



Bletchley Park coding at 'Big Bang'

Tuesday 30th June 2015

Enigma visit to ICC



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On Monday ICC was delighted to have the privilege of hosting a visit from Bletchley Park and an Enigma machine. Not only was the machine an original, it was THE machine from the film *The Imitation Game* and was THE machine that Benedict Cumberbatch and Keira Knightly used!

150 students took part in the workshops that took place throughout the day, learning about different codes, both secret and open, and how codes were used to relay information during wartime. Particularly moving was a film of an American prisoner during the Vietnam/USA war, using his eyes to transmit a code using Morse code: - Vietnam had stated all prisoners were being treated well, but the Captain's eyes spelled out TORTURE.

All the students had the opportunity to break a code, and to use the Enigma machine to both code a message then de-code the message. Mind-blowing was the number of combinations the machine could put together - enough so that if you were to try one combination per second in a bid to break the code, it would take 400 times the age of the UNIVERSE to try them all!

ICC visit to 'Big Bang', Ardingly

"More than 7,000 9-19 year olds and their teachers from across the region attended The Big Bang Fair South East in 2015 and enjoyed a day of exciting and fun-filled shows, interactive displays and hands-on workshops all aimed at inspiring them to consider the varied opportunities and careers that studying STEM subjects can open up to them."

https://nearme.thebigbangfair.co.uk/South_East/

Bletchley Park held a decoding competition as one of the activities and from the hundreds of entries, the winner was Lauren Graves from ICC.
Well done!



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