



Dear Parents and Carers

We have had another truly amazing Science Week! The children have been enthralled day after day by the experiments they have seen conducted by our special visitors as well as carrying out an array of experiments and investigations themselves around the theme of *Exploration and Discovery*. During their class time the children have created predictions, presented results and drawn conclusions as well as suggesting areas for further exploration. They have looked at the lives of some famous scientists including Michael Faraday, Marie Curie and the lesser known Rachel Carson the marine biologist and conservationist. During today's assembly we found out more about some of the interesting work the children have done this week which was also exhibited during our Science Open Doors on Wednesday afternoon.

At the start of the week we welcomed back Miss Pond and her assistants from Totteridge Academy who delivered another wonderful assembly on chemistry with lots of *Wow!* moments. On Tuesday, in their classes, the children prepared the experiments that were demonstrated after school on Wednesday. Willow delved into the world of slime by making their own mixtures; Chestnut looked into forces with lots of home-made rocket mice; Beech found out about static electricity by using balloons and tissue paper; Cedar explored atoms and electricity and Oak made wonderful lava lamps through exploring the hydrophobic effect using oil, water, food colouring and effervescent tablets.

On Wednesday a team of scientists from UCL came in to give an amazing workshop on viruses and bacteria. Children had the chance to look at things under the microscope e.g. a mosquito. They found out how bacteria and viruses spread through a glitter trail that was so 'contagious' that it landed up going all along the corridor of the school!

On Thursday the children swapped classes and became teachers for a while through explaining experiments to their partners. In the afternoon the Juniors had a chemistry demonstration by Dr Hobbs, the Head of Science at Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School. The workshop finished with a breath-taking demonstration of what happens when a naked flame meets a gas – the children literally jumped off their seats!

This morning we had our Science Sharing Assembly which showcased highlights of the week and then the children went into their classes for more science. Throughout the day they had the chance to work with Professor McMahon and a team of PhD students from King's College to find out more about how the heart works. Highlights were measuring their own heartbeats, a T-shirt that had the workings of the heart shone on it using an App so they could see how blood is pumped around the body and examining real-life hearts of chickens and an ox.

This week has certainly been inspiring and fun for the children and I have delighted in seeing their engrossed faces as I've gone around the classes. I am sure they have come home and shared their experiences with you on a daily basis! We are very, very grateful to Professor McMahon for bringing his team from King's College to our school and funding so much of the work that has gone on this week. We thank our neighbouring schools – The Totteridge Academy and Habs Boys' for giving children a taste of the amazing science work they will carry out at secondary school. Much appreciation goes to our parents, Bev and Viv, who have been instrumental in setting things up and have given time to the school this week to support the teams from UCL and King's College. And finally, none of this would have been possible without our wonderful Science lead, Mrs Parker who has orchestrated the whole thing.

See photos overleaf for a taste of what we've been up to!

Miss Froud

Monken Hadley's Got Talent

A reminder that MHGT is on Friday 26th January at Mount House School!



Beech Class Assembly

A reminder that Beech class assembly is on Friday 2nd February at 9.00am.



Star Pupils

Willow - Matthew
Chestnut - Ollie
Beech - Max
Cedar - Robert
Oak - Charlotte



Finding out about electricity



Making sure the consistency is right!



Professor McMahon and PhD students



Dr Hobbs and his chemistry demonstration



Making slime



Why does it cling?



Making lava lamps



Get ready for lift off!



Finding out about the heart



The Totteridge Academy team

