



### Nottingham Girls' High School mathematicians in WORLD finals

Two Year 7 mathematicians from Nottingham Girls' High School had the huge privilege of representing a ten-strong team at the world finals of the Jaguar 'Maths in Motion' challenge at the British Motor Museum in Gaydon, Warwickshire on Wednesday 21 June.



Jitong Yi and Jessica Abrams, along with eight of their teammates, had worked hard during Maths Club sessions on this amazing challenge which is now in its sixteenth year. The challenge, created by car manufacturing giants Jaguar Land Rover, aims to engage and motivate young people and show them some of the practical uses of maths in the real world, and also prove to them that maths can be fun.

Using 'Cloud' based software that simulates the setting up of a racing car, the girls had to

complete a series of STEM relevant tasks in an effort to produce the perfect 'virtual' car. This activity involved a wide range of basic mathematical skills, some practical, being used and applied in order to design and make their car. The girls also had to use their mathematical skills, without the aid of a calculator or any other form of assistance, to work their way through a whole range of issues relating to motor racing in order to become race ready. Grand Prix style races then took place throughout the year resulting in the girls from Nottingham Girls' High School reaching the finals along with twelve other teams not only from the UK, but from as far afield as China and Australia.



The girls were very excited to be representing their team at the finals and said: "The experience was very fun and the museum was brilliant, even though we didn't come close to winning it was a fabulous experience,

especially working together and finally being able to enter into the Maths in Motion WORLD FINAL. We would love to do it again next year.”

As well as representing the school, the girls were also representing one of only two girls’ schools in the final. Over 100,000 students altogether registered to take part in the contest, making it a real achievement to get through to this stage. They enjoyed the experience very much and having started 30th on the grid, managed to overtake some of the competition to move up the leader board finishing in 21<sup>st</sup> place, and came 10<sup>th</sup> out of 14 in the senior section. This is quite an accomplishment given that they are still just in Year 7 and it was a WORLD final.



Teacher Eileen Thorne, who accompanied the girls on the trip said: “I was very proud of the way the girls conducted themselves and handled the different mathematical calculations under pressure to submit their car in under 1 and a half hours.”

Brian Richardson who is the Chief co-ordinator of the Maths in Motion programme congratulated the girls on their impeccable behaviour, giving the school another reason to be so proud of the girls who were such great ambassadors.

Head, Julie Keller, added: “I am so proud of the whole team, and of Jessica and Jitong who represented them. Their passion for Maths and STEM subjects is inspiring and their success in getting through to a world class final is phenomenal and deserves to be congratulated. Well done girls”

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **About Nottingham Girls’ High School**

Nottingham Girls’ High School is an independent day school for girls between the ages of 4 – 18. Part of the GDST (Girls’ Day School Trust) Nottingham Girls’ High School is one of the largest schools within the group with over 800 pupils.

#### **About the GDST**

The Girls’ Day School Trust (GDST) is the leading group of independent girls’ schools in the UK, with nearly 4,000 staff and 20,000 students between the ages of three and 18. As a charity that owns and runs a family of 24 schools and two academies in England and Wales, it reinvests all its income in its schools. Founded in 1872, the GDST has a long history of pioneering innovation in the education of girls.

For more details about GDST schools, please go to [www.gdst.net](http://www.gdst.net) and follow us on Twitter @GDST