

# THORPE ST ANDREW SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM ORBIT NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2021

## THE ROYAL SOCIETY

**The Royal Society** was founded in the time of King Charles II – the inaugural lecture was given by Sir Christopher Wren in November 1660. It is the UK's national science academy, and includes more than 1500 eminent scientists as fellows. As COP26 is dominating the news, why not look up some videos recorded for the RS by Sir David Attenborough. Don't miss the opportunity to explore some of the other resources on the Royal Society website!



The Royal Institution also promotes Science in the UK. They offer a series of November lectures which can be livestreamed. Click on the panel to go to their booking page.

Students interested in STEM subjects would do well to look at this set of lectures!

Look out for invitations to the Norfolk Cambridge Society's lectures. They are a group of Cambridge Alumnae, and they are able to attract some fascinating speakers to their events

**8 November**  
Theatre only

**11 November**  
Livestream

**15 November**  
Theatre & Livestream

**18 November**  
Livestream

**23 November**  
Livestream

**Thinking better: The art of the shortcut**  
- with Marcus du Sautoy

**Sticky: The secret science of surfaces**  
- with Laurie Winkless

**The invisible Universe**  
- with Matthew Bothwell

**Life as we made it**  
- with Beth Shapiro

**Climate change - innovate for the future**  
- in partnership with the Grantham Institute



**Gonville & Caius**  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

November sees the launch of this year's Cambridge Higher Aspiration Scheme (Norfolk), hosted by our Link Cambridge College. Caius (pronounced Keys) works closely with Norfolk schools to support aspiring students – alumni of the college include

Thorpies who studied Chemistry, and History! Watch for emails and publicity about the scheme from the County Council, and make sure you sign up. Click on the Caius logo to go to their page on the scheme.

## This Month's Twitter Highlights

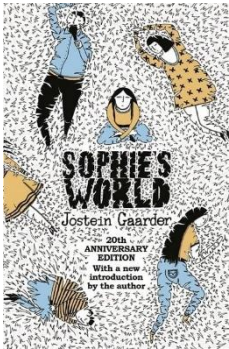
We follow the New Scientist, for tweets on Climate Change, Astronomy and more!



Don't forget to follow us – we tweet at @TSAS\_Orbit!

Each month we focus on a specific subject. This time we think about Philosophy!

## Read Something



There is a huge amount of literature that has a philosophical theme. Whether it's Alice in Wonderland, or the Matrix, there is plenty to get your brains engaged. For a very readable introduction to Philosophy, in the form of a novel, try ***Sophie's World***! For a more challenging read, go for Iris Murdoch or Kurt Vonnegut (who's Slaughterhouse Five is very thought provoking, though not an easy read)!

## Do Something

You would be forgiven for thinking that Philosophy isn't a particularly "active" pursuit. There is still plenty to be getting on with. Try one of these "Thought Experiments" – little theoretical puzzles that "boggle your mind". Make sure you take a look at the "Trolley Problem" – a puzzle which is vexing the self-drive car engineers.



## Visit Somewhere



If you get the chance, go down to London on the train, and visit the British Museum. The Enlightenment Gallery (shown here) charts the development of human knowledge as we began to replace religion with human reason.