



# STEM Week

STEM week has stretched into two- from 20<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> of January! During this time the children will be taking part in a variety of enrichment activities to explore the links between Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Read on to find out more.

**Reduce, reuse, recycle:** Did you know that One Million plastic bottles are made every minute? This was just one of the interesting facts that professionals from The Western Riverside Waste Authority taught us at their assembly this week. They will also be providing workshops to class groups:

- **Reception Class:** Another Fine Mess- start finding out about waste and recycling with Mr Fox, and make a recycled fox puppet/bookmark.
- **Year 1, 2, 3 and 4:** Papermaking- become a paper factory and see how easy it is to save trees!
- **Year 5 and 6:** Plastic Planet- just how big is our problem with plastic? Find out where our plastic waste ends up, how it is affecting our planet and what actions we can take.

**STOP it and STEM:** The children will find out about STEM in the workplace when they stop everything and take part in a STEM activity for 15 minutes on the Monday, Wednesday and Friday of week 1, linking to a STEM profession. This will enable them to find out about careers they may not have heard about, and reflect on the positives of a STEM centered job.

**Forensic Science Workshops:** These workshops will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> January, and will show the children how science works in the real world. The context of a scientific investigation brings science to life and allows children to practice science skills such as observing, exploring and asking questions. Our young investigators will role play being forensic scientists. They will tape off the area in order to protect any evidence; clues and evidence must be identified, collected, interpreted and analysed. These include fingerprints, impressions, hairs and fibres and DNA. Will they be able to solve the mystery?

**Fairy Tale STEM:** During week 2, each class will put their STEM skills to the test by solving a problem from a traditional tale. Can they make a slide to help Rapunzel escape from the tower? Can they design a house that the Big Bad Wolf can't blow down? Can they make a parachute to help Jack get down from the beanstalk faster?

**Designing and Making Workshops:** Each class will take part in workshops that link to prior or current topics across the curriculum.

- Reception: scuttlebugs (next half term)
- Year 1: windmills
- Year 2: moving vehicles
- Year 3: kaleidoscopes
- Year 4: electric correx creeper
- Year 5: orreries
- Year 6: electric fan buggy

**School STEM competition:** Do you remember being Boat designers during last year's STEM competition? Well this year, you will be architects! Your task is to make the tallest tower you can using just **ONE** newspaper and sellotape. When you have finished, get someone to take a photograph of you standing next to the tower and print it out. Measure the tower and write its height on the photograph (cm please). Bring in your photographs by 31<sup>st</sup> January. The tallest tower will win a prize! Here are some photographs of the teachers building their towers. Mr Neilson and Mrs Steinart's tower was the tallest at 1m 51cm! Can you build one even taller? They had to finish their tower in ten minutes- but you can take as long as you like!



**We hope you all have a wonderful time experiencing the wonders of STEM!**

