

COOL SCHOOLS



On Saturday 24 April 2022, Bede's hosted Galactic Challenge, a space design competition for Years 6-8 that encourages pupils to be innovative, creative, and collaborative whilst challenging their application of physics and mathematics in an astrophysical way.

Throughout the competition, pupils are placed into teams and are tasked with creating a presentation following a press release from the Foundation Society, which answers a request for a proposal. On Saturday, the students were transported to the year 2052 and were assigned the design for the construction and development of a space lab, Spacelab St George, on the comet 67P/CG.

Throughout the day, the teams worked in specific sectors and management positions, imitating an actual aerospace design team. Structurally, they tackled problems such as a lack of gravity, durability, radiation and thermal heating levels, and constructing on a body as icy and rocky as a comet. Operationally, they addressed water and food consumption, power demands and acclimatization.

On the other hand, in the human engineering sector, they were charged with leisure, research and residential layouts. Finally, they were given the chore of constructing several robots, rovers and transportation methods that allowed the scientists to carry out their occupational tasks.

All teams produced creative and innovative design concepts that ranged from self-repairing wall sensors to using algae as a source of oxygen. Whilst all the teams were impressive, especially considering their ages, Solaris was the team that came out victorious. Their ideas of using plants multi-functionally for agriculture, improved mental health and as a nutritional food source, as well as their hilarious 'mic' drop won the judges over.

**PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE A GOOD NEWS
STORY ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL TAKING PART IN
ONE OF OUR CHALLENGES:-**

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