

News

Community Fun STEM Day



Young people enjoyed a day of science-related activities at a free community event on Saturday 1st October at Nucleus Arts Chatham, and bridge building was part of the fun. The Rochester Bridge Trust was pleased to meet more than 200 children at the recent **Medway Fun Palace**, which aimed to encourage an interest in STEM. Aileen White explained: *"It's a delight to see children and their parents learning and discovering together. Making engineering fun inspires the civil engineers of the future! Learning through play is a positive way to engage people of any age and it was great to see them thinking about their structures and learning about the different forces involved."* The strength of the bridges was then tested using water bottles, helping to show the young people how successful their creations were.

<http://www.kentandmedwaystem.org.uk/index.php/events/report/828/>

If you would like put an event like this at your school please get in touch at [kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk)

### Students have Fun at the Forensic Science Day!



Students from two local secondary schools became Forensic Investigators for the day to solve a crime! They took part in three workshops:

#### **Crime Scene Investigation**

The students visited the crime scene and searched for evidence, which could be used to understand who had committed the crime.

#### **Luminol**

They then used Luminol, which is one of an array of tools that show the presence of invisible evidence. The chemical spray shows the investigator the presence of blood stains that are hidden, just like on CSI crime scene investigation programs.

#### **Finger Printing**

They then undertook a fingerprint workshop, where they found out all about fingerprinting and how these can be used to check for suspects against national database as well as for elimination and identification purposes.

Overall the students learnt new skills and new techniques used widely in forensic investigation. They worked out which of the four suspects had committed the crime.

<http://www.kentandmedwaystem.org.uk/index.php/events/report/842/>

If you would like put an event like this at your school please get in touch at [kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk)

## Events for Teachers

### FREE CPD Training for Science Technicians

Date: Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 9.45 – 3.30pm

Venue: St Anselm's Catholic School, Old Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3EN

Cost: Free

The meeting will contain lots of great ideas for physics, **including a FREE make and take vibration generator (normally about £50!)** and a unique opportunity to meet other technicians locally. Workshop sessions, discussion, networking, make & take sessions, training for technicians – in physics. The FREE Event has been possible thanks to the generous support from the Institute of Physics.

To book or for more information please contact Bill Giles: [B.Giles@st-anselms.org.uk](mailto:B.Giles@st-anselms.org.uk)

## IET Christmas Lecture



Date: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 6pm

Venue: Canterbury Christ Church University, Old Sessions House, Longport, Canterbury, CT1 1PL

Cost: Free

James Piercy is a science communicator for science made simple. James has a degree in chemistry and MSc in Science Communication. He has been involved in writing, producing and delivering; science shows, workshops and dialogue events for wide ranging audiences since 1995. He has been awarded the LAMDA gold medal in public speaking with distinction, and was Chair of the British Interactive Group (BIG) James was Director of Inspire Discovery Centre, a small hands-on science centre in Norwich, where he developed the outreach and educational programmes. James has appeared on television numerous times to present scientific ideas and demonstrations, notably on The Investigators for Channel 4, which was nominated for a Children's BAFTA

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/iet-christmas-lecture-tickets-28885587570>

### **Premier Foods Teacher/Ambassador Networking Event**

Date: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 5-7pm  
Venue: Premier Foods, Ashford, TN24 0LU  
Cost: Free

During this event you will have the opportunity to meet STEM Ambassadors and other Teachers. There will be a talk from Premier Foods employees regarding the products they make and the different processes. There will be an update on the latest opportunities available for Teachers and your school with a fun interactive activity to take part in as well.

Limited spaces available, please email to book [kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk)

### **Events for Students**

#### **STEM at Work**

Date: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 9.30-2.30pm  
Venue: Canterbury Christ Church University, N Holmes Rd, Canterbury, CT1 1QU  
Cost: Free

Schools are invited to bring up to 15 students to attend this free day of exciting and engaging STEM workshops from local companies and organisations. Each school will visit an hour long show and approximately 4 x 30 minute workshops. The workshops will be an opportunity for students to engage in a hands-on activity as well as hear about STEM Ambassador's routes into their STEM careers.

To book please email [kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk)

#### **Big Bang at the Discovery Park**

Date: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017, all day  
Venue: Discovery Park, Innovation House, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich, CT13 9FF  
Cost: Free

The Big Bang is a free day-long education event with the aim of inspiring a love of STEM subjects. The format of the day will cover three main areas (Science, Engineering and Space zones) in the drop in zone with over 25 drop in areas, and over 10 workshops, this event is not to be missed!

To book please email [kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:kentandmedwaystem@canterbury.ac.uk)

## Competitions and Grants

### **More £500 Gopher Science Lab Grants**

[Gopher Science Lab](#) supports students' transition from primary to secondary school with peer to peer learning across age groups. Secondary students learn how to deliver the range of Gopher Science Lab hands-on science activities to primary pupils. It gives all participating students ownership of their learning and helps them gain confidence. [More £500 grants are now available](#) to enable UK schools to run a Gopher Science Lab event please apply by **16<sup>th</sup> November 2016**.

### **School Biology Competitions**

#### **Deadline 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

The [British Biology Olympiad](#) (BBO) is now open for teachers to register their 16–19 year old biology students. Your students can test their knowledge, and top BBO winners will receive medals and certificates to recognise their achievement. The BBO competition takes place online in your school with staff supervision at a time of your choosing between 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017. Top winners will be invited to an awards ceremony in London. The four top students will represent the UK at the International Biology Olympiad, which for the first time in the competition's history and will be held in the UK - at the University of Warwick.

Teachers can also register their school to take part in the 2017 [Biology Challenge](#) competition **6<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017**. The competition is open to any 13–15 year old students in Year 9/Year 10 in England and Wales, Year 10/Year 11 in Northern Ireland and S2/S3 in Scotland and equivalent year groups globally. The registration deadline is 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017, winners will receive certificates and top winners will be invited to an awards ceremony in London.

### [The Little BIG Awards](#)

**The Little BIG Awards 2016/17**. Young people aged 11-14 in schools across the UK are invited to design a product or service which connects things together to make a difference in their everyday lives. For more information: <http://us12.campaign-archive1.com/?u=d59213bb0016eeff1c9a5f007&id=d601bcf846&e=8b2a9547d8> Website is open for registration.

### [The BP Ultimate STEM Challenge](#)

The competition invites students aged 11 to 14 across the UK to solve real-world challenges and compete for some exciting new prizes! Give your students a head start by signing up now to be the first to know. Deadline for Entry: **13 January 2017**  
For more information and sign up: [http://bpes.bp.com/stem-challenge/ultimate-stem-challenge/?utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_source=STEMNET&utm\\_campaign=STEMNET\\_email\\_USC\\_Jul16](http://bpes.bp.com/stem-challenge/ultimate-stem-challenge/?utm_medium=Email&utm_source=STEMNET&utm_campaign=STEMNET_email_USC_Jul16)

## Resources

### **Energy Envoys for Duke of Edinburgh Award**

Energy Envoys offers a great opportunity to enhance STEM learning by enabling young people to gain an understanding of energy and building technologies, how energy is used, generated and measured, and how they can calculate energy and carbon savings. Participants get the chance to apply their STEM knowledge to practical situations and to set up their very own energy saving project. The scheme also aims to raise awareness of STEM further study and career opportunities. <http://www.energyenvoys.org.uk/>

### **British Science Week Activity Packs**

Get organised for British Science Week (10-19) with FREE resource packs packed full of different ideas. The resource pack aims to be your 'one-stop-shop' for planning events for your class. The activity theme is "Change", encouraging young people to think about and investigate the changes happening in the world all around us. New for 2017 there are some short and snappy brainteaser activities in the resource pack, ideal for some form-time fun or between lessons!

[https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/app/uploads/2015/10/BSA\\_sciweek\\_pack\\_secondary\\_1016\\_w1.pdf](https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/app/uploads/2015/10/BSA_sciweek_pack_secondary_1016_w1.pdf)

## **STEM Resources**

As well as our extensive bank of [online STEM resources](#), we also offer a diverse range of FREE STEM related resources and services to help you inspire young people in your education setting. Use this section to find out more about what we have to offer including instructions on how to use them in the classroom. To find out more please visit <http://www.kentandmedwaystem.org.uk/index.php/resources>