

9 May 2025

HSBC Malta Foundation supports the 6th edition of the Primary STEM Challenge

HSBC Malta Foundation is once again supporting the Primary STEM Challenge, an initiative that encourages young students to develop scientific thinking, problem-solving skills, and a passion for Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) subjects. Now in its sixth edition, the challenge provides an exciting opportunity for primary school students in Years 3 to 6 to engage in hands-on scientific investigations and present their findings through short video projects.

The Primary STEM Challenge initiative is organised by the Primary Science Team within the Directorate for STEM and Vocational Education & Training (VET) Programmes within the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation. The initiative aims to make STEM subjects more accessible and engaging while fostering critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication among young learners.

Students participating in the challenge will explore one of three STEM themes, namely nature, colour and sound and create a three-minute video showcasing their investigation process. These entries will be evaluated based on scientific inquiry, presentation, and communication skills.

As part of its commitment to supporting education and innovation, HSBC Malta Foundation is providing the awards for the top three winners in each theme and a classroom prize for the best collective investigation.

Esplora Interactive Science Centre is providing science kits and books for the Science Communication Award prize to one participant for each theme.

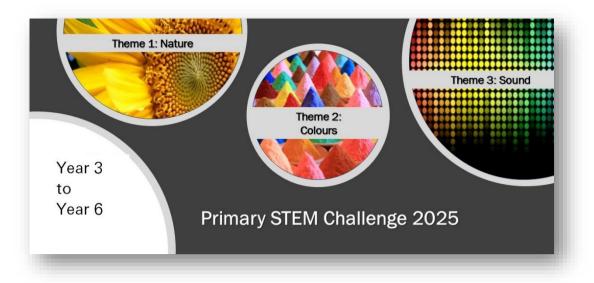
Glenn Bugeja at HSBC Malta, said, "The Primary STEM Challenge plays a vital role in inspiring the next generation of scientists, engineers, and problem-solvers. HSBC Malta Foundation is proud to continue its support for this initiative, which not only nurtures curiosity but also equips students with essential skills for the future."

Isabel Zerafa, Education Officer for Primary Science said, "During hands-on, minds-on science investigations, students actively explore their curiosity while cultivating critical 21st century skills and evidence-based reasoning that are essential foundations for developing engaged, informed citizens of tomorrow."

The challenge is open to both individual students and classroom groups, with the best entries receiving recognition for their investigative approach, scientific accuracy, and ability to communicate findings effectively. Participants will also be invited to share their video investigations as part of the 2025 Great Science Share for Schools. This global, award-winning campaign inspires students to ask, investigate and share scientific questions that matter to them, and reaches over 40 countries with over 700,000 young people taking part.

Winners will be announced during the national Primary Science Fair on Thursday 15th May 2025 at the STEM & VET Curriculum Hub, Pembroke. Details of awardees will be published on the STEM & VET Curriculum Hub Facebook page.

HSBC Malta Foundation remains committed to investing in education and skills development, ensuring that young minds are empowered to embrace science and technology as tools for shaping the future.



Photocaption: The three STEM themes, <u>nature</u>, <u>colour</u> and <u>sound</u> which were explored by primary school students in Years 3 to 6

HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c.

HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. is a member of the HSBC Group, whose ultimate parent company is HSBC Holdings plc. HSBC Malta provides a comprehensive range of financial services which are all designed to meet the expanding requirements of its large client base of personal and corporate customers. These include Wealth and Personal Banking, Commercial Banking and Global Markets. Registered in Malta number C3177. Registered Office: 116, Archbishop Street, Valletta VLT 1444, Malta. HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. is regulated and licensed to carry out the business of banking and investment services in terms of the Banking Act (Cap. 371 of the Laws of Malta) and the Investment Services Act (Cap. 370 of the Laws of Malta) by the Malta Financial Services Authority.

HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of HSBC, is headquartered in London. HSBC serves customers worldwide from offices in 58 countries and territories. With assets of US\$3,054bn at 31 March 2025, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.