

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Date:** Thursday 7 June 2018  
For Immediate Release

### **STEM celebration set to attract 300 young people from across Scotland**

Over 50 school clubs and 300 young people will gather at Glasgow Science Centre on Friday 8 June to take part in the 2018 national Celebration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). The Celebration is organised by SCDI's Young Engineers & Science Clubs (YESC) programme and sponsored by Chevron, Lloyds Register EMEA and OPITO.

Young people will be involved in a variety of challenges and competitions over the day and the 'Club of the Year' titles (primary and secondary) and 'Newcomer Award' - for the most impressive club in its first year – will be announced by guest judge, Dr Heather Reid OBE.

The YESC programme marks its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and Dr Claire Motion, senior systems engineer at Leonardo, and former YESC member, will be the guest speaker at the Celebration. Claire will share her experience and career path to-date and explain the vital role the YESC programme played in her journey to success.

Claire says: "I was lucky enough to attend the Celebration of STEM events as a school pupil which really helped me make up my mind that I wanted to be an engineer. They were such fantastic days meeting lots of other pupils from across Scotland and sharing what we had been working on. I really enjoyed going taking part in the 3-minute challenges; having to solve interesting, real problems in small teams was really exciting and they've proven to be useful skills as an engineer! I'm delighted to be back as a judge this year and can't wait to see the innovation and creativity from the teams. It's fantastic to see the programme celebrating 30 years and I'm very proud to have been part of that."

Rebecca MacLennan, YESC programme director, explains more about the day: "We have three competitions taking place this Friday. The first, our STEM Challenge, will see 20 organisations provide a three-minute, hands-on STEM challenge for attendees to complete. The challenges double up as an opportunity to provide an insight into the different career paths available in the STEM industry.

"We've also got the final of 'Don't Waste a Drop', our 2017-2018 national STEM challenge which is supported by national water retailer, Wave. 22 schools will be showcasing their design and competing to see which pump and pipeline can transfer the most water without wasting a drop.

"Our last competition is the Knots to Watts challenge, which is jointly supported by Vattenfall, Crown Estate Scotland and the Institute of Physics in Scotland (IOPS). 13 schools will be competing for first prize after researching offshore wind technologies and building a floating wind turbine which generates electricity."

-----ENDS-----

**Further information:**

Robert Sutherland, Director of Communications and Events

M: 07917 190 935

E: [robert.sutherland@scdi.org.uk](mailto:robert.sutherland@scdi.org.uk)

**Notes to Editors:**

- Winners of each competition and photos will be emailed to you on Friday 8 June once the event has finished.

The event hashtag is #YESCcelebrates and there will be live updates throughout the day from the @scdiYESC twitter account.

- The following 49 schools are taking part in the event:

| <b><u>School</u></b>            | <b><u>Local Authority</u></b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Hanover Street                  | Aberdeen                      |
| Robert Gordon's College         | Aberdeen                      |
| Clerkhill Primary               | Aberdeenshire                 |
| Eassie Primary                  | Angus                         |
| Port Ellen Primary              | Argyll & Bute                 |
| Kingsland Primary               | Borders                       |
| Priorsford Primary              | Borders                       |
| Ae Primary                      | Dumfries & Galloway           |
| Barshare Primary                | East Ayrshire                 |
| Stewarton Academy               | East Ayrshire                 |
| Bearsden Academy                | East Dunbartonshire           |
| Mearns Primary                  | East Renfrewshire             |
| Our Lady of the Mission Primary | East Renfrewshire             |
| St Ninian's High                | East Renfrewshire             |
| Edinburgh Academy               | Edinburgh                     |
| Pirniehall Primary              | Edinburgh                     |
| St David's RC Primary           | Edinburgh                     |
| Falkirk High                    | Falkirk                       |
| Benarty Primary                 | Fife                          |
| Dunfermline High                | Fife                          |
| Kirkton of Largo Primary        | Fife                          |
| St Leonard's School             | Fife                          |
| All Saints Secondary            | Glasgow                       |
| Broomhill Primary               | Glasgow                       |
| Dalmarnock Primary              | Glasgow                       |
| Glasgow Gaelic School           | Glasgow                       |
| Hyndland Primary                | Glasgow                       |
| Hyndland Secondary              | Glasgow                       |
| Lourdes Secondary               | Glasgow                       |
| Merrylee Primary                | Glasgow                       |
| Pirie Park Primary              | Glasgow                       |
| Smithycroft Secondary           | Glasgow                       |

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| St Andrew's RC Secondary          | Glasgow             |
| St Margaret Mary's Secondary      | Glasgow             |
| St Roch's Primary and Deaf School | Glasgow             |
| The Glasgow Academy               | Glasgow             |
| Alness Academy                    | Highlands           |
| Charleston Academy                | Highlands           |
| Inverness High School             | Highlands           |
| Forres Academy                    | Moray               |
| Greenwood Academy                 | North Ayrshire      |
| St Ambrose High                   | North Lanarkshire   |
| Fordbank Primary                  | Renfrewshire        |
| St Vincent's Primary              | South Lanarkshire   |
| Balfron High                      | Stirling            |
| Gavinburn Primary                 | West Dunbartonshire |
| Inveralmond Community High        | West Lothian        |
| Sgoil Dhalabroig                  | Western Isles       |
| Sgoil Bhreascleit                 | Western Isles       |

- The organisations providing STEM Challenges are:
  - Aberdeen Science Centre
  - Anglian Water Business / Wave
  - BAE Systems
  - BP
  - BT Scotland
  - Chevron North Sea Limited
  - ECITB
  - University of Edinburgh and University of Glasgow
  - Greenpower Education Trust
  - Institute of Physics
  - Institution of Civil Engineers
  - Lloyd's Register EMEA
  - Morrison Construction
  - OPITO
  - Rolls-Royce
  - Royal Navy
  - Scottish Maritime Museum
  - ScottishPower
  - Thales
  - Vattenfall
  
- As part of the 2017 - 2018 'Don't Waste a Drop' national STEM challenge, 200 kits were distributed to schools throughout Scotland and teams tasked with designing and building a pump and pipeline that can transfer water without wasting a drop. Out of these, 22 schools will be showcasing their designs and put them to the test during Celebration of STEM. These are:
  1. Sgoil Dhalabroig
  2. Pirie Park Primary
  3. St Leonard's School
  4. Smithycroft Secondary
  5. St Ninian's High
  6. Ae Primary
  7. Lourdes Secondary

8. Mearns Primary
9. The Glasgow Academy
10. Kingsland Primary
11. Dalmarnock Primary
12. Clerkhill Primary
13. Fordbank Primary
14. Benarty Primary
15. St Roch's Primary and Deaf School
16. Hyndland Secondary
17. Alness Academy
18. Charleston Academy
19. Dunfermline High
20. Falkirk High
21. Greenwood Academy
22. Robert Gordon's College

- 'Don't Waste a Drop' is supported by Wave. Wave is the joint venture between Anglian Water Business (AWB) and NWG Business. As a national water retailer, it serves approximately 300,000 business customers across the UK and offers a wide range of services that help business understand and manage their water and energy consumption better.
- The Knots to Watts project aims to inspire school pupils to research offshore wind technologies by designing and building a floating wind turbine that generates electricity. 70 kits, containing components parts to be incorporated into the models, were distributed to primary and secondary schools across Scotland who took part in the project. 13 of these schools entered the showcase. They are:

1. Ae Primary
2. Alness Academy
3. Charleston Academy
4. Clerkhill Primary
5. Gavinburn Primary
6. Greenwood Academy
7. Hanover Street
8. Hyndland Secondary
9. Pirniehall Primary and St David's RC Primary (Joint Entry)
10. Port Ellen Primary
11. Robert Gordon's College
12. St Ninian's High
13. Sgoil Bhreascleit

- You can find out more about both Don't Waste a Drop and the Knots to Watts challenge here: [http://www.yecscotland.co.uk/primary\\_school\\_resources.html](http://www.yecscotland.co.uk/primary_school_resources.html)
- The Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI) is Scotland's Economic and Social Forum. It is an independent membership network representing a cross-section of the private, public and social economy sectors in Scotland with an aim of influencing the agenda to ensure long-term sustainable economic growth and flourishing communities everywhere in Scotland.
- SCDI's Young Engineers and Science Clubs programme has played a leading role in growing interest and sparking enthusiasm in STEM subjects for over 30 years. There are now more than 1,500 primary and secondary schools in our network throughout Scotland's 32 local authority areas, engaged in a variety of both curriculum linked and extra-curricular projects.