

Visit to Reaction Engines and meeting with Alan Bond Creator of Skylon Friday 5th April

This meeting was a result of Alan Bond being made aware of a couple of my Spacecraft designs that I have been working on in my free time. The date and time of our meeting was agreed at the end of February and I waited with anticipation for the day to arrive...

Mr Bond introduced himself to me and I was given refreshments which included some Jaffa Cakes; (the food of engineers) and he then showed me an impressive presentation about how he came to Skylon, information about the Skylon itself, including a couple of videos.

Next, I saw an exhibition of how the pre-coolers were made and continued onto the test site of the pre-coolers, where they test the cooling of the Skylon's engines. This is where the photograph of Alan Bond and I was taken.

Mr Bond is an extremely interesting person, we chatted about numerous aspects of designing and engineering and then he presented me with a couple of souvenirs.



The day was brilliant, really interesting and very inspiring. I hope this won't be the last time I am in contact with Reaction Engines and Mr Bond.

Sam Hepworth – Year 7 Student

Liquid Nitrogen Show

My name is Lena Shams and I am mother to a student in Year 7. I work for the University of Oxford in the Physics Department and a member of the outreach team. My colleague Sian Owen and I liaise with local schools and organise public events and workshops. Below are details of our next event:

**The Liquid Nitrogen Show – 22 April 2013
6.00pm**

**Venue: Martin Wood Lecture Theatre
Martin Wood Complex, Dept of Physics,
University of Oxford, Parks Rd, Oxford OX1 3PU
Audience: General Public (Age 8+)**

Further information can be found on: <http://www.physics.ox.ac.uk/events>



GOSFORD HILL SCHOOL
MUSIC DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS
AN EVENING OF MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
OXFORDSHIRE YOUTH BIG BAND
THURSDAY 25TH APRIL 2013
IN THE MAIN HALL at 7pm
(PROCEEDS TO GO TO THE SCHOOL'S PIANO FUND)
Tickets £2.50 (under 11's free)
Available from Reception
Tel: 01865 374971
Email: office.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk
Refreshments available

National School Cross Country Championships 16th March 2013 Derbyshire

On 29th January I travelled to Radley College to try to qualify for the National School Cross Country Championships. I wasn't sure what to expect as the age group was for Year 8 and Year 9 pupils and I am still only Year 8. To qualify you had to finish in the top 6. I had a great run and was really pleased to finish 3rd in bronze medal position and to qualify a year early.

Race Day

It was the day of the race and I was very nervous. The arrangements were everyone had to travel on the coach. The coach picked us up at 8.00am at Cherwell Services just off the M40 to head off to Derbyshire.

When we arrived we were given kit to wear. When they had handed out all of the kit I then walked the course with my running coach and parents. The total distance of the course was 3200m. My race was at 1.30pm, but the schedule was 15 minutes behind so we ended up racing at 1.45pm. The weather conditions were treacherous as it was bitter cold and extremely muddy. The mud was thick and very slippery. In the course I had to run up a hill which was steep and because of the mud it was hard to run up.



There were 333 finishers and I came 140th and finished in 3rd place for Oxfordshire just one second off 2nd place for Oxfordshire. The day was very exciting and I can't wait to hopefully qualify next year.

Chloe Ridewood - Year 8

The Biology/Geography Residential Trip

On Monday 25th March to Thursday 28th March it was a real pleasure to take 14 A2 Biology and AS Geography students to Margam Discovery Centre in Wales.

The Biology students did the school proud as they wrapped up in many warm layers to spend the days investigating the abundance and distribution of invertebrates and plants in freshwater rivers and along windy sand dunes. They asked fascinating questions to the tutors at the centre and were keen to investigate more than what was already on the programme.



The Geography students investigated changes amongst microclimates and carried out questionnaire surveys on the local people to investigate urban change and the re-development of Swansea. All of our Geographers were enthusiastic about the investigations they carried out, asking the tutors outstanding questions and ensuring their understanding of the topic.

All of these students were a true asset to the school and we are very proud of them!

Miss Stanley - Assistant Faculty Leader of Science
Miss Rees - Geography Teacher

