On behalf of
Keyna O’Reilly – Practical Class Organiser

Brief introduction to the Practical Classes
Most importantly

- *practicals are COMPULSORY*  
  (as are Crystallography Classes)

- *they constitute “examinable coursework”*

Failure to attend, complete, write-up and get marked ALL of your practicals this year will lead to FAILURE in Prelims, with no ability to re-sit

...of course, mitigating circumstances will be taken into account by the Proctors
Full briefing

- **Monday of 1st week (9th October 2017) at 11am**
- **Hume Rothery Lecture Theatre**
- **attending this full briefing is compulsory**
- **information included in your Handbook**
Full briefing

- timetables
- safety in the Teaching Labs
- first year practicals
  - content
  - duration
  - writing-up practicals
  - submission and marking
- absence from practicals
- penalties
Why do practicals?

- *hands-on learning experience*

- *reinforce your lecture courses and tutorials*
  - brings them “alive”
  - gives them relevance
  - helps you to remember

- *part of your training as a scientist*
  - scientists design and carry out experiments
  - scientists analyse data
  - practicals are like mini-experiments

- *good training for later parts of the course*
  - Team Design Projects (3rd year)
  - Microstructural Characterisation Module (3rd year)
  - Modelling Module (3rd year)
  - Part II Project (4th year)
Why do practicals?

- and they are fun!

- and there’s a prize worth £500 to the student who wins the Armourers and Braziers’ Company / TATA Steel Prize for the best performance in first year practicals...
Brief outline

- **Thursday and Friday afternoons 2-5pm**
- **undergraduate Teaching Labs (Holder Building)**
- **expect one practical every other week**
  - half of you in odd weeks
  - half of you in even weeks
  - though the first two weeks of this term are different!
    - all do an introductory practical in 1\textsuperscript{st} wk and another in 2\textsuperscript{nd} wk
  - only two practicals in Trinity term because of Prelims

- **you’ll be working in groups of three**
  - each group will have its own set of equipment
Support

*assistance given by*

- Practical Class Organiser – Keyna O’Reilly (behind the scenes)
- Deputy Academic Administrator – Philippa Moss (behind the scenes)
- Academic Administrative Assistant – Suzie Engela (behind the scenes)
- Practical Class Technician – Paula Topping
- Chemical Technician – Mimi Nguyen
- Senior Demonstrator
- Teaching Assistant (aka Junior Demonstrator)