

TEAM PROFILE

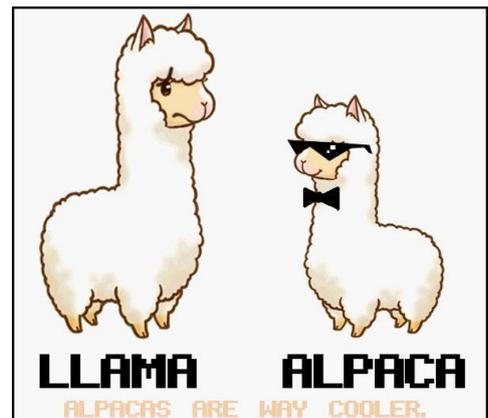
Hi, we'd like to introduce you to our team: "Alpacapunch"!



We've got an interesting and unique name, right? Well, the name was actually developed over several meetings. It began with a simple brainstorming session, where, because of the car name "Jaguar" – ideas surrounding Animals, Slovakia, as well as some other key elements were being mind-mapped.

On the topic of animals, Lamas were thrown into the discussions, which led to a debate about the difference between Lama's and Alpaca's. The team broke for an intermission – after which a couple of team members were joking around with a pun that had evolved from the conversation "Alpacapunch". Bomin was busy minuting this as it was proposed as a team name and quickly

seconded. Several members did not like the name; but at the second meeting, the play on words and the phrase "I'll pack a punch!" was explained. By this stage, the team had already developed the team identity enough to know that this phrase really suited us. Our name shows that we present more than first meets the eye and that we will 'Pack a punch'.



Our School is in Slovakia, but our team members are really diverse representing four different continents!! We come from Slovakia, Korea, China, Australia, and the USA.

Our school is called "The British International School, Bratislava". It is a Nord Anglia Education school, whose motto "Be Ambitious" promotes undertaking challenges and has fuelled our desire to attend and compete to our utmost in this world class event.



Our school is located in Bratislava, the capital city of Slovakia, a country in central Europe. Bratislava is known as “the little big city!”.

Our team consists of 3 males and 3 females. We are proud of our 50:50 ratio because this is the gender ratio on planet Earth and we feel that Women should have this kind of representation in the STEM workplace, including what we hope will one day be equal representation of Women in Engineering. The ratio wasn't made this way by design, because we all had to undergo an interview process and we were very lucky that we had such strong and fabulous representation by both girls and boys.



Saturday Session: Pizza Break!

We are in the process of developing our Social Media presence. You can find us at the following places and we hope you will “like” us and “follow” us :)

1. Link to [Facebook](#) page
2. Team [Twitter](#) Handle
3. [Instagram](#)
4. [YouTube](#)
5. Link to Team [Website](#)
6. snapchat name:alpacapunch2016
7. Periscope: alpacapunch2016

meeting our “100th” Facebook liker: Bronislav Dvorecka



Staff members at our school gave nominations of Potential Team Members to our Lead Teacher, Dr. Plant. She approached a heap of students with the one question “Are you interested in Engineering?” The answer “Yes” (or the occasional “Tell Me More”) led to an invitation to a morning briefing detailing and announcing this exciting project. By the next day we had to attend short and intense interviews where we had to outline what job we wanted and why, as well as explain our previous strengths and what we could contribute to the team. The focus was not so much on skills, but more on flexibility, teamwork, and just a strong desire to commit to an Engineering Project.

We were all interviewed by a panel of 3 sixth form students. Then we found out that we had been chosen! We have diverse background of ages ranging from 12 through to 18, and a very diverse range of background experiences. Some of our team members have been involved in international competitions before some have not. Some of our team members have been involved Engineering and Science competitions before, some have not. Some of our members have been to the UK before and some have not. We are all very excited about this amazing opportunity.

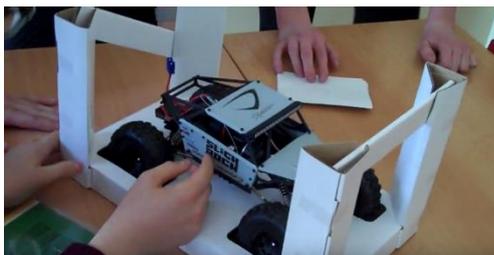


We can't describe our team in 3 words. We actually need 4. Trust me, this has been discussed in the early stages of the team. We came up with: Rugged, Powerful, Safe, Eco. Our motto is #futureEngineering and our "hidden motto" is Rugged Beauty.

We plan to stand out at the world finals. To start with, on a lighter note, we believe the pun in our name makes shows our unique creativity. We believe we have a very diverse team of people and we have learned that this diversity has given us a great strength in terms of the level of team spirit we have developed.

We also are planning to ensure that our team and products will be reliable and rugged while at the same remaining eco-friendly and safe. This balance will be monitored by our Materials Engineer, Peter our Sustainability Engineer, Melissa, our Design Engineer, Lucy and our Team Manager, Tyger. The team identity will be overall maintained by Josh and in the meanwhile Bomin is the organiser of the group.

Our biggest surprise, that is TOP SECRET - which we do not want revealed until we get to Coventry, our car will have a functioning solar panel fitted on the roof!! We can't WAIT!!



We have really faced quite a lot of challenge. Mainly because of the time pressure on our team. But what has made it magical is that from some of the first moments when our group began to feel like a real team. It made us feel motivated to work together. For example, coming up with the name was a surprisingly difficult task. But the ridiculousness of the debates, the back and forths, the arguing, the discussion and compromises. This all lead to us actually bonding and wanting to succeed. And to succeed not as an individual but as a whole, as a team. The next exciting thing was the UNBOXING! We made a video and posted it on Facebook. You can see how excited we all are.



We believe the best moments are the ones that are often underrated. Small squabbles about baseball team support and crowded bus rides together to visit one of our corporate sponsors, Lenovo – these things bring about a lot small interesting moments to an otherwise serious competition setting. But one funny moment that stands out was the day we decided to do a materials testing of Mulched Cardboard. Interesting Fact – did you know that the Mulched cardboard we made turned out to be...

VERY SMELLY!

Each role comes with its own challenges, leading to an overall challenge of cooperating and accommodating different opinions and skill sets. Initially trying to set up meaningful ways to communicate effectively outside of school times was a challenge. Also, half the team are sitting either IGCSEs or IB exams at the same time as trying to work on this project, so really time management, being organised, coping with many tasks, and being responsible to the whole team is the biggest challenge. This is why we have put into place things such as a Gantt Chart, meeting agendas, minutes and an up-coming to do list. So we are trying to develop processes and behaviours to cope with and overcome these challenges. Our biggest challenge now is that we are running low on time!

The thing we are most looking forward to at the world finals are the track reveal as well as seeing our team work really in action and under pressure. We hope we will pull it all together and be able to handle the driving of the vehicle around the course. We have some strategies to ensure that we utilise each team member to the best of his or her strengths in the different driving components. We are also excited about building the pit display under a time limit. Hopefully, once again, team work will be on our side during that stage of the competition. And absolutely we are looking forward to our final product coming together, as well as meeting all the other teams, and also having a tour around a real car manufacturing plant of Land Rover there in Coventry.

Despite it being our first attendance, we are ambitious and motivated. We are hoping to above all enjoy the experience, but not lose the will to achieve results at the same time. We would be really thrilled to get called onto stage to win an award. But we know this is a very tough competition, so most of all we want to have a really fun, memorable and challenging experience. We hope to be able to drive the car well. We want to have an excellent Verbal Presentation. We want our Pit Display to stand out and we are putting a lot of work also into the Portfolio. We hope our car will wow people, especially with its solar panel. And also, we hope to have some, or maybe even lots, of Sponsors!