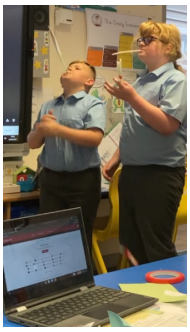
June Diary Entry from Ryders Hayes STEM Project (Rolls-Royce)

Rolls-Royce Schools Prize for SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY Finalist 2020-2021

@ Ryders Hayes STEM

At Ryders Hayes Academy, our project is a whole school investigation into the different ways that STEM technology is currently used in industry and considers how it will help us in our everyday lives in the future. Using STEM software and hardware kits (SAM Labs), pupils will create innovative systems and build their code, to provide sustainable solutions to problems within a real-world context.

Claire (Y5 Teacher, Science/STEM Lead and Project Leader) This month I have continued to run the virtual STEM Club for KS2 pupils, who have been surveying people about their tea preferences, making rockets, investigating fresh fruit in jelly and investigating how helicopters fly. Our Year 5 pupils have continued to lead the sessions by putting the packs together, explaining the science behind the activities, making their own quizzes and sharing fun facts. The money for the club was provided by the STEM Inspiration Awards that we were nominated for by Neil Chattle who is an outstanding STEM Ambassador. We were delighted to receive this additional funding and the children have benefitted by having resources for their club.


Year 5s running the virtual STEM Club

I have continued to support Year 4 teachers and pupils to complete their SAM Labs sessions, and the children have been extremely enthusiastic and have been using their computational thinking to create innovative designs.

As part of my Science subject leadership role, I have completed facilitator training and have hosted a primary science subject leaders' network where I have shared important updates in the STEM field and promoted the Rolls-Royce Science prize.

So far, we have spent £1,500 on SAM Labs equipment, £600 on coaches, and £183.96 on 3D printer pens = £2,283.96

Bridie (Y6 Teacher and Computing Lead)
This month I have ensured that all of the computing curriculum has an element of SAM Labs learning and that all year groups build on previous years' learning. I have requested further CPD to enhance the teacher's knowledge and understanding of the computer coding element of the computing curriculum and how SAM Labs can support us to do that. Year 6 have been experimenting with the digital 3D pens and are excited to start their project next month.

Kath (Y4 Teacher and Family Learning Lead)

This month Y4 have been working on using their SAMS lab work and developing ways to make a light brighter and dimmer . This has built on the learning they acquired creating electricity circuits. They have also programmed their lights to change colour and turn on and off. The children have loved investigating how moving around components could change how the light reacted. We will be continuing to explore this more over the coming weeks. They have gained much from this computational thinking and have been very enthusiastic about their learning.

Amy (Y3 Teacher and DT Lead)
Our final DT unit for the year has started off with a bang in Year 3; we taste tested different types of bread and healthy sandwich fillings, thinking about the taste, texture, smell and appearance. We look forward to designing our own healthy sandwich over the coming weeks. Other final units across the school include designing and making pencil cases and dips and dippers. I look forward to seeing the children's learning over the coming weeks.

Laura (Chair of FoRH)
This month I have caught up with Claire with regards to the project as we had originally planned to have a showcase event for pupils and parents. This has been postponed until the Autumn term and we have agreed to meet early in the Autumn term to discuss how this event can be organised.

Angela Moore (Chair of Governors)
I am pleased that pupils across the school are being challenged in their Science and STEM learning, which is a great way to increase our pupils' aspirations and take their learning to the next level. All staff are working extremely hard to ensure pupils are getting the most out of their science and STEM lessons.

Link to updates on our project:
https://www.ryders-hayes.co.uk/school/our-community/ryders-hayes-stem-project