Editorial

Welcome to the sixteenth issue of *Science in School*

Progress in science can be sporadic. For nearly 40 years, no human has visited the Moon, but interest in lunar exploration is now growing, as Adam Baker reports (page 10). If a trip to the Moon sounds daunting, why not take a deep breath and explore the deep seas instead: hydrothermal vents (page 14) and cold seeps (page 60)?

The more we find out about these and other marine environments, the clearer it becomes that they are extremely vulnerable, as Jean-Luc Solandt explains (online). The damage that we can cause to our oceans has become all too obvious, as specialists battle with the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. With some of the activities described by Astrid Kaiser (page 45), primary-school children too can investigate how best to treat oil spills.

This and all our other articles are intended to be used by our readers – so we were delighted to hear about a teaching unit based on our article about a potential treatment for obesity (page 19).

Before they reach the market, however, all medical treatments need to be thoroughly tested in clinical trials, as Sarah Garner and Rachel Thomas explain (page 54). Of the many therapies tested, cancer treatments seem to get the most headlines – but how much do we really know about this disease? Over the past few years, it has become clear that genes play a significant role in the development and growth of many tumours. Now, with the aid of some real genomic data, your students can search for mutations that can cause cancer (page 39).

After someone is diagnosed with cancer, fast action is crucial – as it is for the victims of accidents. Anne Weaver, a flying doctor with London's Air Ambulance, knows that only too well, as she describes in our feature article (page 6).

Louis Palmer is also no stranger to speed; the organiser of the Zero Emissions Race was the first person to tour the world in a solar car (page 50). Cars can provide inspiration closer to home, too: Nick Poynter's students learned to think scientifically as they competed to build the fastest car (page 33), whereas Rudolf Ziegelbecker's students designed an award-winning gyro-car (online).

As a teacher, you will have your own ideas about what works well in the classroom – so why not join our referee panel, helping us decide which articles to publish? We welcome the involvement of both primary- and secondary-school teachers in Europe; see: www.scienceinschool.org/submissions/panel

Finally, don't forget to visit our website and browse the online-only articles, the events list, and our new 'science in the media' section. For details of these and many other features, see our online help page: www.scienceinschool.org/help and remember – your feedback is important to us!

Eleanor Hayes
Editor-in-Chief of *Science in School*
editor@scienceinschool.org
www.scienceinschool.org

About *Science in School*

Science in School promotes inspiring science teaching by encouraging communication between teachers, scientists and everyone else involved in European science education.

The journal addresses science teaching both across Europe and across disciplines: highlighting the best in teaching and cutting-edge research.

It covers not only biology, physics and chemistry, but also earth sciences, engineering and medicine, focusing on interdisciplinary work.

The contents include teaching materials; cutting-edge science; interviews with young scientists and inspiring teachers; reviews of books and other resources; and European events for teachers and schools.

Science in School is published quarterly, both online and in print. The website is freely available, with articles in many European languages. The English-language print version is distributed free of charge within Europe.

Contact us

Dr Eleanor Hayes / Dr Marlene Rau
Science in School
European Molecular Biology Laboratory
Meyerhofstrasse 1
69117 Heidelberg
Germany
editor@scienceinschool.org

Subscriptions

Register online to:

- Receive an email alert when each issue is published
- Request a free print subscription (within Europe)
- Swap ideas with teachers and scientists in the *Science in School* online forum
- Post comments on articles in *Science in School*.

Submissions

We welcome articles submitted by scientists, teachers and others interested in European science education. See the author guidelines on our website.

Referee panel

Before publication, *Science in School* articles are reviewed by European science teachers to check that they are suitable for publication. If you would like to join our panel of referees, please read the guidelines on our website.

Book reviewers

If you teach science in Europe and would like to review books or other resources for *Science in School*, please read the guidelines on our website.

Translators

We offer articles online in many European languages. If you would like to volunteer to translate articles into your own language, please read the guidelines for translators on our website.