

Students celebrate 40 years since the first moon landing - St Michael's Catholic and Church of England High School

Leading space education programme

Key actions

As part of National Space Week (5th to 9th October 2009), the Astronomy Club led a series of assemblies that were delivered to the whole school. The theme of the assemblies was the 40th anniversary of the Moon Landing of 1969, alongside the 400th anniversary of Galileo using the first telescope, and 2009 being the Year of Astronomy. The students from the Astronomy Club carried out all the necessary research, prepared the presentation and delivered it to the whole school over a 4 day period. This was carried out with the aim of increasing awareness of the Astronomy Club within the school, and stimulating interest amongst pupils.

8 students were involved in the planning and presenting of the assembly.

Quotes from the audience:

"That was really good."

"That was the best assembly ever!"

"I was interested to learn about the moon landings."

Impact on lead and partners schools

Increased interest in space exploration and discovery which led onto all science days having a space theme.

Impact on specialism

Increased uptake in numbers of members of the space club. Because pupils' were so interested in the assembly this enabled the following to be arranged:

- 2 local amateur astronomers were invited into school as guest speakers
- Star Chaser used
- Trip to National Space Centre

Top tips

Barriers - 2 weeks of planning because pupils' needed to have their thoughts focussed on 1 or 2 aspects of the moon landing; lots of lunch-times devoted to planning. Took a long time to find a prayer about space.

Tips - have lots of time to plan - don't leave to the last minute.

The future

Space club will be presenting another week long series of assemblies for next year's Space Week.