



Show Inspires Next Generation Of Engineers



Students have been gaining inspiration for their future careers by attending a major Midlands engineering event.

Year 12 Product Design students attended the Engineering Design Show at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry at the end of October. Students explored emerging technologies and materials such as graphene, thermoplastics composites, CNC milling and SLA advanced manufacturing. They also carried out product analysis and interviewed companies as part of their coursework.

Skills Show

Year 10 students will be given an insight into future careers when they attend the Skills Show at the NEC on 17th November.

The trip will allow students to hear from leading experts in science and engineering and to speak to representatives from some of the UK's biggest companies. There will be opportunities to gain one-to-one careers advice and attend skills workshops. Students will attend their first two lessons of the day, before leaving the academy at 10.30am, with an estimated return time of 4.30pm. Students should wear full business dress.

Plant Growth

Year 10 science students have been investigated factors affecting photosynthesis. This included an experiment which shows how plants gained mass as they grew with only water and light.

New Links

Mr Mahroof met industry leaders last week to help give WMG Academy students opportunities in the future. He attended the Advanced Engineering Show at the NEC where he forged links with firms working on new technologies.

Meet The Rapping Engineer

A Year 11 student is turning his dreams into reality by combining his two passions—engineering and music.

Dennym Martin is hoping to fulfil his lifelong dream of working with BMW, while also pursuing his ambition to perform as a rapper.

The 15-year-old has been through tough times, but is hoping to use his negative experiences into a positive outcome. Dennym's father died in a house fire six years ago and Dennym said he wants to feel like his dad would be proud of him.

He is in the process of applying for a BMW apprenticeship and has also released his first music video for a track called Wanna Be My Girl, which he wrote himself. Dennym said: "I don't let anything hold me back. Everything I've been through makes me push harder and try my hardest to make my dad proud."

Dennym, who has 15 brothers and sisters, said coming from a large family has helped him because he feels supported. He said: "I like being part of a big family—I'm the youngest and everyone's proud of me. My cousin is also a singer and she's like a second mum to me and really helps me."

Dennym recently performed in a bar in Birmingham and has written a total of 14 songs, which he hopes to release on YouTube, along with his current song. But Dennym is also keen to make sure he is on track to achieve good grades in his GCSEs next year. He said: "Since I was three I have wanted to work with cars, and I really hope to get an apprenticeship with BMW. I am planning to take a break from music to focus on my GCSEs later in the year."

He also wants to break away from the subjects often associate with rap. He said: "What I do is 'nice' rap. I don't write about drugs and money, it's more about girls."



Rolls Royce Project

Year 12 BTEC Engineering students have started work on a project with one of the academy's key partners, Rolls Royce. The students will work with the cutting edge engineering company to manufacture an actuator. This will form part of one of the engineering units.

Important Dates for your Diary

Thursday 23rd Nov	Sixth form open evening 6pm-7.30pm
Tuesday 19th Dec	Academy closes for Christmas
Wednesday 3rd Jan	Inset day
Thursday 4th Jan	Academy reopens after Christmas
Tuesday 16th Jan	Sixth form open evening 6pm-7.30pm
Thursday 25th Jan	Year 13 parents' evening
Thursday 15th Feb	Tour & Explore for prospective students/parents, 5-6pm
Friday 16th Feb	Academy closes for half term
Monday 26th Feb	Academy reopens after half term

Students Chosen For Project With Top Company

Four students will be working with Arup on a project to design a system to supply water to an urban farm. Year 12 BTEC engineering students Shemari Linton, Bobbi Nicholls, Kye Adams and Dorsa Asgari were selected.

Feeling The Need For Speed At Rail College



Year 13 students attended a careers day at the new National College For High Speed Rail following its official opening in Birmingham. The event gave students the opportunity to be tested and interviewed by employers to help them build confidence when applying for jobs. The event followed Mr Mahroof's attendance at the college's grand opening, where he met leading rail engineers and the West Midlands Mayor Andy Street

and found out about the latest technologies as part of a mission to build links with businesses and educational institutions. Mr Mahroof is said: "Feedback from many of the employers was very positive and as a result some students have been identified for future apprenticeships. We hope that the links gained will help our Year 13 students access Level 4 courses and Higher Apprenticeships."

WMG Academy Solihull

Science Mocks

Year 11 students should now be working at home using their science revision guides and Kerboodle account in preparation for the science mock exams. There are also intervention sessions on Friday afternoons to help consolidation of knowledge and provide advice on enhanced revision techniques.

Assessment

Year 12 biology students recently carried out their first practical assessment, examining the main stages of mitosis in the plant *Allium* spp.

Football Draw

Year 11 WMG Academy Solihull students played a return match against WMG Academy Coventry just before half term. Mr Loxton provided the following report: "The match was a well battled affair which started off with a Solihull goal scored by Omar Abo-Sahide. Coventry replied with 2 goals before the end of the first half. The second half which was a fearlessly contested affair between 2 evenly matched teams which was won by Solihull with a great goal by Jack Fenton. This tied the match 2-2 which then took us to the end of the match. A draw was a fair result as neither team dominated."