**BCS (Bedford Branch)** **Cyber Challenge**

**Prize Presentation**

50 students, teachers and parents attended the 2022 Cyber Challenge competition prize presentation at the Digital Aviation Research and Technology Centre at Cranfield University on 7 July 2022.

A group of people posing for a photo

Description automatically generated

Since 2013, the BCS Bedford Branch has been running a competition to cultivate young computing leaders. The competition is open to all Year 5 to Year 10 students from schools in the areas of Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire, Luton Borough, Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire.

160 entries were received from schools in the areas of Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire, Luton Borough, Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire. The judges were looking for:

* Creativity
* Selection use, combination and presentation of images and text
* The appropriate choice and use of programming instructions and should include Custom blocks, Loops and Variables
* The clarity of the finished presentation in demonstrating improved learning outcomes

The submission quality is very high, and the judging panel had to make difficult choices.

Selected quality entries were shown off to inspire the future computing leaders. Jayla from Mark Rutherford shared how she has gained from her competition experience and looking forward to starting her computing career in a game development company.

The award winners are:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **First** | **Second** | **Third** |
| **Year 5** | Emilia and Amy *Heatherton Prep School* | Avni & Daisy  *Hills Academy* | Seb  *Hills Academy* |
| **Year 6** | Josh F, Issy M, Franklin  *Leighton Middle School* | Greta  *High Ash CE School* | Alfie  *Hills Academy* |
| **Year 7** | Ava P, Naomi O, Sarah J & Rabiya R *Watling Academy* | Mia J & Zaina S *Watling Academy* | Isha & Ope  *Watling Academy* |
| **Year 8** | Camila, Lara & Sophie  *Watling Academy* | Ayaan W & Hakan D *Watling Academy* | Jenisha, Kiera, Sian & Evelyn  *Watling Academy* |
| **Year 9** | Harry  *Bedford School* | Alex  *Mark Rutherford* |  |
| **Year 10** | Harrison  *Mark Rutherford* | Octavia  *Mark Rutherford* |  |

After the prizes were presented, the visitors toured the Cranfield 737 Ground Demonstrator and the Digital MRO Laboratory.

A group of people standing on the tarmac of an airplane

Description automatically generated with low confidence

The Bedford Branch committee congratulates the students, their teachers and parents who supported them. We look forward to seeing them again at the 2023 competition.

Dr Ip-Shing Fan, chair of the BCS Bedford Branch said: “There’s a huge computing skills shortage in the UK and this competition aims to inspire young people to think about careers in IT, by developing their skills. We work with the teachers support networks to improve the computing learning experience in our local schools.”