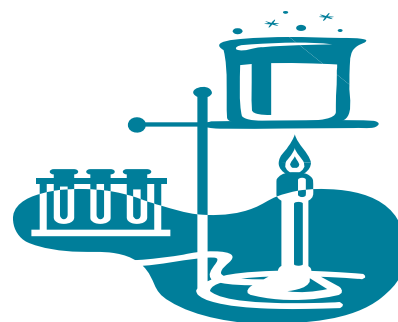


SALTERS' FESTIVAL OF CHEMISTRY

Thursday 17th May 2007



On Thursday, Mrs Coleman took Emma Piercey, Frankie Mordant, Harrison Wai and I down to the University of Bath for a fun day of chemistry. We successfully completed our first challenge of the day by managing to retrieve the biscuits from the centre of the room - don't ask!

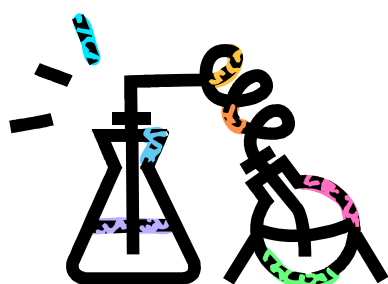
The four of us were set a task involving Forensic Science. Mrs Coleman left us to it, four kids, two Bunsen burners and some acids. What could go wrong? Even though we did not gain a place, I think we did well and we all worked together as a team and did the experiment with enthusiasm. We then stopped for lunch and walked round the campus (Mrs Coleman explaining how big the library was, while we were amused by wandering ducks and large fish), we then went back to the lab for our second investigation.

On this task, we had to use acids to get the temperatures of water down to 10.5° C or as near as possible. After a lot of hard work and trial and error, we found a possible solution that was our best bet. Then we had to demonstrate it to the judges and things went a bit haywire under the pressure. Still, we all had a lot of fun doing it!

Next, we had a demonstration from a couple of the scientists and we were amazed how a few acids and water could make flashing blue lights, cracking and popping, indoor fireworks and mini volcanoes.

Then for the prize giving we were excited to get our goodie bags and certificates. Although we weren't winners, we worked very hard and enjoyed ourselves a lot! However, Emma did get an individual prize for extra enthusiasm and lots of focus during the investigations. Well done!

We would all like to say thank you to Mrs Coleman for an enjoyable day out. We learnt a lot whilst having great fun.



Review by Nina Tanna, 8HS