

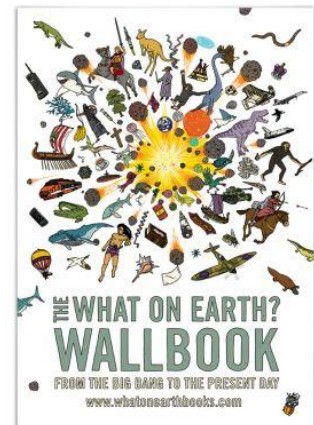
Science Week 2011 Newsletter

Science Week has arrived. As usual, we have a number of activities planned for the pupils to do this week. There is also the annual family challenge, details of which are given later in this newsletter. We hope that lots of you will take part this year.

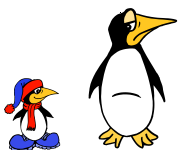
Our activities this year have a very cross-curricular feel. We started early this term with a visit from the team from Bloodhound SSC, who are trying to break the land speed record. Some of the activities this week stem from aspects of this exciting project which showcases the best of British science and engineering.



On Thursday 29th September we will be visited by Christopher Lloyd, author of *What on Earth happened?*, *What on Earth evolved?* and the creator of the *What on Earth...?* wallbooks. Some of you may have come across him at the Oxford or Woodstock literary festivals recently. He will be giving talks to pupils in Middle and Upper Schools based on his wall books and will be bringing **copies of the A3 and pocket versions of the wallbooks for pupils to buy if they wish.** They will be priced at £10 and £5 respectively (normally £17 and £7.99). See <https://whatonearthbooks.com/shop/the-what-on-earth-wallbook> for more details. I will leave a copy of the A3 version with Mrs Nobes for you to look at if you would like a preview. **If your children would like to buy a copy, please complete the slip at the end of this newsletter and return it to Mrs Nobes by Wednesday 28th September.** Pupils will only be permitted to take a copy, if the slip has been returned.



It should be possible for some parents to attend these talks. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible. The timings are as follows: Middle School 9.45 – 10.45; Years 5 & 6 11.15 – 12.15 and Years 7 & 8 2pm – 3pm.



Pre-prep children will have their own Science Day, which will be focusing on Antarctica, with lots of science- and geography-based activities .

Continued:

The Annual Family Challenge

This year's family challenge is inspired by the Bloodhound SSC project. We would like you to build a 'jet powered' racer. Your racer will be propelled by the air escaping from a balloon.

If you look on the Bloodhound SSC site (http://www.bloodhoundssc.com/goodies/activities_for_children.cfm) you will find the instructions for making one type of racer.



The science museum website has an alternative design which you might like to use (http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/educators/classroom_and_homework_resources/resources/mousetrap_drag_racer.aspx). This one is powered by a mousetrap but we have successfully adapted it to balloon power in the past.

Alternatively, you could make up your own design. After half term we will test all the racers and there will be prizes for the fastest, the one that travels the furthest and the most elegant design. To make it a fair test we will supply balloons for use in these races.

Hint: We have found that CDs and the caps from plastic milk bottles make good wheels. Have fun!!

SPH

What on Earth wall books

I give permission for (pupil name)

Class:

to purchase:

A3 wallbook @ £10.00

Pocket wallbook @ £5.00

and for the cost to be added to my school bill.

Signed:

Date: