

PHYSICS VISIT TO CERN



On Thursday 13th September, 20 excited sixth-form Physics students jetted off to Geneva, Switzerland. Accompanied by Mr Bell and Ms Chaudhry, the purpose of their journey was to visit the epicentre of particle physics, CERN.

Home to the largest particle accelerator in the world, CERN has made a number of headlines over the years: they produced data that challenged Einstein's theory of relativity last summer and more recently, have finally proven that the elusive Higgs Boson really does exist! The students thoroughly enjoyed their tour of the CERN site (which was so big, they had to take their passports!) and learnt even more about the particle physics they have been studying as part of their A level course. However, more importantly, they were able to see real-life Physicists at work in a vibrant research environment, and how the Physics they had been taught in the classroom was being put into action in the real world.

While in Geneva, the group also had the chance to meet up with their friend Luca Montanelli. Luca is from Geneva but spent last year studying Physics at Upton

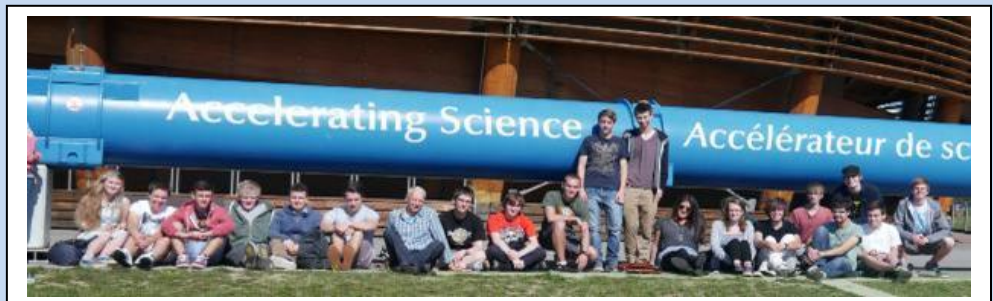


as part of the European Exchange programme. A number of students from Upton have kept in touch with Luca and he was keen to catch-up with them all and show off his home city.

The rest of the weekend was spent enjoying the sights and sounds of beautiful Geneva. As well as the obligatory visit to a local bowling alley, the group strolled through the Old Town, enjoyed a bike ride around the lake, took a cable car up into the mountain and visited Geneve Plage, a large water park on the banks of the lake.

After a fantastic few days, the group landed safely back at Manchester Airport on Sunday evening, tired but inspired by everything they had seen and experienced. All that now remains is to say a big thank you to Mr Bell and Ms Chaudhry for chaperoning the visit and also to the students, who - as commented on by a member of the public - behaved impeccably throughout.

The Physics Department are currently planning a visit to The Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. Any interested Year 9 and 10 students should see Ms Chaudhry ASAP.



Stitching East & West together



Upton High School and Al Khansa students in Yemen have worked together with Mrs Thompson and Miss Dahaq (Sana'a) on a joint GCSE Textiles project. Using photographs from Chester and Sana'a, both walled cities, each group of students designed an embroidered street scene. Chester students produced "streets of Sana'a" whilst the Yemeni students embroidered Chester's distinctive Eastgate clock. Half of the work produced in each school was exchanged and students were able to enjoy their counterparts' work whilst also appreciating each other's cultures. The spectacular display can be seen in the International Learning Hub and serves as a reminder of the school's outstanding global links.