

## **Most Able Technology and ICT Enrichment Morning**

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 83 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 were involved in our annual Most Able Technology and ICT Enrichment Morning. Students were selected to participate in specific subject sessions including Textiles, Systems and Control, Resistant Materials, ICT, Catering and Graphics, for periods 1 and 2. A whole range of exciting activities were organised for students to take part in.

With the expert help of Luke Bailey, a professional chef from The Crown and Castle in Orford, students got the chance to work with different herbs and spices usually associated with Indian and Asian Cooking. They looked at a spice trail and the use of spices in food before going onto the practical application of them in making a range of spice blends and everyday easy to cook meals. Students who were involved in the Systems and Control session worked in small groups to complete mini-challenges looking at mechanisms, energy and motion through Lego. In Resistant Materials, students investigated aerodynamics and designed and created cars with the aim of achieving the highest speed. Combining Textiles and ICT, students got to make a rocket pencil case and then learnt how to program a micro bit in order to control LED lights that was built into the design. Over in ICT, students were shown how to develop their own code to create graphical interfaces into packages such as Excel and Word to make them more user friendly. Once the basics had been learnt they were given the task of creating a game for 'Word of the Week' where the user was given the option of three definitions for a word and had to click the correct answer before moving on to the next word. To add to the feeling of being in a modern software house, students had regular breaks where cookies and doughnuts were available as well as being able to collaborate with their colleagues. In addition this year, we had a graphics workshop where students explored the versatility of cardboard and learnt some engineering skills to make interesting and appealing graphic products.

The morning was a real success and students commented on how much they had enjoyed the opportunity to speak to experts from industry, as well as access activities outside of the curriculum. One student said 'I was able to try things I wouldn't normally do and was able to work with people outside my year group.' Another student commented on how 'it has made me realise that Textiles isn't all needles and thread.' A student from the Systems and Control session simply said 'It was one of the best mornings I have ever had!'

As a Faculty, we are looking forward to next year's enrichment morning already!

Mrs Cornell