

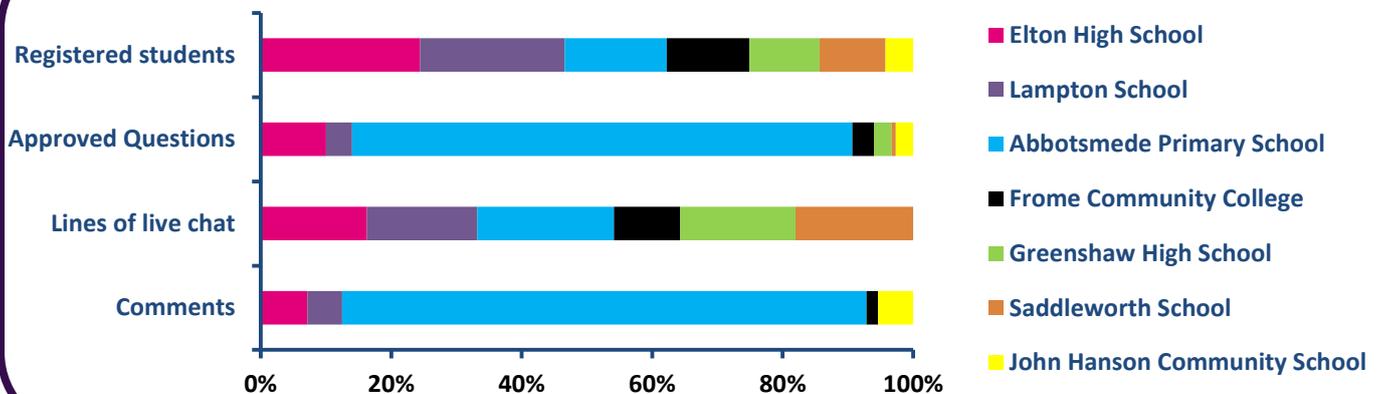


## March 2014

This report has been compiled by the I'm a Scientist team as a summary, containing moderator observations and our web data, to provide an overview of the zone.

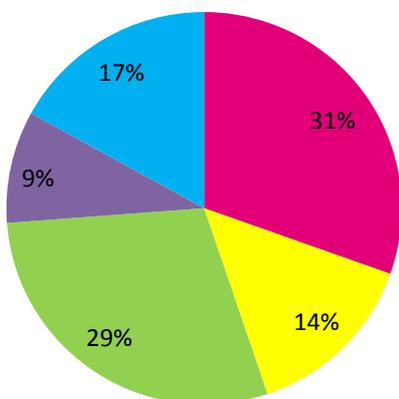
The Cancer Zone was extremely focused on cancer, as shown by the Wordle on the next page! Students wanted to know how cancer is caused, how it is treated, and if it can be prevented. They also asked more general health, illness and physiology questions, and they were especially interested in Amar's work developing new drugs to treat cancer.

### Schools' data at a glance

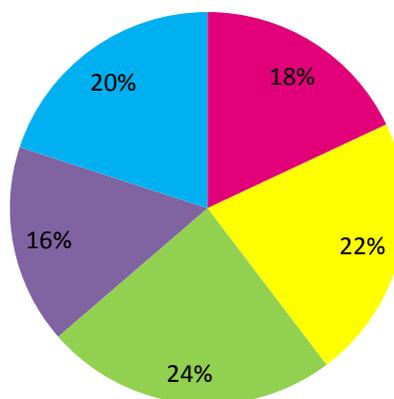


### Scientists' activity

Lines of live chat



Answers



Scientist profile	Page views	Position
Amar Joshi	472	Winner
Matthew Lam	510	2nd
Andrea Harvey	494	3rd
Leah Fitzsimmons	400	4th
Anastasia Wass	314	5th

Key figures from I'm a Scientist March 2014 for the zone, and the average of all 12 zones

Number of page views during the event (plus previous and following weeks)

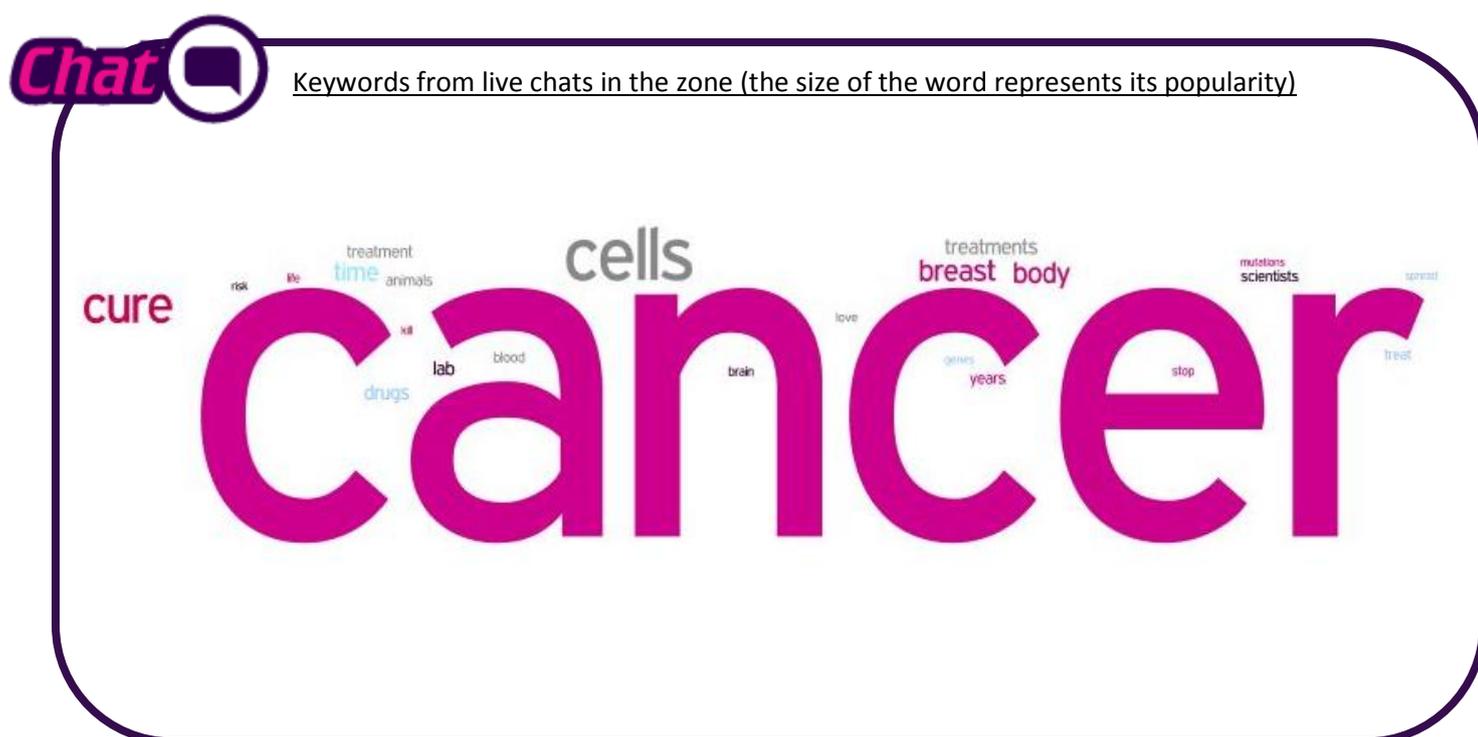
CANCER ZONE	PAGE VIEWS	ZONES AVERAGE
Total zone	14,164	18,761
ASK page	1,429	1,547
CHAT page	1,749	2,524
VOTE page	901	1,248

	CANCER ZONE	ZONES AVERAGE
Registered students	308	365
% of active students (used ASK, CHAT, VOTE or commented)	76%	81%
Questions asked	915	830
Questions approved	150	266
Answers given	506	533
Comments	68	88
Votes	233	291
Live chats	15	14
Lines of live chat	4,159	5,506
Schools	7	7

**Popular topics**

As shown in the Wordle below, CHATs were heavily focused on cancer: How is it caused? Will we ever find a cure for it? How does it affect children? How is cancer treated nowadays? However, the ASK section also had a lot of non-cancer questions, which the scientists handled well.

Students were very interested in Matt's work on breast cancer. They also wanted to learn more about the development of new drugs to treat cancer, and asked Amar about his work on this.





Keywords of questions asked in the zone (the size of the words represents its popularity)

### SCIENCE

anatomy 3 biology 4 body brain 5  
breast cancer 5 cancer causes 14  
cancer cure 3 cancer rates 5  
cancer treatment 3 cancer type 6 3  
cells 3 children 3 Cure 7 diet 3 disease 4  
earth 4 equipment 4 evolution 4  
experiments 6 eyes 4 genetics 4  
growth 3 health 15 illness 18  
life 7 past 7 people 9 physics 3  
research 12 skin 3 sugar 3

**Total 171**

### CAREER

achievements 3  
career 11 inspiration 2  
work 6

**Total 29**

### PERSONAL /OTHER

age 5 favourite food 3 IAS 3  
personal 3 preference 6  
routine 3 women 3

**Total 26**

### Sample questions

"Is it true that electricity pylons can cause cancer?"

"How have cancer cures improved over the last 10 years or so?"

"why do you yawn????"

"What is the survival rate of breast cancer?"

"When we are happy what happens to our brain?"

"Can you get cancer by being around an environment where people smoke"

## Examples of good engagement

The scientists were great in the live chats and gave some really detailed answers about a potentially sensitive subject. In one of the chats, a student who had suffered from cancer joined in and asked several questions about the topic, and his classmates were really supportive and interested in the conversation.

There were different examples of good engagement throughout the event:

*“Why do you think cancer rates are increasing?”* – vishnaka5, student

*“I think cancer rates are increasing because of increased awareness, screening programs for early detection and better diagnostic testing its easier to pick up now”* – Andrea Harvey, scientist

*“I’m really scared of cancer is there any way that you can prevent yourself from getting it?”* – nazkhan, student

*“Please don’t be scared, try to avoid things that give you a higher risk of cancer”* – Leah Fitzsimmons, scientist

## Scientist winner: Amar Joshi

Amar’s plans for the prize money: *“I think most people have a vague idea about what goes on in science labs. Mainly from what they have seen on telly – programs like CSI. I would like to show actually what goes on in research science labs by talking in schools. The money will help to film short clips and provide the materials for practical demos.”* [Read Amar’s thank you message here.](#)



## Student winner: cupcake94

For asking about 50 questions, lots of which were on topic about cancer, and being very engaged in the live chat, **cupcake94** will receive a £20 WH Smith voucher and a certificate.

## Feedback

We’re still collecting feedback from teachers, students and scientists but here are a few of the comments made during the event...

*“Thank you, now I know I need to keep to eat healthy do exercise and keep healthy thank you for telling me!”* – undertaker123, student

*“Thank you so much for sorting out the chat this morning. I now have a room full of very excited and inspired year 9s!”* – Kerry Colyer, teacher

*“After the chat we talked about it some more and the pupil who had been very poorly with leukaemia felt confident to be able to answer questions from classmates and they all listened and were curious to find out more. (...) It was a wonderful opportunity for all of them....”* – Jess Hamer, teacher

*“There were so many great questions and it was a privilege to respond to all those curious minds. I must also thank the teachers who got involved, without the teachers there wouldn’t be any students.”*  
– Amar Joshi, scientist