

## 2016 Science week at Thorndown

What an exciting week! It all got started with a Science assembly led by Mrs Smith where the children's natural curiosity of space travel was extended by looking at Tim Peake's mission to the International Space Station (ISS). Question stems were used to support the raising of Scientific Questions, such as, 'How can the rocket go up in space when gravity is pulling it down?' and 'Did the other side of the rocket break in half?'



Children were then encouraged to continue asking Science Questions throughout the week, writing and leaving a question about the picture of rocket salad leaves in the Main School Hall at the TQS (Thorndown Question Station) Here are a few questions that the children had left: How long does it take to grow? Is it green for a reason? Can we convert the vegetables heat into movement?

With the help of a couple of willing volunteers, skateboards and body boards the children were able to demonstrate Newton's 3<sup>rd</sup> law of physics! "For every action there is an equal opposite reaction."



In another demonstration and a little bit of 'Magic' I kept a dry head!

"I enjoyed when Mrs Smith kept the water in the cup when she swung it round!" Shabbir

"I liked this assembly because it showed forces and gravity." Edward



Our Science Buddies updated and shared some interesting facts that they had been finding out about. Who would have thought space ping-pong is possible!



Lastly, the children used their listening skills to appreciate a piece of music that was created using sounds from outer space. Listen again to 'Hello moon can you hear me?'

<http://www.jodrellbank.manchester.ac.uk/multimedia/audio/hellomoon.html>

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Year 5 and 6 were treated to a special space talk by a visiting Physicist, Dr Lisa Jardine-Wright see separate report.

During the week, year groups chose their own famous Scientist to research and learn about.

Year 1 and 2 learnt a lot about the naturalist Steve Backshall, Year 3 and 4 learnt about Marie Curie and Year 5 and 6 learnt Steven Hawking We are looking forward to celebrating and presenting this work on the last day of term. (As this goes to print)

We welcomed Mr Peter Barrett a member of EARS (East Anglian Rocket Society) into our school to further enthuse the children about the space and rockets on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March. He impressed us by bringing along a range of different sized rockets and cartridges that would be needed to fuel them and showing us video footage of launches.

"I liked the 'Heart Stopper' because it was 9 feet tall. Pete showed us an 18 foot rocket on the video and lots of other rockets launching. There were even 20 and 60 mini rockets being launched at the same time! He built brilliant rockets".

"I enjoyed the spectacular rockets. I learnt that the fuel is the same as the fuel in a firework". Oliver



Peter worked with some children throughout the morning during a rocket making workshop. The Science week came to a close in a dramatic way at 2.15pm 3, 2, 1 blast off!



“I enjoyed when Liam, George and Cameron got to launch their rockets in the air. It was amazing! Everyone had worked extremely hard on the project.” Pyper

“My favourite was seeing the ‘Heart Stopper’ filled me with amazement. The rocket launch certainly made me go wow. Everyone did a good job!”

“I enjoyed looking at the rockets go really high. I learnt they can be fun but dangerous as well.” Rory

“I liked the rockets speeding in the air.” Rylee

“I was wowed about being able to build a rocket and then my day got even better. I got to ask questions about his work and then at the end of the day I got to launch my rocket! (It was awesome!) Cameron

Peter Barrett answered many of the children’s questions during the workshop time and even over lunch time. He wrote following his visit commenting about our amazing polite children, wonderful staff and how the children asked very good questions and listen intently. If anyone is now an enthusiast and would like to learn more the EARS club meetings are at Elsworth on the first Sunday of every month. See the clubs website for more details: [WWW.ears.org.uk](http://WWW.ears.org.uk)

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