

eTwinning Ambassadors

eTwinning Ambassadors are teachers who share their passion for eTwinning with the wider community. They communicate their experiences with eTwinning to other schools and teachers, and make known the advantages of participation.

Léargas makes a call for eTwinning Ambassadors each year and selects the most suitable teachers on the basis of their professional and eTwinning experience, and how they can contribute to the eTwinning network. Keep an eye on our [News and Events page](#) for details of the next call.

The current eTwinning Ambassadors are profiled below:

Brendan Colleran, Castletroy College, Co. Limerick

bcolleran@castletroycollege.ie



“I am a post primary teacher and teach subjects of a practical nature including DCG, Architectural Construction Technology and Materials Technology (Wood). I have been teaching since 1994. I work a lot with Transition year students. I have been actively involved with the eTwinning programme since 2009 and have been an eTwinning Ambassador since 2010. I first got involved with eTwinning as a result of a contact seminar/workshop hosted by Léargas in Dublin. This resulted in a partnership with an Estonian school, which led to a number of other projects with a variety of other countries.”

Tom Duggan, St. Brendan’s National School, Co. Kilkenny

Tduggan07@gmail.com



“I am a teaching principal in a small rural primary school of 59 pupils and 4 teachers. Teaching in a small rural school sometimes led to a feeling of geographical isolation and I saw eTwinning as a useful and practical way of collaborating with teachers from Europe. My introduction to eTwinning came in 2005 when I attended a workshop in Malta. Since then I have been involved in many different projects, some with only two partners and others with a large number. With all projects I try to incorporate the existing curriculum into the project rather than trying to create extra work. One of my projects, **Creating Around Music**, was awarded the Quality Label. I have been an eTwinning ambassador since 2009 and being involved in eTwinning has certainly been a positive experience for me. I would be only too glad to share my experience with any teacher interested in getting involved and I would highly recommend the eTwinning programme to everyone.”

Anne McMorrough, St Martin de Porres National School, Co. Dublin

annemcm@eircom.net

www.twitter.com/annemcm



“I am a primary school teacher currently on secondment to [Marino Institute of Education](#) where I lecture in ICT. I became involved in eTwinning in 2007. My first project, ***eTwins Magical Mission***, connected my Junior Infant class with a Reception class in the UK. Even though it was a simple project and only involved a few basic technologies, it captured the children’s imaginations and brought their learning to life in ways that nobody expected!

Since then I have participated in many other eTwinning projects. Some have focused on just one or two curricular areas, whereas others have been more thematic. At times only myself and one other teacher have worked together

and then again there have been projects where forty or fifty teachers from around Europe have contributed! In other words, there is great flexibility in an eTwinning project and the focus is always on collaborative teaching and learning, using simple (and often free) tools like the eTwinning portal, email, blogs, Skype etc.

eTwinning is one of the best initiatives that I have ever used in a classroom. In particular, my interest revolves around the endless, creative possibilities that it affords. If you are thinking of starting an eTwinning project and would like more information, do not hesitate to contact me!”

Gráinne Nugent, St Brigid’s Primary School, Co. Kildare

Nugentg.etwinning@gmail.com



“I’m a mainstream primary teacher with responsibility for teaching all primary subjects. I got involved in eTwinning to enrich the lives of my students and ensure that they would be aware of the fact that they are part of Europe and not just Ireland. I wanted to prepare them for secondary school by incorporating ICT into my teaching in a fun and engaging manner. It is a modern version of penpals for the 21st century!

I am willing to help people set up projects in any primary subject. I will help in any way I can with integration of eTwinning to the curriculum so that it is part of your plans and not ‘extra’ work that you feel you must do. I am proficient in many Web 2.0 tools that can help with the ICT aspect of things but I can help make the project as simple or complex as you need, depending on your starting point of expertise. Anything that I do not know I will find out!”

Tom Roche, Knockaclarig National School, Co. Kerry
knockans@hotmail.com



“I am a Primary School Principal in Brosna, Castleisland, Co. Kerry. I joined e-Twinning in late 2005 and formed an ad hoc partnership with a Swedish school in early 2006. At the beginning we explored the tools in the Twinspace and showcased some of our informal multimedia outputs concentrating on the media of sound/music and video. Our digital competence in those two areas allied to the fact that we now had a forum to tease out ideas and a platform to showcase the generated products gave us the confidence to formalise the partnership and so we

decided to embark on a project. We enjoyed the exercise and had tremendous success with our production ***Make a Film and Share IT with Friends***. We compared and contrasted our respective curricula, developed lesson plans and as more web tools became available we integrated same in our activities adding greatly to the quality of our productions and to our professional development.

Perhaps the greatest experience for me in e-Twinning is the facility that enables isolated small schools to link with other schools be they small or large, urban or rural anywhere in Europe. In the meantime I promote e-Twinning through formal e-Twinning workshops and information meetings, in my capacity as a tutor for primary teacher in-service summer courses, teacher conferences, board of management meetings, at Tralee Education Centre management meetings and on local radio and local newspapers.”