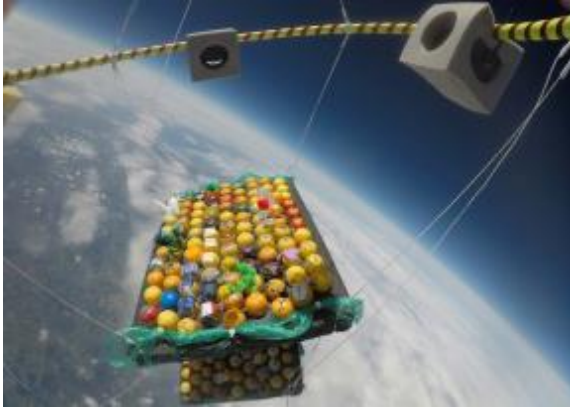


An 'a-mars-ing' opportunity for Upper 1



Dr Newton arranged an amazing opportunity for the children in Prep, and Upper 1 have been the lucky children chosen to participate.

The MARSballoon experiment is a nation-wide opportunity for children to send experiments into space! The experiments are attached to a high-altitude balloon and sent 30km into the sky.

At this altitude, the conditions are very closely matched to the conditions found on Mars. The results from the experiments can help scientists to discover what may be possible for humans to achieve if they were to ever colonise the planet.

We have been chosen to send 3 experiments on the balloon. The only catch is that the experiment **MUST** fit into the inside of a Kinder Egg (Miss Hayter volunteered to eat 6 of these to provide the required equipment – anything for the children!).

After some careful thought and discussion, we have chosen to send:

- A seed with some damp paper, to see if it will germinate.
- Tomato and pea seeds (because we would want to eat these if we were in space!).
- Honey, to see if the conditions on Mars would affect a food item that could also be used medicinally.

The MARSballoon team will attach a camera to the balloon so that we can watch our experiments reach up into the atmosphere as it happens! We are all super excited to watch what happens and to conduct our full investigations once the experiments are returned to Earth!

Miss Beth Hayter and Mrs Alex Arundale