



Mr Fox and Mr James' Newsletter



10th November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We pride ourselves at Colmers at offering our students as many varied opportunities as possible. One of these opportunities comes in the form of S.T.E.M. activities; Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Below are just two examples showcasing some of the S.T.E. M. work at Colmers.

Speakers for Schools and #nessundorma!

The charity Speakers for Schools provide schools with guest speakers from a range of backgrounds. This term we were fortunate enough to be visited by Angus Forbes. His passion is global governance! Our sixth formers were treated to a fascinating talk about our planet and exactly who is responsible for looking after it. The talk was wide ranging covering topics such as politics, geography, biology and chemistry. Angus is on a mission to form a group of likeminded individuals, independent of any government, whose job it will be to look after our planet. As for his tag line, #nessundorma, it means none shall sleep. Angus challenges us not to rest until we are confident that our planet is properly looked after.



Daedalus - Mr A. Bagnall's mission to space...well almost!

Mr Bagnall had a dream of sending a helium balloon into space. To achieve this mammoth task he would require help from our students. Mr Bagnall and his team including ex-students Greg and Josh, had many technological challenges to overcome...

- What to put into the payload?
- How much helium gas would be needed?
- How would the parachute automatically open?
- Where would it land?

The students had to design everything from the payload which would carry the cameras and electronics to the programming of the instruments contained within it. Finally after a long wait, permission was granted by the CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) for the launch to take place.

On Sunday 17th September the mission was finally and successfully completed. Daedalus was launched from the red zone at Colmers at 10.30am and disappeared through the clouds.

It took over 2 hours for Daedalus to reach its maximum altitude of slightly over 20 miles before the helium balloon burst. After 45 minutes of freefall with the parachute open Daedalus landed safely over 30 miles away in a field in Hereford. You can watch the balloons edited journey on...

<https://youtu.be/o6jcdh4Fzio>

Well done to everyone involved.

