



Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**RE: STEM week**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are planning to have STEM week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) in school week beginning Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May. During this week, the children will be designing and making inventions, building and constructing, investigating questions, finding solutions to problems and much more. Each class teacher will be collating work completed and will upload photographs and videos onto the Seesaw and Tapestry platforms and onto the school's Twitter account.

At Langley we are very much in favour of gender equality and wish to promote females in STEM careers (presently numbers are nationally lacking). So, one of our tasks, during the week, is to learn about the career of a famous female scientist. Each year group will look at a different scientist.

I have also contacted some young females who have chosen a STEM subject/s at A' levels, at university or for their chosen careers. The children will be able to watch some short videos outlining each of their journeys starting from their first schools up to the present day. Hopefully their stories may inspire some of our children, both boys and girls, to follow in their footsteps.

Also, as a special treat on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May we have some STEM Ambassadors coming into school to work with the children in years 1-4 where they will complete some 'hands on' fun science activities. Reception children will have some exciting construction kits to work with for the week.

Normally a main part of STEM week at Langley is getting parents and carers in to see what the children have been up to and also get you involved in activities to see your competitive side! Sadly, due to the current covid situation, this is not been possible this year. However, I have a task that you may like to have a go at whilst at home. You ARE allowed to get your children to help you! All I ask is, if you attempt the task, that you let me know how you got on. You can email the school or 'tweet' your answer/outcome and I will decide who has done the 'best job!' There will, of course, be a prize!

Mrs Wendy Gardner

Year 4 class teacher and Science/STEM lead





**YOUR TASK – Should you choose to do it!**

**Cotton Wool Balls Challenge**



**What you need:**

Cotton Wool balls (100% cotton) they can be white or coloured

2 identical tall glasses (transparent would be best!)

Water

**What you need to do:**

Fill one of the glasses (virtually to the brim)

Fill the other glass with cotton wool balls.

*Prediction - will you be able to add cotton wool balls to the glass that has water in it without any water spilling over the top? If you think yes - how many balls will you be able to add?*

Now begin adding cotton wool balls to the glass of water until you cannot fit any more in...

You can then send/Tweet your answer/result to school marked for Mrs Wendy Gardner's attention.

I would love to see video or photographic evidence and you are allowed to have child support!

Good luck - there will be a prize/prizes for the winner/s

