

Science Club Annual Report (2019-2020)

The Invisible Universe- On 18th October 2019, The science club organized a seminar with Professor Pijushpani Bhattacharjee who addressed the students on the topic of 'The Invisible Universe'. He informed the students of recent developments in the field of astrophysics, namely the so called 'normal matter' that only makes up about 5% of the total matter in the Universe. He spoke about how the rest was 68% Dark Energy and 27% Dark Matter. His speech centered about the new discoveries in the field, and the various efforts that are being undertaken to find out more in the future.

The IRIS Project-A few interested students of grades 10-12 took part in the internationally recognized IRIS Project (acronym for The Institute for Research In Schools). Via this project, students were invited to work with astronomers from the UK Astronomy Technology Centre to identify potential targets for the James Webb Space Telescope. Scheduled for launch in 2020, Webb will help us understand more about how our Universe formed and evolved.

Students analysed a collection of data to correctly identify the celestial objects with the help of numerous guides, and had to polish their skills through the use of multiple training sets. As they worked through each, their skills were noticeably refined and their confidence grew, until finally they were given the final data sets; first hand readings from the Spitzer Space telescope. The students' findings were sent directly to scientists working on the telescope, which will form the first fully classified catalogue of these sources, which will be an extremely valuable resource for astronomers.

Students gained valuable data analysis skills, got a first-hand look at real world data, and played a large part in its sorting. They developed invaluable skills whilst also broadening their interests for the future. They received a taste of their possible futures as scientists, working at the forefront of the latest and most exciting discoveries.

The Science Club Magazine- The science club published a quarterly online magazine, that spoke about new discoveries, ideas and other happenings in the world of science. The articles of the magazine were written, compiled, designed and edited by members of the Science Club. It also contained information on the events and activities undertaken by the science club. For the academic year 2019 to 2020 there were four issues of the Science Magazine released in January, April, and July of 2019 and in February, 2020 respectively.

The Science Corner- On a board outside the school library, the science club regularly posted news related to different fields of science. It provided quick and short facts about new innovations, global achievements and distinguished people in the scientific culture, to the student body.