



Urmston Grammar School

1st June 2026

Dear parents and carers of Year 8 pupils,

We are thrilled to present an exciting opportunity for your child to participate in the Faraday Engineering Challenge Day, themed "Make it to Mars," here at Urmston Grammar. The event will take place on Friday 26th June and Monday 29th June. It will run from 11:10 am to 3:15 pm, with selected students participating on one of the specified days. The earlier date notably overlaps with the Year 8 Paris trip and pupils have the option to select a preference for the day they wish to participate. We will do our best to accommodate these requests within the limited availability. The primary goal of this day is to provide pupils with firsthand experience of the problem-solving and interdisciplinary aspects of engineering. Throughout the day, students will construct a model rocket, assemble and program a rocket carrier for transporting the rocket, and ultimately launch the rocket using compressed air. Guidance and materials will be provided to facilitate the challenge.

The school day's timing will remain unchanged, and students are expected to wear their school uniform and bring necessary equipment for Periods 1 and 2. They should make their usual arrangements for lunch. From 11:10 am onwards, participating students will not attend regular lessons but will complete the Faraday Challenge. We particularly encourage female students to participate, as women are currently underrepresented in the field of engineering, despite it offering highly paid, flexible, and stimulating career opportunities.

If you wish for your child to participate, please print and complete the attached reply slip and return it to the main science prep room (located between labs S7 and S8) by Wednesday 17th June. Paper copies of this letter will also be available in the prep room on request for your convenience. Additionally, pupils can indicate their preferred team (up to 4 members) on the reply slip; otherwise, they will be assigned to a team. Please note that places are limited, and the final list of participants will be posted on the noticeboard outside the main prep room on Friday 19th June.

Kind regards,
Mr R Murray
Physics department

2026 YEAR 8 FARADAY CHALLENGE. Hand in to main science prep room only by **Wednesday 17th June**.

I give permission for my child (NAME) _____ in (FORM) _____ to attend.

Parent / guardian (NAME) _____ (SIGNED) _____

Please confirm the availability for each date (one or both). Friday 26th Monday 29th

Team members preference (max. 3 others):