

## LASAR ~ Newsletter no. 15 (Summer 2016)



Dear Reader,

### Upcoming events for schools

Booking is now open for our summer term events for Primary and Secondary pupils.

- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016 (Year 10-13)
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016 (Year 6)
- Both events are at the London Road Campus, University of Reading.

Our events for Year 6 look at topics bridging science and religion with a particular focus on Origins – as the topic of Evolution is now a compulsory part of the science curriculum from this year.

Secondary school pupils will experience a day of workshops, activities and debates exploring some of life's 'big questions'. Topics are addressed by leading scientists and experts and include genetics, robotics, origins, philosophy, ethics and more.



Registration forms and more information can be obtained by emailing [LASAR@reading.ac.uk](mailto:LASAR@reading.ac.uk) and visiting [www.faradayschools.com/events/](http://www.faradayschools.com/events/)

### New FREE resources for schools



Keep an eye on the FaradaySchools website for our new upcoming animation on Issac Newton!

Also check out our animations page at the link below to see free material on:

- Galileo and his big idea
- The Evolution of the Horse
- How does an ammonite become fossilised
- Mary Anning, the fossil hunter

<http://www.faradayschools.com/primary/animations/>

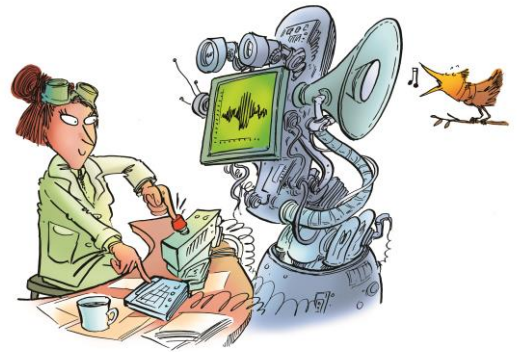


# Are you a Science Teacher or Computer Science teacher for Year 10 or above?

## Can a robot hear: pushing the boundaries of robotics

Calling all SCIENCE and COMPUTER SCIENCE teachers! Would you like to host a robotics workshop?

In this interactive workshop students discover strategies that engineers are using to produce robots that can think and behave in ever more humanlike and sophisticated ways. They learn that one strategy focuses on programming a digital computer to control a robot to perform particular behaviours; while another exploits plasticity in artificial analogue neurons to discover whether useful responses will emerge developmentally through exposure to stimuli. The objectives are for students to increase their understanding of cutting edge science and engineering, to develop and apply their analytic, problem-solving, design and computational thinking skills, as well as to appreciate that some of the questions are more amenable to scientific methods than others.



For further information on this workshop, or if you are interested in taking part please contact Zoe at [LASAR@reading.ac.uk](mailto:LASAR@reading.ac.uk).

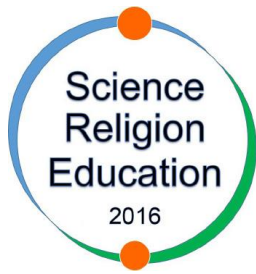
Join our research study called **'All in your genes?' Students' approaches to learning about science, personality and behaviour.**



Your students can participate in a workshop which addresses common misconceptions. The workshop covers GCSE content knowledge and key ideas from scholarly debates on genetic determinism (e.g. determinism and free will).

For more information on how to take part, contact Alessia at [LASAR@reading.ac.uk](mailto:LASAR@reading.ac.uk).

## Science & Religion in Education Conference 2016



New ways to discover and advance student's and the wider public's reasoning about science and religion.

**Date: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

**Time: 9.30 am- 5.30 pm**

**Location: University of Oxford, Department of Education**

A conference exploring links between education, science and religion, organised by the LASAR Project with the Department of Education, University of Oxford.

The conference will be beneficial for:

- Science teachers and educators
- RE teachers and educators
- Researchers in education
- Academics
- Postgraduate and undergraduate students studying related subjects

For more information about the conference and the call for papers please get in touch at [LASAR@reading.ac.uk](mailto:LASAR@reading.ac.uk), or visit [www.faradayschools.com/conference](http://www.faradayschools.com/conference).

## Science & Religion in Education Symposium 2016



Prior to the Science & Religion conference we are hosting a 2 day symposium on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2016 at the University of Reading. The purpose of this symposium is to facilitate meetings for future project collaborations. The symposium is open to all of those interested, particularly those who will be attending the conference on the 28<sup>th</sup> October in Oxford.

For more information about the symposium, please get in touch at [LASAR@reading.ac.uk](mailto:LASAR@reading.ac.uk).