GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR EDUCATION
AND SPORT

CIRCULAR

Ref: DSVP 057/2026

From: Isabel Zerafa, Education Officer – Primary Science

To: Directors General
Chief Information Officers
Chairpersons / Chief Executive Officers
Directors / Assistant Directors
Heads of College Network
Heads of Primary Schools (State and Non-State)/Education Officers
Heads of Department
MES employees

Subject: Primary STEM Challenge – 8th Edition

Date: 4th November 2026

The Primary Science Team within the Directorate for STEM and VET Programmes is launching the 8th edition of the *Primary STEM Challenge* - a STEM initiative for primary students in Year 1 to Year 6. The aim of the initiative is to engage young students and their educators/guardians in doing science while nurturing and developing 21st Century life skills.

The theme for this edition, adopted from the *Great Science Share for Schools* is **Sensory Science**. The theme chosen aligns with key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by strengthening the initiative's educational and global dimension. This edition will specifically focus on **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being.**

The *Primary STEM Challenge* engages **students and classroom teachers** to investigate **one** of the following themes and produce a brief video showing the investigation process.

Category A (Early Years) – Year 1 and Year 2		**Category B (Primary Years) – Year 3 to Year 6**	
Maximum video length of 3 minutes		**Maximum video length of 3 minutes**	
Theme 1:	Our Amazing Senses	**Theme 1:**	Sensory Science
Theme 2:	Music and Sound	**Theme 2:**	Music, Sound and Communication
Theme 3:	Science we cannot see	**Theme 3:**	Invisible Science

All submitted videos will be adjudicated according to the criteria outlined in the guidelines document attached to this Letter Circular. Adjudication criteria are specific to each category.

The Primary Science Team, in collaboration with the *Great Science Share for Schools,* is further supporting participants by providing the following support and enrichment opportunities:

- Direct personalised feedback on the investigation **prior** to submitting the video.
- Valuable resources and Great Science Toolkit that may be used as support material to investigate.
- The opportunity to share the video in the #GSSfS2027 global campaign.

The support outlined above is optional. Further information will be communicated following registration.

Submissions in the *Primary STEM Challenge* may be on an individual basis or as a whole classroom. Following the official adjudication process, selected participants will be invited to present their submission at the *Primary Science Fair* held in May 2027. Winners will be announced and awarded during the award ceremony held on the last day of the *Primary Science Fair*. Further details are listed in the *Primary STEM Challenge* guidelines document and poster attached to this Letter Circular.

Educators/guardians are kindly requested to submit the video by not later than **Monday 25th January 2027** through the **MS Form**. In all submissions, the name of the student or the name of the classroom, year group, school and theme chosen should be noted.

The Directorate for STEM & VET Programmes will be providing award prizes as follows:

- science-kits awards to the first three *Primary STEM Challenge* finalists within each theme, for each category (Category A and Category B); and
- science-kits tokens to the two-runner-up classroom for each category (Category A and Category B)

HSBC Malta Foundation will provide one classroom prize for each category (Category A and Category B), consisting of €150 worth of science resources per category.

Esplora Interactive Science Centre will be providing an activity box with several experiments, a set of storybooks and a child entry ticket to Esplora for the Science Communication Award prize to one participant for each theme in **Category B only**. Kindly refer to the success criteria for the Science Communication Award in the guidelines document attached to this Letter Circular.

Interested participants are kindly requested to submit their registration by not later than **Friday 27th November 2026** by accessing the following **LINK**.

Any queries can be put forward to Ms Isabel Zerafa, Education Officer (Primary Science) on isabel.zerafa@ilearn.edu.mt or 25983597.

Thank you for your collaboration.

Melanie Casha Sammut
Director
STEM and VET Programmes