

Message for the Science Subject Advisors

From Godwin (G2) Nhauro: NECT - Assistant National Education Programme Manager

Good day colleagues

These are uncertain times for us all Subject Advisors, teachers, learners, parents, and the entire education sector. The sands are shifting daily and many of us are feeling anxious about what happens next to our health and safety, livelihood, to our education, to our freedoms and to life as we know it.

Whilst we practice physical distance and social solidarity, this disruption also provides us with an opportunity to reimagine how we live and how we work. It also allows us to exercise control over the aspects that we can change and, in this instance, how we can work i.e. train and support our teachers remotely.

Science SES Message: How to help teachers remember important information	WEEK 5
Good day scientist groomers: message from Godwin (G2) Nhauro - ANEPM (NECT)	
<p>As an SES how can you best help teachers to assist their learners retain many new terms and concepts?</p> <p>Contrary to the idea that rote learning steals time and effort away from the deeper thinking that we want learners to do, scientists have come to realize that memorisation is an imperative part of learning, in building content knowledge and expertise. Furthermore, acquiring content knowledge does not have to detract learners from critical thinking, reasoning, or innovation—rather, it can complement all of these learning strategies</p> <p>Science and Technology classes are challenging and often require a lot of study time to memorise the many different formulae and concepts. One method for remembering a large quantity of information is the use of mnemonic devices — memory tools that aid in creating shortcuts and recalling information easily.</p> <p>I put together a list of mnemonic devices for Science and Technology. And, of course, have fun creating your own for your teachers!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Names of the Planets (excluding Pluto): My Very Excited Mother Just Served Us Nando's (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune).2. Simple Machines: PG JAIL (Pulley, Gear, Jackscrew, Axle and Wheel, Inclined Plane, Lever).3. Properties of Matter: Monkeys Dance Very Well. (Mass, Density, Volume, Weight).4. Levels of Taxonomy: King Philip Can Order Five Greek Salads (Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species).5. Flow of Electrons: OIL RIG (Oxidation = It Loses, Reduction = It Gains).6. Metric System Prefixes in Value Order: King Henry Died Drinking Chocolate Milk (Kilo=x 1000, Hecta=x 100, Deca=x 10, Deci=x 0.1, Centi=x 0.01, Milli=x 0.001). <p>Stay home, stay safe, Observe social distancing.</p>	

Science SES Message: How to motivate your teachers	WEEK 4
Good day scientist groomers: message from Godwin (G2) Nhauro - ANEPM (NECT)	
<p>For our teachers to deliver they need motivation among other things. Praise them: During your cluster meetings or training sessions. Take the time to call attention to teachers who have gone above and beyond.</p> <p>A small token of appreciation goes a long way. It does not have to be something costly, simple ordinary gift message card for appreciating them. The point is to show your teachers that their hard work hasn't gone unnoticed.</p> <p>Respect their Time: Refrain from showing up without an appointment, your job is not witch-hunting but support and always give them constructive feedback.</p> <p>Be available and connect: Talk to them. Find out what they're struggling with, what's falling through the cracks and how they think you can be of help. Sometimes the best way to reach deeper into their personal struggles, is by putting off your 'boss hat' and be a colleague.</p> <p>Stay home, stay safe, Observe social distancing.</p>	

Science SES Message: Professional Development – Record keeping	WEEK 3: 10 MARCH 2020
Good day scientist groomers: message from Godwin (G2) Nhauro - ANEPM (NECT)	
<p>As a SES, to what extent would you say you know your teachers professionally? Not only their names and contact details, but also the state of each of your teachers on professional development matters. The question is how do you then support a teacher you don't know professionally?</p> <p>Get to know your teachers: Create a simple database, a recording system for your teachers. The database should include among other things teacher profiles, subject performance and a detailed record of the nature of all professional development and support sessions received by the teacher.</p> <p>With such database you can track the number and frequency each of your teachers received professional development and support, the nature of development received (e.g. training in teaching methodology or assessment practice or content knowledge etc.) and the areas each of them still need support on.</p> <p>Based on this data, you to make informed personalised or differentiated teacher support decisions e.g. which teachers can be clustered together to be supported on a common concept.</p> <p>Stay home, stay safe, Observe social distancing.</p>	

Science SES Message: Assisting teachers setting targets	WEEK 2: 03 MARCH 2020
Good day scientist groomers: message from Godwin (G2) Nhauro - ANEPM (NECT)	
<p>As SES, we need to help our teachers to plan and set up specific, achievable and measurable targets for NS/Tech and NS.</p>	
<p>Attainment of teacher subject targets depends on their class performance and hence teachers should assist learners in setting their own targets, a 5% increase will suffice using their Term 1 mark as a benchmark.</p>	
<p>The teacher should then monitor their learners performance against their own targets regularly and always remind them: ‘check yourself how far you are from your target.’</p>	
<p><u>Tips on how to work remotely with teachers</u></p>	
<p>Create a virtual platform to constantly support and communicate with your teachers, e.g.:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WhatsApp group for short urgent messages, documents sharing, audio and video sharing. 2. Microsoft Teams offers: (a) audio and video conferencing – for planning, reflection meeting, virtual training and support (b) document sharing, (c) chat platform, (d) individual support 3. Zoom offers same services as Microsoft teams 4. Skype offers same services as Microsoft teams 5. Google hangouts 	

