emailing sinead.murphy@nspartnership.ie or call 01 8485630.