INVENTION CONVENTION AT AN ENGLISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

CASTME is the only Commonwealth NGO, which acts as an umbrella for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths learning in and out of schools and in the community. STEM (Science technology, engineering and maths) learning is an initiative of a number of countries. The Next Generation Science Standards seek to links all these aspects of learning. Further details of theses can be found on the Internet. One of CASTME’s Associates is lead science teacher ,as well as Assistant Headteacher in her school, who strives to link these system subjects in formal learning and in other activities. She recently held a schoolwide Invention Convention. English Primary schools admit children from the ages of 5 through to 11 years. Some primary schools are split up into Infant and Junior levels. Sometimes together are separate schools on the same site or even tag different locations. Increasingly two schools are merged to form one; primary schools with a nursery. The infant age range (Key Stage 1) is from age **5** to **7**. There is an early years class often called Reception for children aged 4 to 5 just starting school at the start of the term in which become 5 years old. .

Introduction from CASTME Associate Kulvinder Johal

As part of STEM learning, we have been encouraging our pupils to be engineers, architects and to create a new invention.

The aim has been for pupils to work on a project at home and possibly with their parents/carers.

They should be using STEM as a focal point and the invention should be innovative and Pupils should be able to create a prototype for it.

Pupils from Year1 through to year 6 are encouraged to take part and put forward their rationale and their idea. They are provided with a template on which to describe their rationale and draw their invention.



All entries are judged and then a selection are invited to take part in the ‘Invention Convention ‘main event. Here, pupils are given a tabletop space, to showcase their invention. The tabletop can be decorated with pictures, photos and the actual prototype. Parents are invited to help their children set up their tables.

At the end of the school day, the Invention Convention is opened up to the school community to come and look at the various inventions and try them out.

They vote for their favourite invention.

Two prizes are awarded for KS1 and KS2

Each entry to the convention is also awarded a certificate.

Last year our winner had designed a personalised asthma pump holder- it was excellent.

Here are some of the entries for `INVENTION CONVENTION 2018.