

# inclusivelearning

e-bulletin/May 2018

# Hello.

The last two months have seen a drop in maths and English learning activities, so please help us meet our goals for UNISON's Inclusive Learning project. For instance, you could promote and use the **SkillCheck** tool.

There's still time to apply for KickStart funding for Learning at Work Week (LaWW) activities such as any of our current workshops on creative writing, fun with numbers or get into the grammar groove. You might also like to develop your own reading scheme, like #DMUreads. Let's make it fun! Contact us for more details at

**kickstart@unison.co.uk**. Or call Oreleo Du Cran 020 7121 5711 or Jon Tennison on 020 7121 5700.



JESS HURD/REPORTDIGITAL.CO.UK

**Martin Russo, Inclusive Learning Project Manager**

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## GETTING READY FOR LEARNING AT WORK WEEK

We have developed four new taster workshops for ULRs to run during this year's Learning at Work Week (LaWW), which is almost upon us, as it runs from Monday 14 to Sunday 20 May.

The new workshops are:

- Reading for pleasure
- Creative writing
- Get into the grammar groove
- Fun with numbers.

The workshops, which explore some key concepts in literacy and numeracy in a light-hearted and reassuring way, all take 90 minutes to run.

We have designed them so they can be run for any group of members and potential

members by any rep who has completed discussion leaders training or lay tutor training.

You can find the four workshops on the UNISON learning website here: **https://bit.ly/2HknESI**

As UNISON is an official champion of National Numeracy Day, which falls on Wednesday 16 May in the middle of Learning at Work Week, we have put together a short UNISON taster workshop using activities created by National Numeracy to help ULRs. You can find the workshop at:

**https://bit.ly/2HLlcXz**

You can also find more resources, including a campaign summary, posters and a planning template, in the At Work toolkit on

**www.numeracyday.com**

**In response to the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) being introduced later this month, this is to inform you that you receive this e-bulletin on a monthly basis and you have the right to unsubscribe and withdraw from this newsletter at any time.**

**For further information contact: 020 7121 5116**



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## DMU events

UNISON learning reps at De Montfort University (DMU) are continuing to promote their literacy initiative #DMUreads, with more events to follow up the successful launch in February with Benjamin Zephaniah.

Last month, the Learning at Lunchtime series continued with a talk by DMU lecturer and author Rod Duncan, who spoke about his latest novel, *The Queen of All Crows*, which is the first in a new science fiction series called *The Map of Unknown Things*.

Born in the early 1960s in west Wales, Rod was diagnosed with dyslexia while he was in primary school and did not discover reading for pleasure until much later in life. But his latest novel is his eighth to be published and he now teaches creative writing at DMU.

This month's event is called Picnic and Poetry, which is an opportunity for staff to read their favourite poems over lunchtime on day one of Learning at Work Week. It is followed in June by a debate on books versus Kindles.



## ULR training

The first cohort of new ULRs from West London Mental Health Branch trained for their new role on a three-day Stage 1 course delivered by Oreleo Du Cran, Davinder Sandhu and Jon Tennison from LAOS last month.

Seven ULRs from the Trust plus an eighth from local government completed the course, which was held at the St Bernard's site in Southall, one of the 25 sites that make up the Trust.

The feedback about the content and delivery of the course was very positive from the participants, most of whom had never taken on an activist role before volunteering to become ULRs.

"I didn't know much about being a ULR but now I feel very motivated to go and do some work," commented one participant. The 'interviewing members' role play exercise went down particularly well.

A second cohort from the branch will complete their training later this summer.



## Dyslexia course

We are taking bookings for our two-day course, Dyslexia awareness for union learning reps (ULRs), which we are holding on Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 July in UNISON Centre in London.

The course is designed to help ULRs learn how to support co-workers with dyslexia, which affects around 10 per cent of people in the UK and is classified as a disability under the 2010 Equality Act.

With the help of presentations, individual activities, group work and discussions, participants will improve their understanding of dyslexia and find out more about how the condition affects people in the workplace.

The course helps people identify the strengths exhibited by people with dyslexia as well as the barriers they face in the workplace. It also helps participants identify the key issues for individuals, for employers and for UNISON.

Please download the application form [here](#). The closing date for applications is Friday 15 June.

**For further information contact: 020 7121 5116**



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