



Newsletter

Better Outcomes and Brighter Futures

Thank you for your continued involvement in the ABC/ELI Programmes. Our evaluations tell us that children in the area are doing well and they have high aspirations for the future.

This year has been busy for all of us with more and more children, families and services getting involved in our programmes. Among them were the 324 people who attended Restorative Practice training and the 148 families involved in our Home Visiting Programmes. Well done also to our Home Visiting team, who are working and studying, with eleven on the degree course here at NCI.

With funding from the Government, the North East Inner City Brighter Futures Initiative is up and running. Using Restorative Practices, the project is giving a voice to children and young people from the area and allows them to be heard on the challenges the community faces, and their ideas for a better future. We look forward to launching the research report in March.

To support young people in the area to develop the STEM skills needed for employment with our corporate partners, the Afterschool Robotic Coding Clubs will start again this term.

Our ABC programme, funded through the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and Atlantic Philanthropies, is almost three years old. At this stage, with commitment to funding in the Programme for Government, we are planning how we can continue to ensure that children in the area get the support they need. We look forward to working with our wonderful network of parents, public health nurses, early years and afterschool services, schools, librarians, community, statutory and corporate organisations on ensuring a brighter future for all our children and young people.



North East Inner City Brighter Futures Initiative

On December 14th 2016, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Katherine Zappone, visited NCI for an event with children and young people involved in the North East Inner City Brighter Futures project.



Early Numeracy Project

ABC Early Numeracy Weeks continued with the theme *Symbols of the Environment* in November.

Staff, parents and children in fourteen early years services, ten schools, seven afterschool services and four libraries took part in the project, along with families in our home visiting programmes.

A big thank you to all involved. Here are some samples of the great work that took place.

We are looking forward to our next Numeracy Week from 13th-17th February where the theme will be *Number*.



Talk and Play Every Day - Parent and Toddler Groups

If you have a child aged 1 to 3 years old, join us at one of our weekly parent and toddler groups.

Pearse Street Library
Tuesday 10.30- 11.45
 Story Telling & Play
 Children aged 1 to 3 years

Primary Care Centre, Mark's Lane
Wednesday 10.00- 11.30
 Parent and Toddler Group
 Children aged 1 to 3 years

St Vincent's Girls National School, North William Street
Friday 10.30 – 12.00
 Playgroup focused on play and communication, supported by HSE Speech and Language Therapist
 Children aged 1 to 2 years



NCI Rummikub Challenge

Congratulations to second class in St Laurence O'Toole's Girls school for winning first place in the NCI Rummikub Challenge 2016! Seven local primary schools were practicing with parents and volunteers from Central Bank and Deloitte in the four weeks leading to the competition in National College of Ireland.



Parent Child Home Programme (PCHP)

In December, ELI said a fond farewell to our PCHP National Manager Beth Fagan. Beth received a special surprise at our PCHP Christmas event when she was presented with artwork from one of the first children she visited on the programme in Dublin. The artwork depicts the first book that children receive on the programme – Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

Beth has worked tirelessly over the past 10 years to establish PCHP here in Dublin Docklands, as well as more sites across Dublin, Limerick and Galway. We would like to thank Beth for her hard work and dedication, and we wish her all the best in her retirement.



Home Visitors working on the ABC 0-2 Years Programme have been trained in infant massage and teach the parents they visit how to use the techniques with their babies.

Infant massage has so many benefits, including;

- Helping to nurture the bond between parent and child
- It is a soothing and relaxing experience for both parents and children
- Offers some relief from wind and digestive discomfort in children
- Supports parents to tune into their child's needs.

If you are interested in learning more about the ABC 0-2 Years Programme, please contact Marion on 01 4498635 or email marion.byrne@ncirl.ie.



Robotics Coding Club

ELI Robotics Coding Club encourages children to learn about programming and robotics in a fun and interactive way. Children aged 10-12 years old are invited to join the afterschool programme and to take part in a series of challenges in National College of Ireland.

Deadline for applications: Friday 24th February 2017.

If you would like further information, please contact Lucy Kinghan at lucy.kinghan@ncirl.ie

Upcoming Events

NCI Table Quiz Challenge
(4th class)
8th March 2017
2-3pm

Early Numeracy Week
Money Theme
15th -19th May 2017

Zoom Ahead with Books
Exhibition Events
2nd & 3rd May, 2017


Early Learning Initiative
National College of Ireland

Corporate, government and individual support is fundamental to our success. We wish to thank all of our socially minded corporate, government and individual supporters, including Dermot Desmond, who play such an active role in the advancement of ELI.



The Area Based Childhood Programme 2013-2017



Volunteers

ELI continues to have very strong support from companies in the Docklands and their staff are delighted to get involved with programmes and activities in the community.



Above: Central Bank volunteers visit St Joseph's Co-Ed Primary School, East Wall



Left: Deloitte volunteers visit St Patrick's schools, Ringsend



Right: Central Bank and Deloitte volunteers visit schools to practice playing Rummikub



Book Launch

Ulster Bank support financial literacy education in local afterschools with children aged 4-12 years old. As part of the Ulster Bank Financial Literacy programme, children were asked to write their own stories to encourage other children and their families to talk about financial topics. This book, co-authored and illustrated by children aged 4-12 years old, will be revealed at a Book Launch in Ulster Bank offices on 7th March 2017.

