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Children are nutty professors

BY DAN MOLYNEUX

PUPILS in Chorley were blown away with the power of science as **Lab in a Lorry** visited their school for a day.

Lab in a Lorry is a mobile science lab experience run by volunteers which has recently visited the areas of Chorley and Preston in order to make science and engineering a lot more attractive to 11-14-year-olds.

It visited Holy Cross High School as part of the Lancashire Science Festival which was held at UCLan in Preston from June 28 to 30.

Each lorry contains three lab areas where groups of up to six people can take part in fun and informative experiments, without setting the place on fire!

Around 90 students took part in the activities, mostly from year seven and a handful from years eight and nine.

Sean Hardley, who is a science teacher at Holy Cross said: "The whole day was a success and I would very much like to get involved with **Lab In A Lorry** again.

"The pupils enjoyed in particular

how unusual the experiments were and how hands-on the experience was."

Sean mentioned that next year he would like to introduce the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) programme into Holy Cross. This is an enrichment programme which encourages and educates students who want to pursue a career in maths and science.

James Banford, spokesman for the Institute of Physics said: "**Lab in a Lorry** is a fantastic experience for young people.

"It generates excitement and curiosity in science by letting them explore experimental science for themselves with the help of expert mentors."

The programme consists of two 44ft high lorries that have been visiting schools, youth organisations and major events in the UK and Ireland since early 2005 and it is all free of charge.

For more information on partnerships, volunteering and how to join in, please visit the official website at www.labinalorry.org.uk.



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FINDING THE RIGHT FORMULA: Pupils from Holy Cross School using the Lorry in a Lab

