

Computers



We are doing our most ambitious project yet for Young Scientist. This year we are returning to the very first project we ever exhibited - Flight. However we plan to take the project a little further by - as well as discovering the mechanics of flight - looking at how rockets fly. Finally, we will display our 'Flight Website' on a computer that we will have built ourselves.

We hope to use only 'Open Source' software to operate one of two machines, and Windows XP the other. Linux compares very well with Windows and is certainly becoming a popular alternative.

Will we achieve the above? We'll do our best!

The computer is almost finished and has Ubuntu, a version of the Linux operating system, installed. We are very grateful to Paul O'Malley of Irish Linux Users' Group for spending a day with us to show how this is done.

Our thanks also to Pat Seaver of the Blackrock Education Centre for putting us in touch.

A fuller account of our computer assembling, together with more photographs, will appear here very soon.