

Media notice

Successful Code Challenge Entries enjoyed a private view at Oscar winning Double Negative

Successful coding teams from five schools from Dorset, Devon and Wiltshire joined STEM Ambassadors Ann Cherry and Steve Harper at Double Negative for a private view and presentation ceremony in London on 7 July 2015.

DNeg Chief Scientist Oliver James talked about the maths and creativity behind Oscar winning *Interstellar* and wowed the audience with diagrams and visual effects of black holes and worm holes. Students posed thought provoking questions including whether we would ever find a wormhole!

Showreels helped to deconstruct how mythical creatures such as the dragon in *Harry Potter* are created, buildings are destroyed in *Captain America* and the Capitol was created in the *Hunger Games*.

Challenge Judge Ann Cherry said 'I'm really impressed with the creativity that students have shown in developing their games and explaining in their videos how they had tackled the difficulties they encountered. It was really enjoyable to be a judge'.

Pupils from Upton Junior School whose entry was highly commended said "I never knew about wormholes", it looks "complicated and intriguing" and was "double amazeballs".

The Code Challenge was funded for the second year by the Media School at Bournemouth University and has been supported by a seminar programme and public lecture.

Avril Harrison said Bournemouth University Media School is delighted to be able to continue its support and encourage young pupils at school to use coding in such a creative way.

The schools came from across three counties: Upton Junior School and Bournemouth Girls from Dorset, Matravers and Trafalgar Schools from Wiltshire and Colton Grammar School from Devon. Schools were asked to tackle the topic of sustainability through coding an information poster, a game or device to monitor environmental factors such as temperature or rainfall or collect rubbish. Throughout the challenge opportunities have been offered to introduce students to professional computer programmers, male and female, through the STEM Ambassador programme run by STEM Wilts and Dorset.



