



## Science at Sandfield Sept 2018

Sarah Eames CSciTeach

Science at Sandfield has gone from strength to strength, since the last Governor's Report – September 2017

Sandfield was delighted to be STEM Primary School of the Year 2017 for the whole country with ENTHUSE. As a result of this we are regularly contacted by other schools and science leaders to visit the school.

We are delighted that to have Gold Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM), the highest honour that a primary school can have in science and will be starting our reaccreditation in the Spring 2019 term. The £850 to do this will be paid for by the Primary Science Teaching Trust (PSTT). There are still only 2 other Local Authority school in Leicester that have achieved this, so far. It will mean collecting and collating evidence from across the whole school. The awards have changed and we will be going for PSQM Outreach.

Sarah Eames, the science leader, successfully mentored several other schools to achieve their PSQM status. She was asked to provide part of the keynote speech at the National Association of Science Education (ASE) annual conference in Liverpool January 2018. She also co-authored a chapter in the ASE guide to Primary Science.

Primary Science Teaching Trust (PSTT) as the science leader Sarah Eames is really pleased to continue as one of 7 area mentors and has secured funding to continue the PSTT Cluster group in Leicester. In addition to this she will continue to organise the termly Leicester Primary Science Network meetings.

### Space Education Quality Mark

After submitting our evidence we retained our SEQM at Gold level, this recognises space teaching across the whole curriculum and for every year group, we had a whole school Space Science Week in the Autumn 2017 term. We borrowed Moon Rock and Meteorites from the National Space Centre. Year 4 took part in two workshops at the National Space Centre and Years 5 and 6 took part in a new workshop 'Why are Rockets white?' All these involved a visit to the Space Centre and were funded (apart from transport) by the Space Academy. We also did Year 5 Space Camp Sleepovers.

We were delighted to have the University of Leicester visit with their huge Space Dome.

### Royal Society / Brian Cox

There is still publicity around the science programme we recorded with Brian Cox.

<https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/315603/what-factors-affect-size-shadow-shadow-theatre>

Our application to take part in the The Royal Society book review was successful and we selected our winner as Robert Winston's Home Lab. This went on to become the overall winner.

### Happy Feet

Once again we collected shoes to send to Africa.

### Polli:nation Project

We have now completed this project – we held a celebration event at Sandfield and were presented with several posters and books.

### Eco Camp Sleepovers

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*Year 2 had the chance to come along to our Eco Camp Sleepovers. They took part in a variety of activities including melting sweets around a camp fire, minibeast hunts and star gazing.*

### Science Resources

*Science Resources have been audited and are mostly found in the Mobile and an inventory has been compiled and was emailed to all staff and a copy is in the staffroom. As a PSTT mentor we are 'caretaking' a number of resources; RMS Microscopes and Ogden Trust Phizzi forces box to look after and lend to other schools. This means that Sandfield also benefits from using these.*

### Flying into Physics

*12 children from year 5 took part in a Flying into Physics project. They learnt how to fly through the air on a trapeze and how to balance objects.*

### Wellcome Trust / Explorify

*Explorify contains testimonials from Sandfield teachers and we continue to promote this resource in school and to other schools. .*

### Eco Schools

*After a visit from an Eco Assessor we renewed our Eco Schools Green Flag, it flies proudly next to the Science Mobile. Highcross volunteers came to replant trees that they no longer needed at Sandfield.*

### Sandfield's Eco and Science Celebration

*Sandfield's Eco Club organised and ran a celebration for our Eco projects this year, we were delighted that so many visitors came from Leicester City Council including Councillor Ted Cassidy.*

### Leicester Eco Awards

*We attended the local Eco Awards held at Leicester City Council and were amazed to be given the title Eco School of the Year, voted by 30 special judges from the city.*

### Food for Life

*For the last few years we have been working hard to increase children's understanding of food and what a healthy diet is. We hope to go for Silver this year, we have been working with Lisa Didier on this. We also hosted a Christmas Food for Life event at Sandfield.*

### Fairtrade

*We have finally gained the top award from Fairtrade - the FairAchiever Award, which recognises our commitment to promoting Fairtrade.*

### RHS Schools Gardening Awards

*For the second year running Sandfield created a MealBarrow for the Gardener's World Show at the NEC.*

### Global Goals for Sustainable Development

*A video was created and is on our school website. Sarah Eames attended cpd with Earthwatch. We hope to continue to look at the SDGs as they are known, next academic year.*

### Ogden Trust Partnership

*We are part of the Corby Partnership and as a result get Whizz Pop Bang Magazine and access to other exciting cpd. Last year Sarah Eames and Matt Taylor attended Space cpd and got a box of*

resources. Sarah Eames and Malika Daudbhai also went to Early Year Science day and received a set of cards with science activities.

### Earthquake

Paul Denton has installed a seismometer at Sandfield, it can detect earthquakes from around the world as well as the trains and local quarry explosions.

### LCFC Community Trust Project with Primary Teaching Trust

Sarah Eames was seconded to work on a football/ space project with LCFC.

### Great Science Share

Sarah Eames with Leicester University organised the first Great Science Share. We are highlighted in the video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UaQDe6oAzHM>

### Competitions

Eco Club like to enter competitions.

Generation Green Competition with British Gas – the led lights in year 1 look amazing and we can see if they make a difference to our energy bills. Mrs Thompson said it will save a lot of money in fluorescent tubes as the leds should last for 10/ 15 years. We are pleased to say that the Solar Panels were installed in Oct 2017 and a monitor displays the school's energy

### Young Leicester Chef of the Year

Sandfield had two groups of children chosen to take part. They had a great time.

### Tesco Bags of Help

Our amazing geodesic dome is now ready for planting, thanks to funding from Tesco's.

### Polar Explorer Programme

Sandfield took part in the project after another school decided not to take part. Sarah Eames mentored 3 other schools as a Polar Ambassador with STEM Learning.

### Twitter and Sandfield's Eco and Science Blog

Sandfield have been sharing their activities and achievements on their website and sometimes on twitter. This is a great way to promote Sandfield and our goal to be recognised as a centre for primary science excellence.

### School Trips with a Science link

Reception went to the farm

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Year 1 Twycross Zoo

Year 2 had an Eco Sleepover

Year 3 visit to Beacon Hill

Year 5 had a visit from the Planetarium from Leicester University

Year 6 Kingswood activities

Courses

*Sarah Eames ASE Conference 2017/8*

*Sarah Eames PSTT meetings and Conference*

*Sarah Eames December trip to Switzerland to CERN Dec 2017*

Science Leader

*As the Science Leader I continue to teach Primary Science on the Leicester School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) course, this year I also travelled to Warwick University and York University to deliver science workshops.*

The future

*We must maintain Sandfield's reputation as a leader in Primary Science Education and begin to include more Technology and Maths.*

*We need to keep up to date with new strategies for teaching science and STEM subjects and continue to share them with others.*

*I shall continue to be an active part of the Primary Science Teaching Trust and an active ASE member.*

*As Science Leader I will continue to support class teachers in their science provision.*

*As Sandfield's Science Leader I will also continue to share our good practice with other schools.*

*We will ensure that we will continue to enter competitions.*

*Renew our Primary Science Quality Mark at Outreach level*

*We already have dates for the Space Camp Sleepovers.*

*Science Fair – look at the possibility of linking Science and Maths and having that as a focus.*

*Food for Life – gain Silver status within the next year.*

*Global Learning Partnership links with science and sustainability*

*Continue to deliver the science content for two teacher trainee courses.*