

John Flamsteed Wins Prestigious Industry Competition

On Tuesday 15th March a team of year 9 students, consisting of Jessica Hancock, Alfie Northage, George Sutton and Romany Whittall took part in the prestigious iRail2016 event at the iPro Stadium in Derby. 20 schools from Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire were split into two strands, one designing the future of rail transportation and proposing new testing methods for new trains.

The team from John Flamsteed was given the task of designing how railway carriages might be improved to make train travel quicker and more comfortable in the future which would be presented to a Dragon's Den style panel of judges comprising of railway industry professionals.

The day also included a visit to the Bombardier Transportation factory to see how they are manufacturing and testing new trains. The visit provided a close up view of the railway industry and gave the students a chance to quiz industry experts to gain as much information as possible to help with the presentation.

Once back at the iPro the team set about designing their carriages of the future and planning the presentation. They soon came up with a series of great ideas, which they felt sure would impress the judges, and before they knew it, it was time for the presentations to begin. There were over 100 students from across the East Midland taking part in the event, and the standard of competition was really high. Team Flamsteed presented their ideas, which were well scripted, slick and included some excellent ideas which were both creative and innovative.

The team did a superb job, and provided some excellent in-depth answers to the very demanding questioning from a panel of industry experts. The judging panel had no hesitation in voting the JFCS presentation and innovative ideas as the best.

As winners of the Rolling Stock challenge, the JFCS team went head-to-head against the winners of the testing challenge winners. Once again they did another superb presentation, impressing industry experts with their enthusiasm and creativity, and the judges were unanimous in awarding John Flamsteed the prize as overall winners.

I was extremely proud of their performance and the team was another great example of the excellent creative thinking and resourcefulness of JFCS students.



