



THE STEM TIMES

The Newsletter For All Things STEM
At Magna Academy Poole

Issue 4 | September 2021
A celebration of last term

Brian Cox Tickets

We are delighted to announce our prize winners for STEM participation for the last academic year 2020-21.

Emily Chislett (7KMD) took part in multiple challenges throughout the year including: making her own women in STEM Top Trumps cards; successfully completing the decoding challenge; investigating how and attempting to save energy within her own home and more.

The second winner was Ephram Matocha (8HKY) who, as well as completing our STEM online challenges, completed a Bronze Crest Award at home, investigating factors that affect plant growth, including whether a propagator was used and whether the plants grew better in soil or compost.

Both students demonstrated resilience and determination and have proven their passion for STEM through these difficult times when hands-on practical work hasn't always been possible.

They have received tickets to see the amazing Professor Brian Cox Horizons World Tour at the BIC 24th September 2022.

Magna Academy would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Bleeze for her enthusiasm in running our STEM activities last year.



Medical Mavericks

| by Mrs Bleeze

The relaunch of Medical Mavericks was very well received. Miss Hornby has demonstrated to students how to test their hearing range, the structure of an eye through a dissection and students were able to engage in online activities with the founder of Medical Mavericks, Tom Warrenner, to learn more about how the human body works. Students have had the chance to learn more about entry ways into medicine and seen interviews with medical professionals about their experiences.

A big thank you goes to Miss Hornby for running Medical Mavericks here at Magna Academy.



STEM Club and Crest Award

| by Mrs Bleeze

In STEM Club students learn about electrochemistry and how to generate electricity using something as simple as a piece of fruit and two bits of metal. Students investigated which fruit gave out the most current. There were some surprising and unexpected results, for example, a pineapple producing a significantly higher current than the often used lemon.

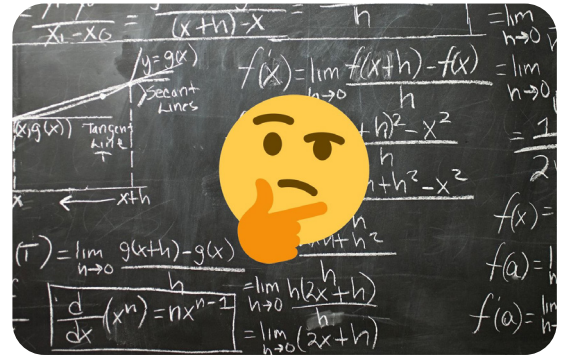


In the last few weeks of term, students finalised their results and wrote up their reports in the hope of achieving a Bronze CREST Award for their work.



Maths in Real Life

| by Mrs Bleeze



Last term's virtual STEM challenge was about using maths skills in real life situations.

Students had to use logic, 3D visualisation, mathematical computations and problem solving to answer 8 questions. These questions linked to visualising 2D diagrams into 3D shapes, money, route planning, logistics, design and more.

All participants received a STEM Certificate and our top scorers, Ephram Matocha (11/16) and Nicole Valdiviesco Arevalo (10/16) also received 5 house points each.

Junior Maths Challenge

| by Mrs Bleeze

With encouragement from the marvellous Mr Stoddart, 121 of our Year 7 and Year 8 students participated in the Junior Mathematical challenge this year.

The Junior Mathematical Challenge is a 60 minute, multiple choice challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

The problems in the Junior Mathematical Challenge are designed to make students think deeply.

Our top scorers who all received certificates for their achievements were:

Year 7

Alfie Wheeler 7S-MA1 58 Silver Best in Year

Year 8

Harry Stewart 8S-MA1 68 Silver Best in School

Jade He 8S-MA1 62 Silver

Arthur Nicholls 8S-MA1 59 Silver



Upcoming Events

- "How do rockets work?" CREST Bronze project
- "Design your own STEM badge" virtual challenge
- mA*ths online programme applications