



SCIENCEOXFORD



PRIMARY SCHOOLS

NEWS

SUMMER 2016

INSPIRING SCIENCE OUTREACH FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEW PROGRAMMING WORKSHOPS

PLANETARIUM TOUR

BIG BANG @ RAL

BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK 2016

MEET ROGER

SATURDAY CLUBS



PART OF
THE OXFORD
TRUST

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND WEST BERKSHIRE

NEW PROGRAMMING WORKSHOPS

Science Oxford is pleased to be working in collaboration with **FUZE** Technologies Ltd to deliver KS2 programming workshops to schools in Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and West Berkshire.

The **FUZE** is a programmable computer and electronics workstation powered by the Raspberry Pi. The one hour workshops provide a hands-on introduction to programming using the **FUZE** BASIC language. By the end of the workshop pupils will be controlling LEDs, light sensors and programming robotic arms.

All equipment is provided and costs start at £285 for up to 3 workshops. To find out more please contact soschools@scienceoxford.com



RARELY HAVE I WITNESSED LESSONS WHERE THE CHILDREN WERE THAT ENGAGED FOR THAT LENGTH OF TIME. I WENT ALONG TO SEE WHAT WAS GOING ON AND I COULD NOT HAVE BEEN HAPPIER

Head Teacher

FUZE
Teaching kids to code

For more information, please call 01865 810000, email soschools@scienceoxford.com or visit www.scienceoxford.com

PLANETARIUM TOUR

Last December Tim Peake became the second British astronaut to go in to space. In preparation for his launch, Science Oxford borrowed an inflatable planetarium from STFC and went on tour around local schools. We delivered a show which explored the history of imagined and real human spaceflight, from Icarus to the International Space Station, and showed children the wonders of the stars in the night sky.



Loan of the planetarium provided a great opportunity for Science Oxford staff as well as the schools, allowing us to deliver exciting space-related activities without being reliant on the British weather! The planetarium visited each school for a full day providing as many shows as could be squeezed into the day. In addition, a sold-out weekend event at The Earth Trust provided an opportunity for family audiences to also enjoy the show and other space-related activities.

We are planning to repeat the tour with a new planetarium show in November 2016, when we hope to see many more schools.

To find out more or to make a booking please contact soschools@scienceoxford.com

BIG BANG @ RAL

In March and May, Science Oxford welcomed pupils from local schools to a fun-packed day of workshops and shows hosted by Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) at Harwell. The Big Bang Near Me events aim to inspire and enthuse pupils in science, technology, engineering and maths by providing engaging and interactive activities. Pupils attending the events made their own comets, discovered new materials, designed and tested rubber band powered cars and watched an inspiring Fire Show as well as hearing from scientists and engineers from RAL.



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK 2016

As always, British Science Week was an incredibly busy time for Science Oxford. We loved getting out to schools across the three counties with our shows and workshops and it was great to see so many schools borrowing kit to support their science teaching after we'd gone!



It was particularly enjoyable to be able to support schools with the themes and topics they had focussed on that term. St John's CE School in Lacey Green gave us a tricky challenge: science investigation activities for year 1 to year 6, using their outside spaces. Of course, our team delighted in rising to the challenge, creating a bespoke set of activities which required the children to build, jump and pretend to be birds!

We also valued very highly the opportunity to see what different schools had been up to in their own Science Weeks. We saw some inspirational ideas; linking science to literacy, encouraging the children to teach and learn from each other, science themed costumes and many more.

We're already looking forward to 2017!

I LOVE SCIENCE WEEK; NOW SCIENCE IS MY FAVOURITE LESSON.

Year 4 pupil, Cropredy CofE Primary School



SCIENCE WEEK IN NUMBERS

1848

PUPILS ENGAGED WITH SCIENCE OXFORD ACTIVITIES

645

PUPILS MADE USE OF SCIENCE OXFORD KIT LOAN

153

ROCKETS FIRED

18

DIFFERENT HANDS-ON SCIENCE ACTIVITIES ENJOYED BY PUPILS ACROSS THE REGION

14

INTERACTIVE SCIENCE SHOWS PERFORMED DURING THE WEEK

11

SCHOOLS VISITED

9

MAGIC TRICKS REVEALED TO BE SCIENCE

6

NEW WORKSHOPS EXPERIENCED FOR THE FIRST TIME

3

BALLOONS BURST

1

DOLL'S HEAD FILLED WITH FOAM – FOR SCIENCE, OF COURSE!

SATURDAY CLUBS

Science Oxford's Saturday Clubs continue to grow, with the addition of Creative Computing Club for 2016. This fun introduction to text based coding uses the FUZE Box, powered by Raspberry Pi, and is also available as a new workshop for schools.

Young engineers, scientists and programmers from 5 to 15 are now catered for at our variety of Saturday Clubs that run in Oxford and, with the support of the Abingdon Science Partnership, in Abingdon too.



THANK YOU.
YOUR CLUB WAS
AWESOME!

George, aged 12



MY DAUGHTER
ENJOYED IT
IMMENSELY. SHE
NOW TELLS ME
THAT SHE REALLY
LIKES SCIENCE.

Parent

In fact, the clubs have been so popular that we're adding another!

In October, our new Young Inventors' Club will provide support, space and resources for young people from 12 years upwards to work on their own projects. From stitching a programmable hoodie to designing the ultimate marshmallow catapult and anything in between, come along and make your ideas reality!

To book for our Saturday Clubs visit
www.scienceoxford.com

MEET ROGER



This April, we welcomed Dr Roger Baker to the schools team as our Education Support Officer. Roger will be assisting in the delivery of our workshops to primary and secondary schools, organising our kitloan scheme, designing school programmes to meet national curriculum objectives and coordinating the CREST award.

Roger is very well qualified for the role, being an experienced secondary science teacher with a passion for engaging delivery. With a doctorate in aquatic ecology and having previously worked as an environmental scientist, he is particularly excited by the potential for developing educational opportunities at Science Oxford's newly acquired Stansfeld site, complete with woodland and pond habitats!

To find out more or to make a booking please contact soschools@scienceoxford.com

