

Welcome to the first termly STEM Project newsletter, designed to update the cluster with information on new providers and industry links, key dates/events and to celebrate the STEM successes within our schools.

The STEM team would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff who have been part of the STEM Project so far. It has been a really busy and successful term and wouldn't be possible without our partnerships with you.

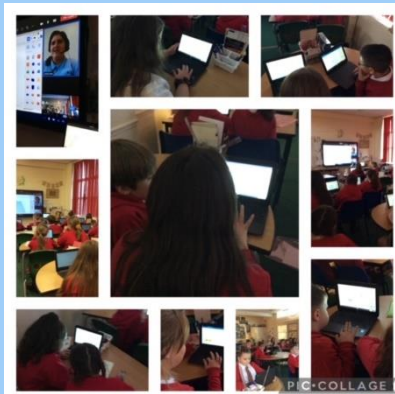
We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and look forward to continuing the STEM journey with you in 2022!

CLUSTER UPDATE

River Centre kicked off their half term with their 'WOW Day' with the help of Science Made Simple. 'Who Wants to be a Superhero?' show was broken down into manageable chunks, giving time for exploration and questioning. Pupils were very inquisitive and the resultant questioning drove the whole event. Science Made Simple cannot wait to visit again!



All Saints RC Primary School requested an engineering day for KS2 pupils. GE Aviation worked with Y3/4 and made paper aeroplanes after discussing aerodynamics and Network Rail worked with Y5/6 to discuss jobs, engineers and railway track designs. Feedback such as "I want to be an engineer" highlights the impact of the sessions!



Glyncoed Primary accessed Renishaw's online coding and 3D printing workshops with Year 5/6. Staff were very impressed with how engaging the workshops were and how easily accessible it was for all abilities. The children loved the sessions and cannot wait to apply those skills to other subjects. Glyncoed also logged into the DVLA Code Challenge and won £2,000 that they are going to use on STEM equipment!

UPCOMING EVENTS

5th Jan-22nd Feb
RSPB School Birdwatch

17th Jan
Inventors Day

8th Feb
Safer Internet Day

11th Feb
International Day of Women and Girls in Science

21st Feb – 6th March
Fairtrade Fortnight

7th-12th March
Careers Week

8th March
International Women's Day

5th-14th March
British Science Week

USEFUL RESOURCES

Barclays Bank: interactive live classes, free online resources, detailed lesson plans and visits from Barclays Digital Eagles
<https://barclayscodeplayground.co.uk/>

1 Million Women in STEM: online resource with profiles of women in STEM from around the world
<https://www.1mwis.com/>

NEW INFORMATION

PROVIDERS



Coleg Gwent want to work with primary schools in June/July on an electronics/engineering project. They would like ideas of a topic/theme from you so please get in touch!



Size of Wales aim to raise awareness in Wales of the importance of tropical forests and trees in tackling climate change. They offer workshops for all ages in primary school and will run Mock-Cops with secondary schools which can result in being put forward into regional debates.



Superbugs provides content on the microbial world with a focus on antibiotic resistance. Aimed at Y3-Y9 pupils, they offer worksheets online and will deliver virtual/live sessions, assemblies, workshops and are happy to develop resources based on teacher requirements.

INDUSTRY

We are constantly seeking new partners to work us and are excited to welcome our latest additions who have recently pledged their commitment to work with your cluster:



The Army STEM experts offer a range of workshops for pupils aged 11-14. The workshops include disaster relief, cyber-attacks, rocket cars and using frontline science.



Encon Construction cover all age groups and will tailor content to suit. Activities cover safety, sustainability, house construction, career talks, team building and various others.



Natwest have online resources that can be accessed as required. There are resources suitable for pupils aged 5 and above. They also offer live virtual sessions for pupils aged 12+.



Fintech Wales want to raise awareness that finance is being modernised and careers within programming, coding, AI and cloud computing are needed, as well as accountancy. They want to trial content in BG.

If you would like any of the partners to visit your schools, or if you have any questions or requests, please email us anytime:

 louise.Juliff@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk

ENTHUSE UPDATE

The partnership with STEM Learning will commence in 2022. The agreed focus is computational thinking so it will encompass, programming, coding, cyber security and 5G and is aimed at Year 6 and Y7 pupils.

The main priority for the funding will be staff CPD to ensure that knowledge can be shared across the schools and has a wider impact across your pupils.

We have forged links with a range of partners to deliver CPD and enrichment activities for pupils:

NDEC will be working with schools in the summer term to ensure all schools have completed Cyber Heroes and will roll out their forensics project.

Aspire2Be will provide tailored support to each school.

5G Wales Unlocked and **Jam Creative** are creating an educational game for pupils to educate them on the capabilities of 5G. **Technocamps** will support delivery.

Gwent Police Cyber Crime Unit will work with pupils and staff to raise awareness of this growing issue.

Microsoft will work with pupils and staff to share knowledge on cloud computing and will link a member of staff to each school for support.



Follow us on Twitter to see the resources we share and tag us in your STEM activities:

 [@bgcbstem](https://twitter.com/bgcbstem)