**Sparking Science**

**Report 2017**

This is the second year that we have done Sparking Science.

Having spoken to teachers at secondary level at Skirting Science, we realised that girls need to be enthused about science in primary school. Primary teachers are often not confident teaching science so the project was designed to educate the girls and empower the teachers in science, enabling them to educate their classes. We also wanted to challenge the gender stereotypes by providing a dance workshop for the boys.

Year 4 children from local primary schools attended Churchill Academy where they did 3 science experiments, taught by girls in the sixth form and year 7 girls, thus empowering the older girls and educating the primary girls,and enabling the secondary students to pass on their knowledge. Resources were provided for the primary girls to teach the experiments in their own schools. At the end of the session, the girls went to watch the boy's dance routine, supported by year 7 boys.

**What was the result of this project?**

The girls had a wonderful time in the science laboratories completing the experiments. Primary girls were empowered to return to their own school to educate other students about the experiments that they had done. Teachers were given resources so that they could replicate the experiments at their own school, thus empowering them and enabling them to complete some simple science experiments. This gave them the confidence to do some simple science experiments with their own classes.

Many thanks to all those who helped with this project, particularly Anne Graham who organised everything with Churchill School – we just turned up to help and have fun.

Ruth Thomas

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