

Science fair a hit with kids

By KATIE UPTON

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"There's a good chance I'll be a scientist..."

Ten-year-old pupil Rio Louth is conducting experiments to make liquids fizz, bubble and bang.

The Marton Primary School pupil added: "Science is really interesting."

Mission accomplished then for Holy Family Primary School teacher Kerry Capoverde, whose aim to inspire in youngsters a love of science is taking off.

The Year Three teacher at the North Shore school or-

ganised Blackpool's first Celebrating Science Conference on Wednesday, welcoming more than 150 children from 23 schools across the Fylde to St Mary's Catholic College, in St Walburga's Road, Blackpool.

During the event children had chance to see tarantulas, to learn about care of creatures, try out chemical reaction experiments and build electrical circuits.

"I want a bigger focus on science in schools. I want children to look forward the lessons and feel inspired," said Miss Capoverde.

"The children were all really engaged and enjoying the

Top facilities for science conference

Children spent time with 12 science based organisations at St Mary's Catholic College, with high school students helping the younger ones and showing off their new school facilities.

Headteacher Stephen Tierney said: "Our new design really suits days like this, I'm grateful Kerry asked us to get involved."

"I used to teach science and it's the kind of subject where you can really get children going and that's when you get some really good thinking."



FLASH BANG Scientist Claire Holt with Marton Primary School pupils Elizabeth Chambers, Rio Louth, Louis Lowin and Eva Jaiyeole at the Celebrating Science Conference held at St Mary's Catholic College

practical activities."

Rio's classmate Louis Lowin, nine, said: "We got some lemon juice and put bicarbonate of soda in and it frothed up - it was amazing."

The day also offered training in delivering science classes for primary school teachers.

Miss Capoverde added:

"Hopefully teachers will take away lots of ideas so there is lots going on in schools."

Scientists, engineers and experts from Electrocitiy, Global Renewables, Scholastic, The Solaris Centre, Springfields Fuels and Flash Bang taught youngsters about everything from nuclear fuels, solar energy, biology and nature.

Representatives from the Creepy Crawly Roadshow, Brainpop, Primary Science Quality Mark, STEM, The Institute of Outdoor Learning and Field Studies Council also worked with youngsters.

Claire Holt, MD of Flash Bang, said: "The conference was fantastic. It's lovely to see such enthusiastic children."

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