



Year 9 Marine Engineering Workshop

On Tuesday 15th May, Dan Simons, STEM Manager of the Sea Cadets came in to school to deliver a 'Sea Cadets Marine Engineering Pathway (MEP)' workshop for some of our Year 9 students. The Sea Cadets is a vibrant national charity, passionate about inspiring young people to engage with STEM subjects and highlight the career opportunities in Marine Engineering.

2018 is the National Year of Engineering, so it was a very timely workshop!

The hands-on sessions taught pupils about the principles of engineering through team challenges. Using real-life scenarios, pupils were tasked with designing and creating an engineering solution.

The morning started with a presentation from Dan who shared facts about Marine Engineering and the many very exciting roles that exist within that area!

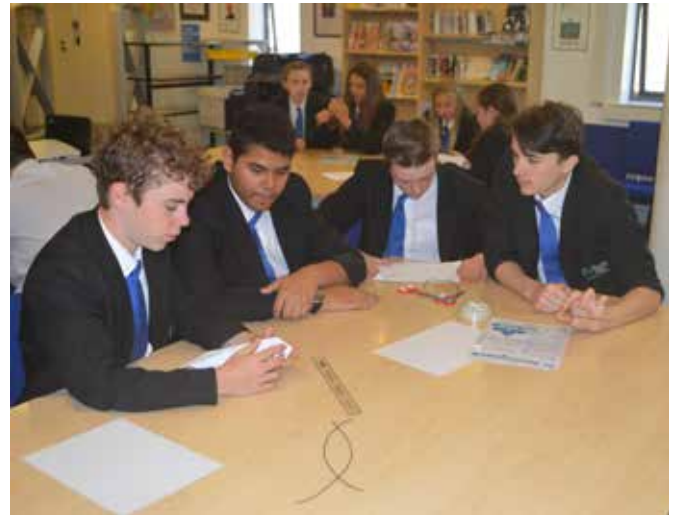
Some interesting facts:

- There will be a shortage of Engineers by 2 million in 2022
- Only 9% of Engineers are women
- 94% of Engineers are of a white background, which does not reflect society

Where do Engineers work?

- On Super Yachts
- On offshore oil rigs
- On offshore wind farms
- On submarines. Staff can stay on a submarine for 3-4 months and, if they didn't have to come up for food they could spend 2-3 years, which is equivalent to sailing twice around the World!
- Sea Containerships – ¼ mile long and can carry 14,770 huge containers

There are degree apprenticeships available now starting at £30,000 pa. The training will take place at a Maritime College. For the roles offshore, the salary is tax free.



Following this presentation, the students were provided with materials and placed in teams to build a boat. They were given wire and paper, and then silver foil to make the boat water tight. Each of the teams tested their boats on water and there was a competition to see how many marbles could be placed in the boats before they sank.

We were competing against a number of schools and for one of them a boat sank with just 6 marbles in it!! Our minimum number of marbles was 100 and the winning female team managed 252!!! Well done to 'Duchess of the Sea'!!!



To enhance the experience, the Sea Cadets had brought in a Marine Engineering (ME) Pod which was fully equipped with both a working and a cross-sectional marine engine.

We are going to be inviting Dan to come back in the next school year to work with our Year 8 and 9 students.

Christine Sanders
Leader for Employability