



Young Teachers &
NQTs !
Meet other colleagues
and enjoy a Free Pizza at:

Café Coco
Royal Oxford Hotel
17 Park End Street
8th October 7.30pm
Please email

oxon.nut @ntlworld.com
and let us know that you're
coming by 1st October.

*Please tell new colleagues about this
event*

forthcoming
Training days
for
School

Representatives
*and those interested in taking
on the role,*
will be held on
Wednesday 24th March 2010
Wednesday 23rd June 2010

The March meeting will be of special interest to
Secondary colleagues.

Book a date with your school NOW, so as to
ensure that supply/timetabling arrangements can
be made. Our training days take place at Milletts
Farm Centre, Near Abingdon. There is no charge,
and lunch and refreshments are provided. The
cost of supply cover can be provided.

contact oxon.nut@ntlworld.com

Threshold Advice *If you are on M6 read the following carefully*

From 1st September 2009 (Round 10) teachers subject to PM Regulation's 2007 will be assessed for access to the upper pay spine point against the post-threshold standards based solely on PM outcomes: In keeping with this principal from 1st September 2009 schools will use the outcomes of their last two PM reviews to assess whether a teacher meets the post-threshold standards.

GIVEN that change **teachers will no longer need to provide separate evidence in support of a threshold application.**

HOWEVER the elective nature of the threshold application will remain.

THEREFORE a teacher on M6 will need to make an application (a letter of request will suffice) to indicate formally to their Head teacher that they wished to be assessed.

Many teachers do not even ask to be moved through threshold, and many heads are only too happy not to remind them of the increased salary to which they are entitled !

If you need further advice on this contact oxon.nut@ntlworld.com

**Headteachers MUST complete Performance Management meetings for all
teachers by 31st October**

Early Years Teaching Workload.

I am an Early Years teacher, and I love my job, but I have become much more involved in on-going assessments in the last couple of years. I teach a class of 30 reception children with a nursery nurse, and we have both been trained in observations and assessments. These assessments take place throughout the day. As well as filling in "post its" on each early learning goal, we have also been advised to fill in three observations, A4 size, on each child involved in independent, child initiated, play based activities., one a term. In my class, these are 90 observations. I agree that observations are extremely rewarding, because, by listening and watching children, one can learn so much about the child. This of course helps us to plan for the next stage of the learning process. But I have become very aware that I am spending loads of time now making notes when I would like to be more involved in actually teaching. It doesn't stop there, because the teacher has to analyse the notes and match them to the scale points. There are six areas of learning and within them 117 scale points for each child. One of my friends uses a Dictaphone, but again she has to transcribe and note down what has happened, which is time consuming. I have been on some recent training by the British Association for Early Childhood Education, which requires even more observations and assessments for each child. What do we do? What do you think?

Viv Vernede.
NUT member Oxfordshire.

We would very much like to hear from other Early Years colleagues about their experiences with current initiatives.

contact Mark Forder , oxon.nut@ntlworld.com

Save St Christopher's School - Job done !

Faced with a vigorous campaign mounted by parents and teachers, the Local Authority has been forced to withdraw its threat to close St Christopher's primary in Oxford.

Meanwhile - *Councillors, parents, teachers and other members of the local community continue to campaign against the closure of Oxford School, and its proposed replacement by a ULT academy.*

Support the campaign : come to a meeting at 7.00 pm on 29th September at Oxford School.

There is also a website with details of the campaign, what people can do to help, and more information about the proposal itself, which can be found at www.saveoxfordschool.com. For more information, contact 07967392229 / gawainlittle@yahoo.co.uk.

Go to oxnut.org.uk for the full story

NUT Young Teachers Training and Social Event

“DisSATisfied? An alternative vision for education”

South East Region NUT Young Teachers Training and Social Event

Saturday 10 October 2009

10:30 – 16:30 plus optional evening activities

Bread & Roses Pub, 68 Clapham Manor Street, Clapham, London, SW4 6DZ

To book your place:

- Send an email marked 'Young Teachers Event' to south.east@nut.org.uk
- Give your name, NUT membership number, email and home address
- Indicate any special dietary requirements and if you wish stay for dinner

For more information : go to oxnut.org.uk

Permanent or temporary ? *a message for newly-appointed colleagues*

Oxfordshire Council policy is that teachers should be appointed on permanent contracts except in certain special circumstances. Many schools misuse temporary and fixed-term contracts, or accidentally issue the wrong type of contract. If you are new to your current post, check with the school office that you have been employed on the correct contract. If you have any queries about this, contact Mark Forder at oxon.nut@ntlworld.com, or **01865 739957**

SATs news

The NUT's campaign for a positive assessment system will be picking up pace this term, with the Executive calling an indicative ballot against the continued use of SATs at Key Stages 1 & 2. Not only do SATs provide inaccurate information (research shows that **up to 25% of pupils are given an incorrect level**) but they also distort the school curriculum, placing unacceptable levels of stress on teachers, students and schools. The NUT and NAHT (National Association of Head Teachers) believe that assessment at Key Stages 1 and 2 should be based on teacher assessment which is moderated, to make sure standards of assessment are the same within and between schools. Teacher assessment has been shown to be more reliable than SATs.

The NUT and NAHT are not planning to take strike action over this issue; they are asking members if they wish to boycott SATs in 2010. This would mean that members would refuse to prepare pupils for and administer SATs, leaving them free to teach a balanced and broad curriculum. We are working to build support for the campaign locally and have already had some very positive feedback from parents, teachers and headteachers in Oxfordshire. If you would be able to help with publicising the campaign, through street leafletting, putting up posters, helping to organise a meeting in your school or local area or simply want to be kept in touch with what is happening, please let us know. You can contact, Gawain Little (Oxfordshire NUT Campaigns Officer) on 07967392229 / gawainlittle@yahoo.co.uk.

We need an assessment system that's good for children, good for teaching , good for education and good for communities. **End SATs and give us time to teach!**

Course information from our Union Learning Representative, Alex Parker
(oxon.nut@ntlworld.com)

To apply for a course, seminar or conference visit www.teachers.org.uk/cpd or phone 020 73080 4719

Managing Classroom Behaviour

For full-time and part-time supply teachers within 1½ hours of the venue.

Tutor: Peter Hrekow, Dreyfus Training

Courses: TF/57R Reading 29th and 30th October 2009

TF/60R London 4th and 5th January 2010

Time: 9:30am to 4pm both days.

Cost: FREE (NUT members), £125 others.

Includes VAT, lunch and refreshments on both days.

NQTs with mentors/induction tutors

For NQTs (all KSs) **with** their mentors.

Tutor: A day led by Sue Cowley

Courses: OD/53R London Wed 30th September 2009

OD/55R Birmingham

Fri 9th October 2009

Time: 9:45am to 4pm

Cost: £40 per pair (including at least one NUT member)

Includes VAT, lunch and refreshments.

Small groups with up to three NQTs welcome, £20 for 2nd or 3rd NQT.

Leading Wellbeing

For school leaders, PSHE co-ordinators, and inclusion managers.

Tutor: Mary Hrekow and Ruth MacConville

Courses: TF/59 London (NUT HQ) 19th and 20th November 2009

Cost: £50 (NUT members), £150 others.

Includes VAT, lunch and refreshments on both days.

Optional dinner with B&B (£25) at end of first day.

Travel Expenses reclaimable by NUT members.

Successful leaders are forever learning

Tenth national leadership convention.

For headteachers, deputy/assistant heads, leadership groups, and all teachers with leadership responsibilities or aspirations (all KSs).

Speakers: Sir Jim Rose, Chris Chapman

Courses: OD/56 London (NUT HQ) Thurs 15th October 2009

Time: 10am to 4pm

Cost: £50 (second participant from same school FREE)

NUT OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

SECRETARY Brenda Williams 01865 841090 brenda@themoors.fsnet.co.uk

ASSISTANT SECRETARY Mark Forder 01865 739957 FAX - 01865 736892 oxon.nut@ntlworld.com

PRESIDENT Gawain Little gawainlittle@yahoo.co.uk

EXECUTIVE MEMBER Chris Blakey nut2@molesend.demon.co.uk

NUT FREEPOST, 157 Kennington Road, Oxford, OX1 5PE

REGIONAL OFFICE - 01444 894500

national NUT website www.teachers.org.uk

Joining hotline 0845 300 1669

website news

log on to:

www.oxnut.org.uk

and check out the new features!