

Science & Technology



All expenses trip to Google HQ

A 16 year old from Hull Collegiate School beat more than 3,500 students in a coding competition to win a trip to Google's headquarters in California.

A total of 3,566 students from 76 countries took part in the Code-In competition, with 20,840 tasks being completed with 29 open source organisations.

Josh chose to participate with CircuitVerse, a product developed by students at the International Institute of Information

Technology, Bangalore.

Josh's entry has won him and a parent a trip to Google's headquarters at Mountain View, California, in June. Josh said, "The project I worked on involved 22 tasks in research and programming and I am excited to get the opportunity to visit Google HQ."

Mr G Carmichael, Head of Computing, said, "Once again, Josh has proven himself to be a world beater in the field of Computer Science."

Embley Prep School, Hampshire, has been awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) GILT Award, a national accolade that celebrates a school's commitment to excellence in Science teaching and learning. PSQM is recognised by Ofsted, the Royal Society and the CBI as having a positive impact on pupils' performance, their engagement and enjoyment of the subject.

Embley's Prep School Science curriculum incorporates a wide range of initiatives to provide fun and engaging Science at every level – from Early Years to Key Stage 2 (Year 6). Science is linked to many other subjects including English, Maths and Learning Outside the Classroom and pupils use additional traditional and online resources to help spark their curiosity and encourage informed discussions and debates in the classroom.

From the Prep School's dedicated Science Week, Space Week, Science Fair, Lunch with a Scientist series and lectures from astrophysicists, geologists and sports scientists, to trips to IBM and the London Science Museum, Embley's pupils explore, learn and think critically about how

Science affects their everyday lives.

The Primary Science Quality Mark is led by the University of Hertfordshire, School of Education in collaboration with the Primary Science Teaching Trust.

Jane Turner, PSQM National Director, commented: "Gaining a Primary Science Quality Mark is a significant achievement for a school. The profile and quality of science teaching and learning in each awarded school is very high. Children are engaging with great science both in and outside the classroom, developing positive attitudes towards science as well as securing scientific understanding and skills. Science subject leaders, their colleagues, head teachers, children, parents and governors should be very proud."



Special day for tomorrow's scientists

Talented pupils from local junior schools in the Blandford Schools' Network and from prep schools further afield have taken part in a special event for aspiring young scientists held at Bryanston School, Dorset. The 2020 Science Day featured an eye-opening practical science session and a series of inspirational talks as well as a fun 'Whodunnit' investigation to enthuse inquisitive young minds. Science Day, a regular annual event at Bryanston, has continued to grow in popularity and, this year, was attended by a record number of Year 6 pupils.

"We're delighted with the success of the day and the wonderful responses from our young guests," says Nick Welford, Bryanston's Head of Science, who organised and hosted the event. "Our aim is to enthuse all the pupils about the wonders of science and give them the opportunity to experience the

'art' of discovery for themselves. It is always an enjoyable day for everyone involved and this year was no exception."

The hands-on practical sessions were held in the school's physics, chemistry and biology departments. These were followed by six biology teachers at Bryanston giving a series of short presentations on their favourite organism that culminated with a clapometer vote from pupils for their preferred choice. The 'Whodunnit' exercise then gave pupils the opportunity to analyse and assess evidence from the scene of a dastardly crime to try and identify the culprit from a list of four shady suspects.

For the first time, this year's Science Day also included a special In-Service training exercise for teaching staff from the participating schools. This focussed on the potential use of data



loggers, the teaching of science skills and also included a session on managing pupil anxiety arising from the growing debate and concerns about climate change.

Schools that took pupils to the

Science Day at Bryanston included Sandroyd and Salisbury Cathedral School, Yarrells, Sunninghill in Dorchester, Port Regis, Hazlegrove Prep School, West Hill Park and Twyford The Prebendal School.

Pictured: Bryanston teacher, Simon Turrill, with some of the young pupils who attended the Bryanston Science Day