



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School

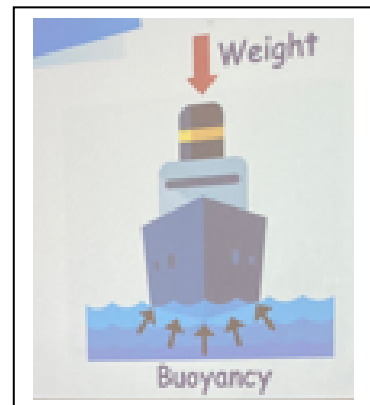
Inspiring a love of learning and life

We want our children to be curious and enthusiastic scientists. Without curiosity and wonder, children will not observe the world, ask questions about it and investigate to find answers.



Over the past few weeks, the children at St Winifred's have taken part in an inspiring range of workshops, presentations and practical activities connected to science, engineering and maths.

Richard Archer, an engineer from Bam, a company involved in 'building the present and creating the future', worked with the children from Years 3 and 4. The children made boats out of tin foil and then predicted how many marbles their boats could carry until they sank. Once they had established this, they then refined their designs to carry a heavier load.



Children in Years 5 and 6 successfully ran an exciting STEM day which inspired awe and wonder in the younger children from Reception and Years 1 and 2. Here is a flavour of the day ...



The younger children enjoyed solving conundrums such as working out whether a mixture of cornflour and water was a solid or a liquid.



Will the water in our musical bottles change the pitch of the note?



You can pick up jelly cubes with chopsticks. Well done. What do you think will happen when the jelly cubes are covered in oil?

Was your prediction correct?

Why do you think it is more difficult?



Is it possible to put the pencils through the bag of water without the water leaking out?

How is this possible?



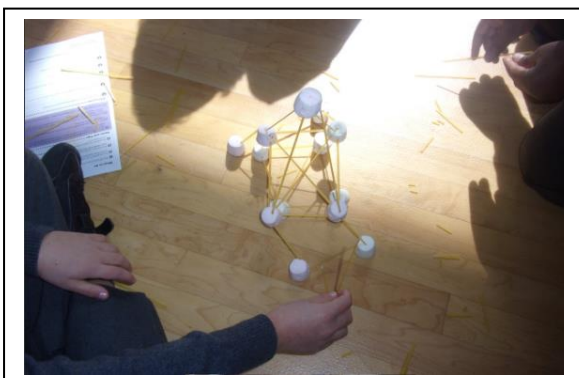
Richard Archer, from BAM, came back to run another workshop for the Year 3 and 4 children.

This time, he asked the children to experiment with spaghetti and marshmallows to see who could build the tallest tower.

What made the tallest tower work best?

One piece of spaghetti is not very strong. But if you use lots of pieces you can build a strong, tall tower. Each piece takes a little of the weight of the tower and of whatever you place on top.

The weight is the result of gravity, which pulls everything vertically downwards. That's why it's important to ensure that the tower doesn't lean too much – and that's also why towers are normally thick at the base and thinner at the top.



SPACE

On Tuesday this week, Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 were lucky enough to welcome a real life visitor, as opposed to watching a Zoom presentation. Our visitor was Colin Stuart, who is a space author. His presentation on space left us star-struck!

In his awe-inspiring presentation, Colin told us that in around 30 years, the first humans may visit Mars and those humans are between the ages of 5 and 15 years old. Any of our children could be among the first astronauts to Mars!



Could your child be among the first to land on Mars?



We also learned that shooting stars are probably burning dust and rocks, but they may also be burning human waste from the International Space Station; who knew that 'poo' could be so beautiful?



Another fact particularly interested the children – some of the Mars rocks have been named after animated characters.

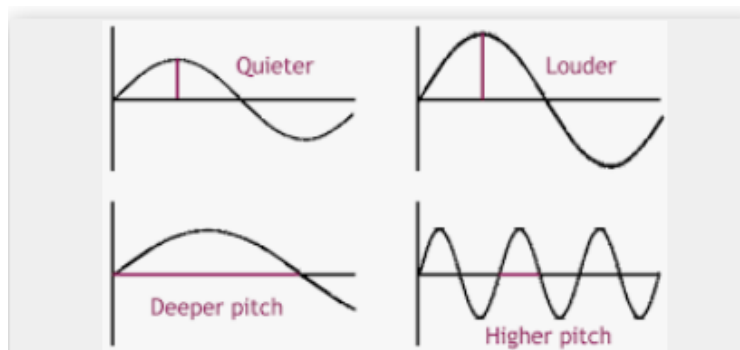


On Thursday this week, Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in a Zoom presentation by two space scientists – Jess and Zosia. They were fabulous role models who gave us a glimpse at their careers and held a fabulous Q&A session with the children.

Meanwhile, in Year 1, Shuo Mooney, a secondary school science teacher from Bonus Pastor, ran a workshop for the children to make catapults. These turned out to be very effective! The children were thrilled with the challenge.



Last, and by no means least, our music teacher, Dave Howell, put a science focus on his lessons during science week. In Year 5, the children re-capped on their Year 4 learning about sound and acquired new learning about pitch.



In Year 1, the children explored how to make guitars and create different sounds with them by varying the length and stretch of the bands.



Our Science fortnight has been a big success; it has created real awe and wonder for the subject as well as raising aspirations for children's futures.

We are just as enthusiastic about immersing children in science outside of science week and teach upwards of 28 hours of science a week across the school.

Our aim in science is to support and engage our children to be curious and enthusiastic scientists.

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