NEWSLETTER

MANTLE OF THE EXPERT







Welcome to the Mantle of the Expert newsletter July, 2019

A lot has happened in the last twelve months and the Mantle of the Expert community is growing ever larger. Developments in New Zealand, Belgium, Romania, Brazil, Iceland, Switzerland, Palestine, and across the UK are spreading the word and introducing new teachers to Dorothy Heathcote's revolutionary approach to teaching and learning.

The first cohort of the NEU Mantle of the Expert teaching programme are in the process of completing their last assignments and all have successfully been awarded the QM mark as Lead Practitioners. Several are now sharing their planning for free on the Mantle of the Expert website.

In this newsletter you will find news and information on what's happening in the world of Mantle of the Expert - the summer school in Jordan, our Training Schools, events in Wales, Antwerp, Bucharest, and the return of the weekend training courses at Ringsfield Hall.

We always like to hear from teachers and schools using Mantle of the Expert, so please do not hesitate to get in contact and let us know what you are up to.



Training Schools

There are currently seven Mantle of the Expert Training Schools - Woodrow First School, Redditch, Bealings Primary School, Suffolk, Recreation Road Infants, Norwich, St John's Primary School, Newcastle, Priory Church in Wales School, Brecon, and new training schools this year - Dogmersfield Primary, Hampshire and Ysgol Cae'r Nant, Deeside.

Training Schools have been awarded the Quality Mark for developing Mantle of the Expert to a high standard. Using the approach to organise their curriculum and



to teach in the classroom.

They welcome visitors to see Mantle of the Expert in action, to discuss how the approach works on a practical level, and to support schools looking to develop MoE in their own setting.

If you would like to visit a Training School or attend one of their regular study days contact them directly by clicking on the links above and keeping an eye out for new events page on mantleoftheexpert.com.

Weekend Training



Over the next year we are running three weekend courses at Ringsfield Hall in Suffolk:

Two for beginner's and intermediate users, the first on October 11th - 13th, 2019; the second on March 6th - 8th, 2020.

And one for advanced users, on the weekend of June 26th-28th, 2020, which is not advertised on the Mantle of the Expert website. If you would like to attend the advanced weekend please get in contact with us.

All courses cost £350 inclusive of fees, accommodation, and food. We offer concessions to teachers and students who are self-funding, and schools that are struggling financially.

The beginners and intermediate courses will guide you through the defining elements and explore how the approach uses story, drama, and inquiry to develop engaging and meaningful contexts for learning. Particular attention is paid to planning and teaching using the approach for cross curricular study in the primary classroom.

Course tutors are Luke Abbott and Tim Taylor.

News

NEU Programme

This July sees the end of an exciting Mantle of the Expert training programme funded by the National Education Union.



Involving sixteen delegates from across England, the programme consisted of three residential weekends at Warwick University and

fifteen in-class demo sessions, organised into 'triads' of three teachers.

Those involved in the course were required to complete a series of assignments over sixteen months and regularly practised the approach in their classrooms, with online support from the course tutors: Luke Abbott and Tim Taylor.

The second round is due to begin in January 2020, with applications for a new cohort of teachers opening in the autumn this year. Please let us know if you would like to get involved.

Newcastle University

This year also sees the thirteenth anniversary of the Mantle of the Expert introductory course run at Newcastle University for students on their primary PGCE course.

The University is working in collaboration with St John's Primary school (a Mantle of the Expert training school) to give their students the opportunity to see the approach in action.

For more information contact course tutor Dr Hanneke Jones.

Morda Project on the Welsh Borders

Funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, this 24 month project will involve nine schools either side of the Welsh border.



Organised by NEU graduate, Helen Chapman from Morda Primary School, the 18 teachers taking part will be involved in three weekend

training courses and a series of demo lessons and action research - closely based on the format of the NEU course.

The education wing of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation has recently become very interested in Mantle of the Expert, seeing it as a long-term and radical pedagogy that can bring the arts into schools and develop curriculum learning. As a consequence they are funding an academic evaluation of the project with the aim of extending and expanding the model into more schools in Wales in the future.

Summer School, Jordan



This July saw the thirteenth Drama in Education Summer School, held in Jerash, Jordan. Attended by teachers from all over the Middle East - Palestine, Egypt, Syria, Tunisia, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman and Lebanon - and organised by The Qattan Centre for Educational Research and Development this annual event involved over five hundred hours of training in six courses at three levels, over three years. Taught in collaboration with supervisors from Palestine, Britain, and USA. For more information please visit the Qattan website.

Summer School, Antwerp



This August, 24th - 25th, is the third of the Antwerp Summer Schools organised by Bob Selderslaghs from the Royal Conservatoire in Antwerp.

As part of a project run by Bob, this weekend course will be an introduction to Mantle of the Expert for teachers in Belgium. For more information visit the Mantle of the Expert 'events' page.

Developments in New Zealand

Under the guidance of Viv Aitken, Mantle of the Expert continues to prosper in New Zealand, with a number of new and continuing projects developing over the last twelve months.

Click here to find out more.

In school training

Although there are a lot of exciting projects and events happening now all over the world, most of the training we do in Mantle of the Expert happens in schools on INSET



days and as part of longer staff development projects. If you would like to learn more about the courses we run or would like to make a booking to have training in your own setting, please visit our 'training' page on the Mantle of the Expert website.

Information

Free Resources



We are continuing to add to the free planning contexts on the Mantle of the Expert website. Recent additions include A Dragon's Place, History Detectives, and Island Disaster Assistance by Nicole Winter, Explorers by Helen Nash, Great Fire of London by Luke Abbott and Helen Nash, and Arctic Explorers by Rosie Newland.

Beginner's Guide to Mantle of the Expert



"This is the book I wish I had had when I was starting out as a teacher. And even now, 21 years on, I know it's one I'll return to again and again." Debra Kidd

Available on the Mantle of the Expert website