

WHAT'S GOING ON AT CDHS?



Girls in Physics Day at Lockerbie

With a huge turnout this year's girls in physics day hosted at Lockerbie Academy was greatly enjoyed by a number of girls from schools across Dumfries and Galloway. There were speakers from a number of different universities in Scotland including Glasgow and Edinburgh University. There were also speakers from the RAF. WE were split off into 7 groups and went round all the stations throughout the day. There were activities from constructing RAF signs and building rockets to nuclear physics and experiments with liquid nitrogen. A great day was had by pupils and staff alike and showed the girls of how promising a career in physics is.

Polarisation of Light

The first station was focusing on a topic of the polarisation of light which was new to many of us. The speakers from Glasgow University were very friendly and helped guide us through this confusing topic. We created Lego houses which we took photos of and turned in to 3D.

RAF

At the RAF station we were creating replicas of a RAF sign which the speakers had brought. We were using a number of different materials trying to perfectly recreate the sign. This workshop was all about attention to detail as the pieces had to be just right or the whole sign would fall apart.

Rockets

With the University of Edinburgh speaker, we built model rockets from paper and sticky labels to fire in the football field. We were all rather impressed by the distance that our paper creations travelled and by the strength of our models.

Nuclear Physics

At the nuclear physics station the speaker used magnets and plastic to explain the basics of nuclear Physics. He explained the CERN nuclear institute in Switzerland and talked about the collision of Protons.

Straw Towers

The fifth speaker was talking about engineering and its relationship with physics. Our task was to try and create the tallest tower we could which could still support a golf ball. This challenge though difficult made us come up with a lot of interesting and creative solutions.

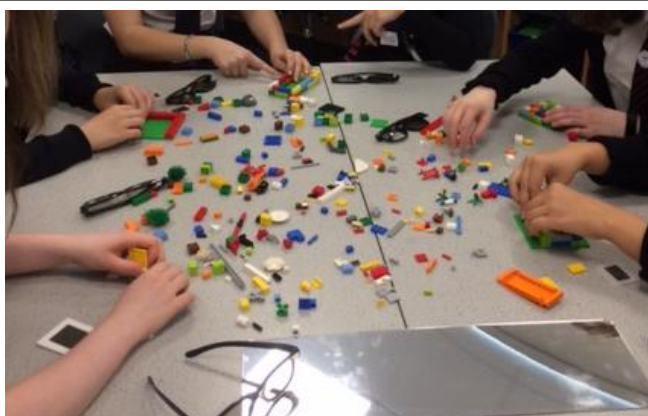
Computers and Physics

At this station two speakers told us about how we can use ever more sophisticated computer programs to record and measure data. We used distance lasers and a computer to measure different distances around the room as the speaker told us of how this technology could be used by visually impaired people to help create a map of a room or street.

Liquid Nitrogen

The final station and possibly the best was the experiments with liquid nitrogen. This speaker used this interesting element to create huge clouds which we had a great time trying to catch. He also made ice-cream which we all enjoyed greatly. This year's trip was greatly enjoyed by all and hopefully next year's S3 will have as much fun as we did. **Alice Dougan S3**

Pictures from Girls in Physics Day at Lockerbie



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