time trend analysis

during an outbreak does the school data go up in the same way as the GP data? Does it go up before, at the same time or after? Why might this be?

is there any relationship between the school illness data and national flu-like illness data?

are there any differences between year groups? why might this be?

does the pattern you spotted get better or worse when you change from **national** flu-like illness to each of the **regions**?

are there issues with confounding at your school? (e.g. where there is a peak at your school do you remember something else happening that could have caused a lot of people to be ill but not have flu?)

how certain can you be that the peaks you are looking at are real and not just due to chance occurrence?

—School
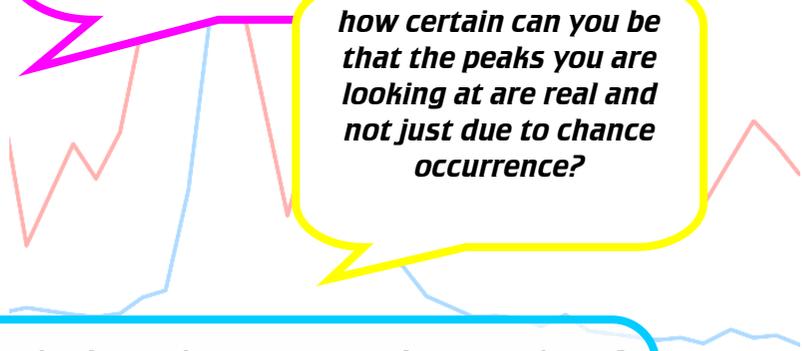
At any time in the project you can ask a question of one of our scientists. They <u>might</u> be able to offer some help. Don't forget that the reason we're doing this though is that we don't have all the answers. It's possible that <u>no-one</u> will know the answer to your question!

linear regression analysis

what are your dependent and independent variables? what kind of variables are they?

can you describe the relationship between your chosen variables?

can you use your understanding of how diseases are spread to think of a possible explanation for the correlation (or lack of correlation) you have described?

if you find a correlation between illness and an outbreak variable in the peak illness week, does that correlation still hold in other weeks?
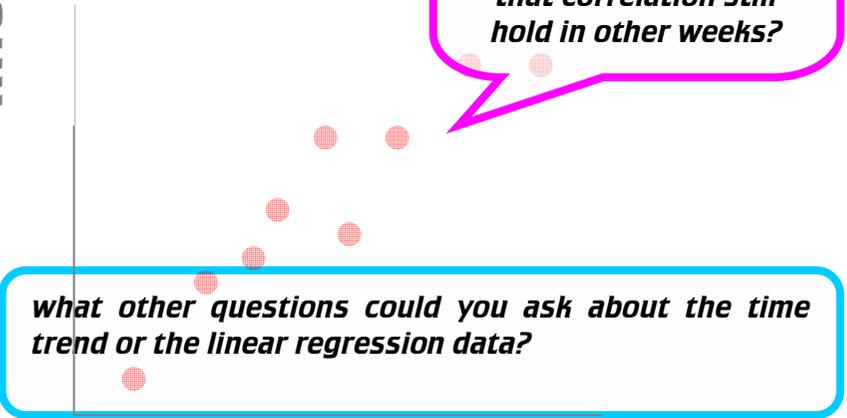
what other questions could you ask about the time trend or the linear regression data?