

LASAR ~ Newsletter no. 10 (December 2014)

Dear Reader,

We hope you enjoy reading about our upcoming events and also the events so far this year that have taken place at the University of Reading. Information about the wider project is also included.

Upcoming events:

- Primary Event (Year 6): Wednesday 11th March 2015
- Secondary Event (Year 10-13): Wednesday 24th June 2015
- Teacher CPD events: ongoing (please enquire)

Please contact lasar@reading.ac.uk to register your interest or to find out more about any of these events.

Primary Event 12.11.2014

Our most recent event on 12th November saw over 300 ten-year old children and teachers from 11 different schools around Berkshire at the Institute of Education for a jam-packed day of activities, experiments and talks exploring the big questions that bridge science and religion. This was the first LASAR event for primary schoolchildren.



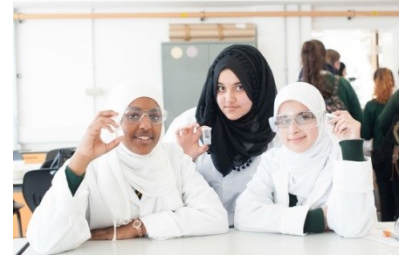
Schools brought between six and fifty year six pupils and after the opening session, groups of fifteen to twenty pupils split off to various rooms and laboratories around the campus to participate in workshops that had been especially designed with the event in mind, looking at topics of light, evolution, the Big Bang, philosophy and more. Schools participated in creative workshops, interactive performances, philosophical debates and laboratory experiments whilst leading scholars and scientists encouraged the students to engage in the wider question of whether science and religion can fit together.





Secondary Event

On September 24th 2014 over 350 secondary school students visited the University of Reading London Road campus for a cross-curricular day of talks and workshops run by LASAR. Students explored questions of genetics, robotics, philosophy and more in a variety of workshops, talks and debates.



Resources for schools

With the teaching of evolution in the Year 6 classroom now compulsory under the National Curriculum, we are very interested to hear what teachers' main concerns are about this. With the view of producing accessible resources and improving guidance for primary school teachers, we are holding a series of professional development workshops on topics surrounding Evolution. If you are affected by these curriculum changes or would like to let us know your thoughts on the matter, we would love to hear from you. Register your interest for an upcoming CPD workshop or contact us at lasar@reading.ac.uk.

Best wishes from,

Lucy

Lucy Timms

LASAR (Learning about Science and Religion) Project Administrator

For more information about the Learning About Science And Religion project and associated research, please contact Dr Berry Billingsley at b.billingsley@reading.ac.uk or visit us at www.faradayschools.com and www.lasarproject.com