



The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form

Executive Headteacher: **Mrs L Walton** BA (Hons)



www.ripleyacademy.org
01773 746334
enquiries@ripleyacademy.org

Head of School: **Mr J de Rijk** BA (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: **Miss J Scattergood** BEd (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: **Mrs J Thawley** BSc (Hons)

6th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Big Bang Digital

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, this year's Big Bang Fair at the NEC in Birmingham has unfortunately been cancelled. Our plans were to take the whole of Year 7 to this event, as we have done in previous years. Due to the event's cancellation, the organisers of the event have created an online version of the event which will take place on the 14th of July and has been named 'Big Bang Digital'.

The online version of the event will be a day of inspiring online sessions to give young people a front row view of the incredible contribution of scientists, healthcare professionals, engineers, technicians and students in responding to Covid-19. Students will get to hear from the people using their skills and experience to fight Covid-19 on the frontline, to keep things moving, keep the lights on and keep food in the shops. Students will also discover how people have been supporting the environment and promoting wellbeing. Sessions include:

- The worldwide race to develop a vaccine (GSK)
- New habits to protect the planet: the environmental impact of staying at home (Plastic Oceans)
- Young talent against Covid-19 (Big Bang Competition winners)
- Designing a social distancing lanyard (RS Components)
- Rebuilding a greener future (The Environment Agency)
- Keeping the water flowing (Thames Water)
- Designing a low-cost ventilator (Imperial College London)
- Feeding the nation (Harper Adams University)

If any student from Year 7 through to Year 10 wishes to attend any of the online sessions, then they can use any desktop, phone or tablet on the 14th of July and access this event at www.digitalbigbang.co.uk. Please look at the website in advance to see what else is on offer during the day.

I hope you enjoy the sessions and find them interesting. Please note, this is not an event organised by the school and so we will not be able to support with any technical issues which you may have at home.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Kirkland
EMET Director of Science

The Ripley Academy, Peasehill, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3JQ.