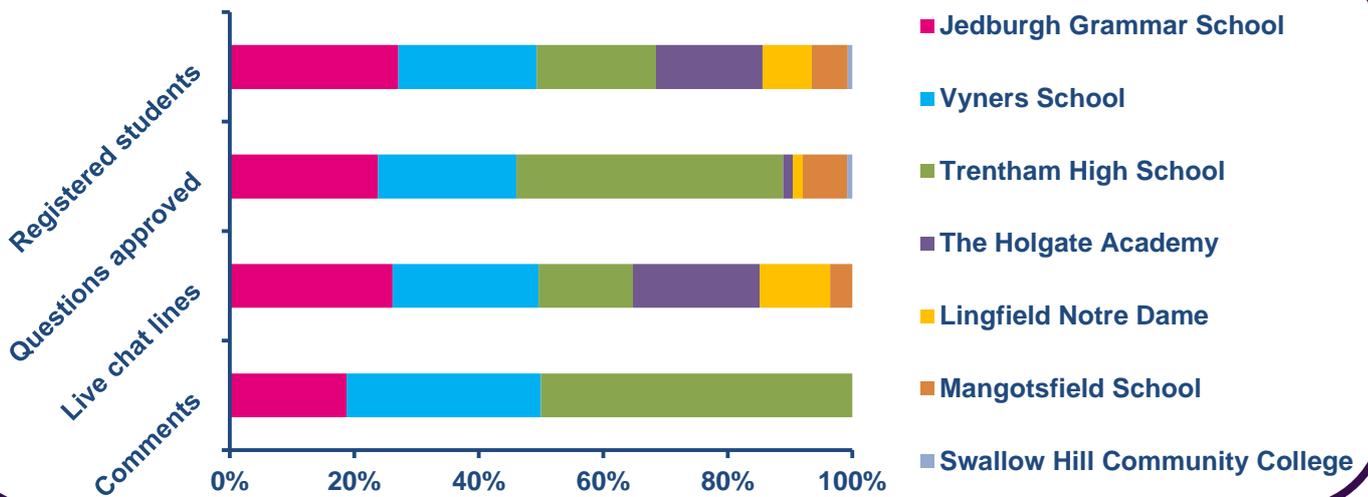




June 2014

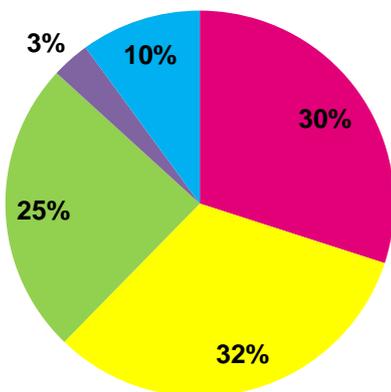
The Samarium Zone was very lively and busy, with 15 chats taking place during the event. The students in the zone asked about each scientist's research topic, although David's work with mice was particularly popular, as shown in the Wordle on the next page. David also stands out as really engaging with the students, contributing over half of all the live chat activity from the scientists.

Schools' data at a glance

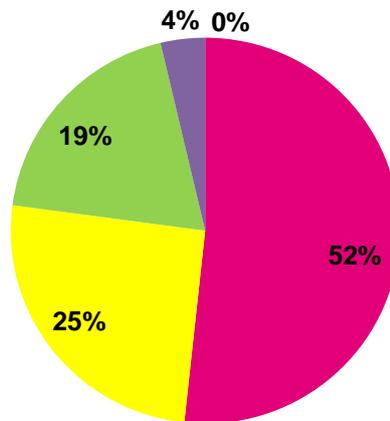


Scientists' activity

Answers



Lines of live chat



Scientist profile	Page views	Position
David Davila	670	Winner
Thomas Smith	849	2nd
Linda Cremonesi	581	3rd
Tamas Korcsmaros	472	4th
Johanna Fischer	445	5th

Key figures from I'm a Scientist June 2014 for the zone, and the average of all 17 zones

Number of page views during the event (plus 2 previous weeks)

SAMARIUM ZONE	PAGE VIEWS	ZONES AVERAGE
Total zone	13,725	16,052
ASK page	757	1,091
CHAT page	1,823	1,699
VOTE page	966	968

	SAMARIUM ZONE	ZONES AVERAGE
Registered students	293	282
% of active students (used ASK, CHAT, VOTE or commented)	78%	80%
Questions asked	332	488
Questions approved	126	217
Answers given	220	429
Comments	23	54
Votes	225	219
Lines of live chat	4,860	4,020
Live chats	15	12
Schools	8	6

Popular topics

The popular topics were similar in both the ASK and CHAT sections. As this was a general zone with each scientist undertaking research in very different fields of study, students often asked lots of questions about the scientists' research, showing that students had taken the time to read the scientists' profiles as preparation for the event.

Students picked up on Linda's research and asked about space, and were also interested in Tom's work with wild-fires and David's research on mice brains. The students were also very interested in the scientists' daily routines, work experiences and career choices.



Keywords from live chats in the zone (the size of the word represents its popularity)





Keywords of questions asked in the zone

Keyword	Number of times	Keyword	Number of times
work	26	universe	7
preference	20	animal-testing	6
personal	16	human	5
fire	12	inspiration	4
career	10	quirky	4
research	9	vote	4
animal	8	education	4
space	8	hobby	4

Example questions

"What is so different about cancer cells compared to every other disease?"

"Can i have some more information on your gas analyser because it sounds intriguing. For example what gasses would it recognise?"

"If there was no moon would we die?"

"why and how do people loses their memory?"

"Are meteors real?"

"how much energy dose the world have?"

Examples of good engagement

Linda, Tom and David engaged and interacted with the students on a regular basis and as such the students predominantly focused their questions on the work of these three scientists, who were also very good at answering questions unrelated to their work:

"@david what the best thing about the body you know?" – Hannahjohanna, student

"@hannah the coolest thing i know is that if you cut the brain in half, it will for reals be like two different people are living in the same body, each one controlling half of it! Isn't that CRAZY???" – David Davila, scientist

Students felt comfortable enough to ask questions about neutrinos, a very complicated science topic which is beyond the scope of school physics, but which the scientist's research is based on:

"how will neutrinos have an impact on the universe when we discover something mindblowing about them?" – duffr023, student

Scientist winner: David Davila

David's plans for the prize money: *"I'm looking into charities and other programs that are aimed at helping schools that don't have a lot of money for science and science programs. What I think really gets people interested in science early on is to get a feel for how hands on and interesting it can be – but equipment can be expensive! I'm thinking about donating to this foundation, which sends scientists into classrooms! They sound great!"* [Read David's thank you message here.](#)



Student winner: duffr023

For great engagement during the event, **duffr023** 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...

"Your answers have been very useful to my investigation GOOD LUCK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"
– khalid6000, student

"Thanks so much guys, It's a shame you can't hear how excited the students have been to speak to 'real' scientists. – teacher

"It is very much student-led rather than the type of engagement that I normally do where I have decided on an activity for a particular purpose." – scientist

"The live chats were where things really came alive. Handling the chat solo felt like fending off an army of zombies, starving not for brains, but for knowledge." – David Davila, scientist