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West Mids school children get electrifying lesson

Children at Goodyers End Primary School in Bedworth were buzzing after a lesson on electricity.

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- **National Grid treats Bedworth school children to electrifying lesson**
- **Pupils enjoy hair-raising experiments with electricity during school science show**
- **National Grid working locally on £15m project to upgrade power lines**

A visit from National Grid left youngsters at Goodyers End Primary School in Bedworth buzzing. More than 160 students were given a hair-raising insight into electricity through a hands-on education session powered by National Grid and education provider, Mad Science.

National Grid has been refurbishing a 20km stretch of overhead power line between Hams Hall near Coleshill and Bedworth and organised the session to teach the children about some interesting aspects of the science behind electricity. Pupils also learned about National Grid's role in supplying the local area's energy, both today and historically.

Mad Science ran workshops for the whole school, exploring the subject of electricity through a range of exciting interactive demonstrations which ranged from human circuits to plasma lamps. They learned about static electricity using a metal ball to show how static could make hair stand on end. They also had the chance to use a Van de Graaf generator to create the electrostatic energy and learnt about chemical luminescence.

National Grid project engineer, Ben McKenzie-Williams, said: "We'd like to thank the pupils and staff at Goodyers End Primary School for their warm welcome. Sharing the knowledge and experience we have at National Grid with the community is important to us. Using our education sessions to enhance the curriculum for young people in science and technology benefits their learning and inspires future engineers. We really enjoyed delivering the session with Mad Science and showing the children, the important role electricity plays in the region's everyday life."

Mrs Rees, head teacher at Goodyers End Primary School, said: "It was great to have National Grid and Mad Science visit. The pupils loved learning about how electricity has shaped their lives today and asking the engineers about the work they're doing. Our thanks go out to them for organising such an innovative and informative session."

The first phase of the overhead line refurbishment project is due to finish this winter, and the second phase will start in 2019. More information is available at <http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/In-your-area/Projects/Coleshill-Bedworth/>

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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