

e-Newsletter

Number 21



May 2023

Delivering a Common Future:
Connecting, Innovating, Transforming

www.castme.online

Editorial:

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. It has been a busy few months.

CASTME have been involved with many STEM projects relating to pre-school children and their mothers, secondary and primary pupils in formal education and informal learning. We particularly focus on life-long learning and the involvement of mothers, carers, families and communities in developing understanding of Everyday science, maths and engineering in action in their community and culture. We have links around the Commonwealth, including dialogue with STEM educators, particularly in UK, Africa, Mauritius, Malta, Australia and Canada. CASTME awards have been made to STEM projects in Malta, India, and Nigeria.

Rachel Morgan

“Like it or not, and prepared or not, we are the mind and stewards of the living world. Our own ultimate future depends upon that understanding.” – E.O. Wilson (1929-2021)

Commonwealth Day Report from Prof. Ibiyinka Ogunlade



CHILDREN-IN-SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Welcomes you to a
CELEBRATION FOR COMMONWEALTH DAY
Tagged
COMMONWEALTH DAY GLOBAL NETWORKING EVENT
DATE: 13th MARCH, 2023
VENUE: CHRIST'S SCHOOL ADO-EKITI, EKITI STATE.
Featuring:
• EXHIBITION of Designed Flags of Commonwealth Member Countries by CHILDREN
• SYMPOSIUM
...popularising Science and Technology among Children for self-reliance



Children-in-Science and Technology (CIST) commemorated International Commonwealth Day on 13th March, 2023 with Commonwealth Day Global Networking Event, featuring:

- Exhibition of designed flags of Commonwealth Member Countries by Children (aged 3 to 12) from primary and secondary schools selected from Ado-Ekiti and its environs in Ekiti State, Nigeria.
- Most outstanding flags were selected by Fine Arts teachers from Federal University Oye-Ekiti and Christ's School Ado-Ekiti who served as Consultants during the Exhibitions. Winners from both junior and senior categories were declared.
- Symposium titled: Forging A Sustainable and Peaceful Common Future, especially through **Climate Action** anchored by a Resource person, Clement Odewale.
- Quiz competition was held among the children participants facilitated by CIST Programmer Officer, Oluwatoyin Moyo.
- Poetry presentation by Twin girls from Christ Girls' School Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.



Plates 1&2: Flag Exhibition by children from selected schools in Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.

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Plate :3 L-R Prof. B.J Obebe, 3 Winners of Outstanding Flags for Senior Category, Prof. Yinka Ogunlade



Plate :4 Tiwaoluwa Adeniyi (7years) Winner of Outstanding Flag for Junior Category



Plate 5: Quiz competition among the children participants.



Plate 6: Daraire Alao (7years) during Q&A Session.



Plate7: Taiwo and Kehinde Aderemi (15years) during Poetry presentation at the Event.



Plate8: Taiwo and Kehinde Aderemi (15years) during Poetry presentation at the Event.



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FINDEL CASTME AWARDS 2023

The awards are expected to be designed and realised in accordance with these aims in the specific area of each award. Past successful entries may be seen on www.castme.online and in newsletters.

The Findel CASTME Education Award

Presented to the entry that displays an innovative approach to increasing STEM awareness. The awardee will receive a £300 voucher to spend on Philip Harris science equipment or resources as well as an international membership of the ASE for one year.

The Findel CASTME Protect Our Planet Award

Presented to a STEM project which focuses on the Sustainable Development Goals such as Climate Change, Responsible Consumption and Clean Water. The awardee will receive a £100 voucher from Findel International.

The Findel CASTME Community Award

Presented to a community project focused on mothers, fathers, carers and children and/or on raising awareness of STEM in the community. The awardee will receive a £50 voucher from Findel International.

The Successful recipients are announced at the Association for Science Education Conference (ASE) held in early January in England. Information of conference from www.ASE.org.uk. FINDEL will contact the recipients to arrange selection of resources, transport to recipient's country and insurance.

Please send entries for 2023 Findel CASTME Awards to;
kathnugent1@gmail.com Closing Date 31/10/2023



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Mothers Talking Everyday Science project in Sreepur, Bangladesh

Started in 2010, this project is delivered as part of the Literacy programme and designed to empower mothers by improving their understanding of STEM in their daily activities. They are encouraged to talk with their children and other mothers as they carry out routine tasks everyday to increase understanding and interest in STEM.

Topics covered so far this year include air pollution, water pollution, rusting, data collection and clock time.

Air Pollution



Water Pollution

Groups

A field activity is also included in the second class. By visiting four ponds near the school, participants learned how much waste was dumped into the river.





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Removing rust from Iron or Steel objects

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Mothers are also informed that potatoes help in the removal of rust. Potatoes contain amino acids as well as other fatty acids that help in the reduction of rust. It is possible to eliminate rust very easily by cutting a small potato, dipping it in dishwashing soap foam, and rubbing it well on rusted goods.



Talking science is an innovative – Teaching science to mothers

Planting Tomato plants in Sac Gardens

Lady Sue Dale Tunnicliffe helping out during her visit to Sreepur.



Here is a link to Sreepur Youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@SreepurFilms>



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Careers event for upper secondary pupils in Malta

The event organised by the Business and Professional Womens organisation at the Malta Fairs Convention centre. We went with the National Council for Women Malta with Doris Bingley who regularly attends our Castme informal meetings and is a Castme adviser.

Each pupil received a bag containing a notebook, pen and advice on preparing for a job interview and information about the future skills and information they will need such as bank accounts etc.



Commonwealth Girls' Education Fund

CGEF (Commonwealth Girls' Education Fund) have published a cookery book containing yummy recipes from around the Commonwealth. Some of the recipes were provided by CASTME members.

Sale proceeds will help to sponsor girls' education in a Commonwealth country, by paying for them to attend school. The book can be ordered to assist their fundraising efforts by following this link

[The Commonwealth Cookbook: A collection of delicious authentic recipes from around the world.](#)

Talk and Do Science on Facebook and Instagram

<https://www.facebook.com/Talk-and-Do-Science-at-Home-116167663504654/>

<https://www.instagram.com/castmeactivities/>

Our aim through these pages is to encourage and support parents and carers to nurture children's natural curiosity by observing, talking and exploring with them every day at home and during their experiences of the world.

We would like to urge our members across the commonwealth to establish media accounts with pages such as these to reflect their local cultures and to inspire their local communities.

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UPCOMING DATES –

Please Contact Kath Nugent for joining instructions (kathnugent@yahoo.co.uk)

AGM & Trustees Meeting on Zoom Wednesday 14th June 1.30pm GMT – Reports to Secretary 2 weeks prior please

Informal Meeting on Zoom Wednesday 14th June 2.30pm GMT – All welcome

June 6-10 | STEM in the Early Years | Science and STEM in the Early Years 2023: Setting the Scene for Innovation, ssey.ca at University of Ottawa, Canada

Some Useful Links

UK National Association of Environment and Education <http://naee.org.uk>

CASTME is a member of ICASE, the International Council of Associations for Science Education. Here is a link to their latest newsletter, where you can read about recent activities.

http://www.icasonline.net/newsletter/icas_e_01_02_2022.pdf

The Royal Commonwealth society newsletter, Commonwealth voices, gives interesting details about the impact of their activities including The Queen's Commonwealth Essay competition.

<https://cts.vresp.com/c/?RoyalCommonwealthSoc/be48e39ea7/d674a4ef1e/d8b4abe093>

[National Centre for Family Learning](#) - a free association for professionals working with families in any learning context supporting the development of children, young people and families. The National Centre for Family Learning is delivered by [Campaign for Learning](#).

CASTME links Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Educators across the Commonwealth

It has a UK-based board of trustees, with regional branches and advisers in the Commonwealth

Editor's Note: For the next edition of this newsletter please send articles to **Rachel Morgan:** rachelmorg@aol.com

by 5th September 2023 CASTME website: <http://www.castme.online>

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