British Science Week 2024

Danson Science Week 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

During the last week of the spring term, the children and staff here at Danson took part in Science Week. Everyone immersed themselves into the subject and linked their scientific knowledge to this year's theme, 'Time'. It was wonderful to see how actively engaged the children were when taking part in all the different activities that took place. Here are a few highlights from the week.

Stem Ambassador Visit

To kick off the week on Monday 25th March, Alyson Downham, a dedicated STEM ambassador**,** visited our school to share her insights as an engineer who worked on the signalling system for the London Underground. As part of her role, Alyson ensured the smooth operation and safety of the Tube network by maintaining and improving the signalling infrastructure. She collaborated with a team of experts to troubleshoot issues, optimise train schedules, and enhance passenger experiences. Alyson's commitment to STEM education extended beyond her engineering work; she volunteered her time to inspire young learners, illuminating the vast array of opportunities that STEM subjects offer. Through an engaging presentation, she encouraged students at Danson to explore the real-world applications of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Her presence at our school ignited curiosity and motivated future engineers, just like herself.

Observing Over Time Investigations

During Danson Science Week**,** the children completed their “observing over time” investigations as part of the theme centred around time. Their curiosity led them to observe natural phenomena and changes over extended periods. Armed with a variety of scientific equipment, they diligently recorded the growth of plants, the growth of mould on bread, and even the length of time jelly takes to set with different liquids. The children learned valuable lessons about patience, consistency, and the gradual unfolding of processes. Their enthusiasm for scientific inquiry blossomed during these investigations and developed their understanding of the world around them.

Year 6 observing the growth of mould over time under different conditions

Shooting Stars Circus Skills Workshop

Shooting Stars Circus Skills delivered an enthralling science workshop for the children, where they immersed themselves in the fascinating world of physics through captivating circus skills. The workshop featured a dynamic circus instructor and an array of equipment tailored to engage young minds. From juggling balls, rings, and scarves to spinning plates and larger apparatus like unicycles, the children explored fundamental principles of physics in action. As they witnessed the art of juggling, they grasped concepts related to balance, momentum, and trajectory. The mesmerising plate spinning sessions illuminated rotational motion and angular momentum. And when they hopped onto unicycles, they experienced first-hand the delicate interplay of forces, equilibrium, and stability.

Bexley Grammar School Year 5 Workshop

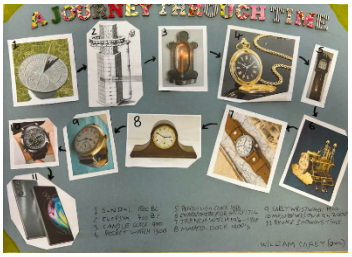
On Wednesday afternoon, our Year 5 children had the privilege of participating in a workshop delivered by local secondary school students from Bexley Grammar School. The focus of this engaging session was the theme of time. The Bexley Grammar students challenged our young learners to create a timer that could precisely measure 10 seconds using only card and paper straws. With enthusiasm and determination, our Year 5 students collaborated, experimented, and innovated. They meticulously crafted their timers, considering the principles of timekeeping, precision, and resourcefulness. As they proudly showcased their functional creations, they not only honed their practical skills but also gained a deeper understanding of time as a fundamental aspect of our world.

Danson Science Week Dress Up Day

On Thursday**,** during Danson Science Week, the school buzzed with excitement as the children arrived dressed in imaginative costumes. They were dressed in costumes linked to science and the theme of time, and their creativity knew no bounds. The children were inspired to wear a wide range of costumes related to the theme. Some even paid homage to iconic timepieces: one child became Big Ben, complete with a cardboard clock tower strapped to them! And then there were those who embodied scientists through time, channelling significant figures like Isaac Newton and Mae Jemison. The winners from each class and year group can be found below.

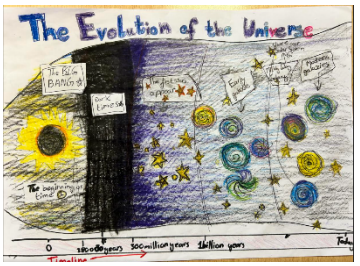
Danson Science Week Costume Winners

Reception		
Ash	Amelia M	Raisa G
Elm	Lenny F	
Oak	Harper D	
Year 1		
Owl	Robin D	Bobby P
Robin	Dolcie T	
Sparrow	William A	
Year 2		
Nightingale	Medina A	Phoebe M
Pepys	Timur S	
Shackleton	Anthony M	
Year 3		
Barfield	Kian H	Elif B
Brunel	Eden H	
Kapoor	Daniel O	
Year 4		
Blackman	Isobel S	Ivy S
Dahl	George B	
Rowling	Penelope C	
Year 5		
Elizabeth	Ahkyn B	Lilly W Talya O Annie T (Group costume)
Henry	Fraser D	
Victoria	Logan F	
Year 6		
Darwin	Ryan C	Noah S
Franklin	Waisin C	
Hawking	Nancy W	



Danson Science Week Poster Competition

During the exhilarating poster competition held as part of Danson Science Week, our young learners unleashed their creativity to explore the theme of time. They created captivating posters that spanned a spectrum of ideas. Some delved into the intricate life cycles of plants, animals, and insects, tracing the passage of time from birth to maturity. Others embarked on a historical journey, unravelling the fascinating history of time, from ancient sundials to modern atomic clocks. The suspense will finally unravel during the week commencing Monday, April 22, 2024**,** when we announce the winners.



Well done to all our fantastic children who participated in Danson Science Week! Your enthusiasm, creativity, and curiosity have truly made this week a memorable and inspiring experience.

We would also like to extend a huge thank you to the parents and carers who supported our young scientists throughout the week. Your encouragement, involvement, and dedication played an essential role in making Science Week a resounding success. Together, we've ignited a passion for discovery and learning that will continue to flourish beyond these exciting days.

Mr Welsh

Science Lead