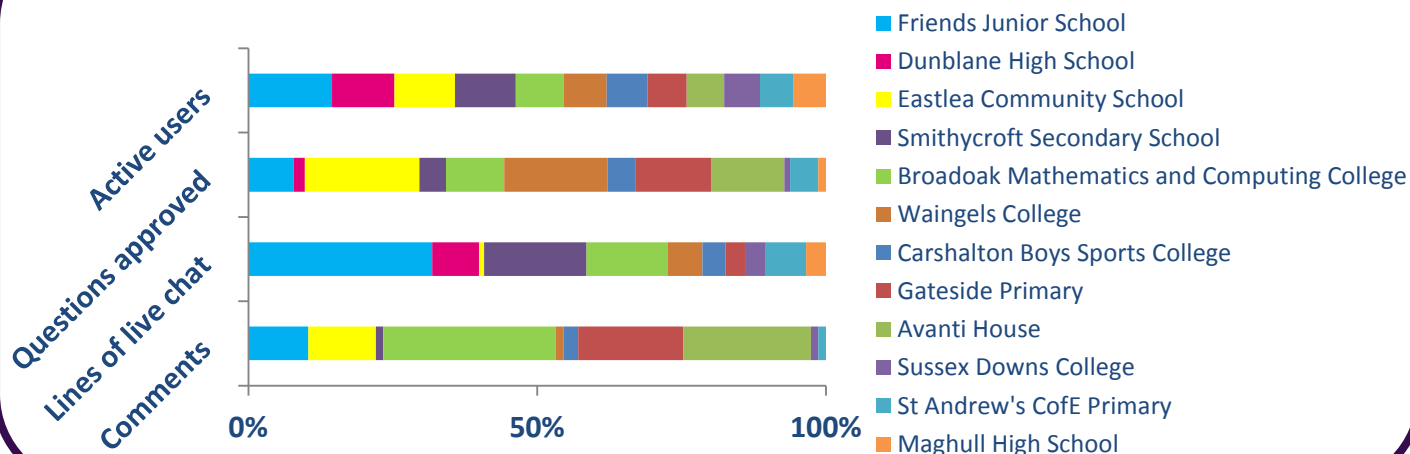




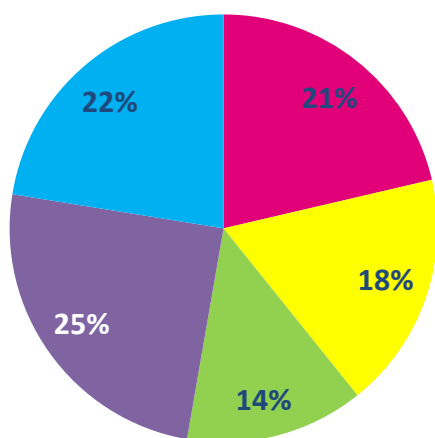
The Gadolinium Zone saw a high variety of questions covering all the range of science subjects the scientists on the zone were working on. All the scientists were very good at engaging with students, particularly Tora, who was responsible for more than a third of the scientists' lines of live chat.

Schools' data at a glance

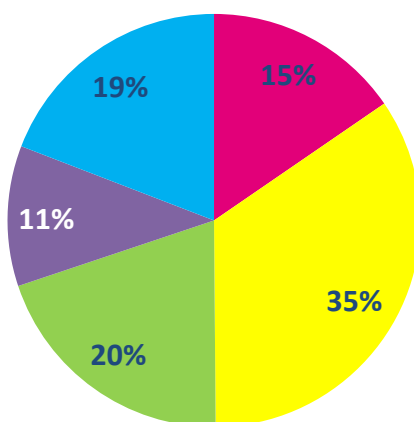


Scientists' activity

Answers



Lines of live chat



Scientist profile	Page views	Position
Arthur Dyer	758	Winner
Tora Smulders-Srinivasan	760	2nd
David Wilson	679	3rd
Clare Harding	679	4th
Daniel Parsons	604	5th



Keywords of questions asked in the zone

Keyword	Number of times
space	43
personal	31
disease	29
preference	27
work	25
universe	25
animal	25
medicine	24
research	23
career	22
cancer	21
earth	21
body	19
experiment	19
education	17
future	17
planet	17
technology	15
topical	13
quirky	12

Example questions

"Why is it that only planet earth has an ozone layer?"

"Why do we have blood groups such as A positive or B negative what do these do?"

"How did the first living thing existed on planet earth and why did it only existed on planet earth why didn't it existed in other planet?"

"Is there any evidence of animals having similar brain diseases such as parkinsons?"

"Can they kill cells with nanobots like in movies or something?"

"In regard to your work what other organisms does the toxoplasms gondii affect? And how?"

"Do you think that one generation of people could become bionic?"

"How do scientists know how to make a flu vaccine if viruses can be different every year?"

"Can depleted uranium from nuclear waste be melted down and form an alloy to balance the uranium making less radioactive?"

"Why do you race fruit flies and not other animals?"

"What is the scientific way of describing the making food such as pizza?"

Examples of good engagement

The scientists were excellent at responding to offline questions, with only a small handful of questions going unanswered over the competition. They were also very keen during chats, showing sensitivity and humour. Arthur was particularly good at provoking further discussion with the students once his questions had been answered.

"Hey Boss, how do you name a new group of species?" – Joseph, student

"Hey there :). You can name a species whatever you want! That's part of the cool thing about discovering something new is you can call it whatever you want. There's a protein inside our body that is called Sonic Hedgehog because the scientists who discovered it thought it was funny and an element called einsteinium after albert einstein. What would you call a species or something that you've discovered?" – Arthur Dyer, scientist

Scientist winner: Arthur Dyer

Arthur's plans for the prize money: *"Helping other children find out how exciting science can actually be is something i've always been passionate about and always wanted to get involved in. By visiting schools and encouraging children to think about science as being more than learning lists from text books and actually about everything around you and helping them to find that area of science that they say "wow that's pretty cool!" I think we can encourage a generation of scientists to become the next big name in science and do something wacky/awesome that will change the world as we know it."* [.Read Arthur's thank you message here.](#)



Student winner: I love teddy bears

For asking great questions demonstrating both impressive knowledge and curiosity and having read the scientists' profiles, ***I love teddy bears*** 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 everyone for answering my questions i feel inspired to be a scientist because i want to cure cancer because my mum died of it and my grandad has it thanks" – aidan crwother, student

"It is extremely well run" – teacher

"You were all great and thank you so so so much to all of you students for asking awesome (and quite hard) questions and for voting... I really hope to see some of you as scientists in the future" – Arthur Dyer, scientist

"I didn't win, but I've had great fun -- it was completely worth the time, effort, & feeling overwhelmed with questions at times! It was so much fun, I'm going to miss it! :-)" – Tora Sumlders- Srinivasan, scientist