

JOURNAL OF WORK EXPERIENCE AT RED HAT

• Week One •

Monday 19th February 2018

Today I had my induction to the workplace;
I met my supervisors/very-friendly-and-really-helpful-people: Jameel, Laura, Judy and Dimitra.
We got a comprehensive tour of the place and visitors' cards from Aoife and were then placed at our work-station, a lovely desk with a view in an open-plan area next to the Ops and Engineering departments.
We attended the 'Waterford office stand-up' in the Hook room.

Our supervisors helped us to set-up GitHub accounts and joined us to the Slack workplace. They set us a project: make a cordova timetable app using our skills in HTML and my knowledge of CSS.

I was surprised and impressed that there was already a programme of crash courses and projects ready for us and grateful that everyone was so kind and willing to talk to me about their experiences and to answer any questions I had. The day was jam-packed with activities and learning-experiences and I definitely enjoyed myself.

Tuesday

First thing this morning, I finished setting-up my GitHub repositories and I tested pushing files to it from the computer. Afterwards, we joined our supervisors and Ciaran to play the marshmallow challenge and to discuss structured teamwork.

Most of the afternoon was spent learning the basics of JavaScript: we got an excellent presentation and crash course in variables, data types, conditions, loops, functions and arrays from Dimitra and Ciaran; then they set us a few challenges which we eventually managed to get working with buckets of help from everyone. And I mean everyone.

Wednesday

This morning I spend some time organising my Google Drive and integrating it with my phone and other google apps. It is an ongoing situation. We were invited to observe a stand-up led by Jameel via BlueJeans for Team Core in Sprint 4.

As with Tuesday, most of today was spent learning more about JavaScript and making headway (with an abundance of help) on a new challenge: to make a guess-the-random-number game in javascript on a webpage. I got a lot more familiar with the material I learned during the crash course on Tuesday, particularly 'while loops'.

Thursday

We finally finished the guessing-game challenge this morning, with Judy helping us. It was a learning experience. I then proceeded to spend way too much time making mine look pretty with CSS.

Damien from Software Engineering gave us a presentation/talk about the Software Development Process and Agile: Scrum.

Aoife from Reception talked us through dealing with voicemails in a company via Oracle and showed us the Red Hat Mojo intranet.

Judy from Ops introduced us to Powtoon, which can be used to make interesting, animated presentations.

We observed a stand-up led by Laura from Scrum for Team 1 in Sprint 4.

We joined in on a meeting in the Tuskar room about setting up and running the Red Hat stand at the WIT Arena for Women in Tech.

Jameel from Engineering gave us a new project to work on: making a simple calculator using HTML, CSS and JS.

Friday

Morning time, I continued work on the calculator challenge. I am proud to announce that it now does everything a calculator should - except calculate.

Dimitra showed us how to write in mark-down and the proper format for a read-me file, which is a very useful skill for working with GitHub.

We helped Aoife to set-up for breakfast in the cafeteria and later to organise the meeting room for the End of Year Review. Those scones were delicious.

Last thing, we had a retrospective of the week with Laura, Jameel, Judy and Dimitra. We used Trello to create a board of what 'Went Well', 'What Didn't Work', 'Do More' and 'Action Items'. I was very happy with how the week went, I learned a lot more than I thought I would and had plenty of fun in the process. I shall work more on the calculator over the weekend and I am looking forward to next week.

• Week Two •

Monday 26th February 2018

In the morning, we attended the office stand-up in the Hook room. I then spent the time until lunch working on the calculator app and finally finished it with help from Jameel.

After lunch, Judy brought us for a bit of a photoshoot around the building, insisting we wear the fedoras. *Ah sure, it was great craic.* Jameel then went through an explanation and demonstration of how the backend connected to the frontend in the Cordova timetable app works, which I assume we will work on tomorrow.

Tuesday

This morning I continued work on connecting the frontend to the backend of the Cordova app. We then attended a NOC Kanban meeting in Valentia with Mark and Judy, who explained what the terms IaaS, PaaS and SaaS and the role the NOC department plays.

Judy gave us an introductory presentation to cryptography and talked about binary code and computer security and forensics handed us cipher worksheets.

Jameel and Laura explained how objects, their classes, instances, properties and values work in programming.

After lunch, Jameel went into more detail about how APIs, frontend, backend and databases function and showed us the Express command line.

Wednesday

Most people, including myself, worked remotely today due to the code orange and possible code red because of the snow. I worked adding subject slides to my powtoon presentation and compilation website.

We had a session on Virtualization and Containerization with David during which we set up a VM and he explained the benefits of containerization.

Today was the day that we, finally, finished the Timetable app. There were many hours and numerous BlueJeans calls with Jameel, Laura and Judy, who somehow, in the end, managed to explain the whole process to us. Hallelujah!

Thursday

We were working remotely again today. Morningtime, I added to the CSS in the cordova app. We then had a session with Jameel on setting up the SSH key for git cloning the project.

After, we had a session with Judy, Dimitra and Ciaran on Semantic UI and another with Damien on the landscape and careers in IT.

In the afternoon, we had a session with Brid where she went through her work, the stages of a design project and what tools she uses on a daily basis. I then continued work on my powtoon presentation and compilation website.

Friday

Working remotely today.

This morning we had a session with Judy on AWS and virtual instances.

I worked on my powtoon and becoming familiar with Semantic UI. Last thing, we had a session reviewing our powtoons.