



Encounters

Michaelmas term 2022

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Incredible speakers and stories to inspire and engage pupils from all year groups.

Please note:

No tickets are required, pupils and their parents are all welcome.



GAGAN MOHINDRA MP & MARK FLETCHER MP

An Encounter with two New Tory MPs in one evening
Friday, 9 September
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

Gagan Mohindra is the MP for Southwest Hertfordshire. A supporter of Brexit, he was selected to fight the seat after the former Justice Secretary David Gauke lost the whip for refusing to endorse the possibility of a no deal Brexit.



In 2019, Mark Fletcher won Bolsover from Denis Skinner who had held the seat since 1970. This was one of the most significant Red Wall Tory successes in the general election and Mark has been keen to associate Toryism with the interests of the working class.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN LAW

An Encounter with the Big Questions
Friday, 23 September
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

Stephen Law is currently Director of the Certificate in Higher Education and of Philosophy at Oxford University Department of Continuing Education. He was previously Reader in Philosophy and Head of Department at Heythrop College University of London and before that acquired B.Phil and D.Phil degrees and was a Junior Research Fellow (The Queen's College) at Oxford University. He started out life as a postman, and has no A Levels. He also plays drums and enjoys mountaineering.



STUART ORME

An Encounter with the Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell
Friday, 30 September
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

Stuart Orme is the Curator of the Cromwell Museum in Huntingdon. He read History at the University of York and has postgraduate qualifications in Education (University of Exeter) and Museum Studies (University of Leicester). Stuart has long had an interest in 17th Century history, has several published articles and books, delivers talks to groups, broadcasts weekly on local radio and is on the committees of the Huntingdonshire History Festival, Peterborough Museum Society, Huntingdonshire History Society and the Cromwell Association.

JAMES UFFINDELL OW

An Encounter with an Entrepreneur
Friday, 7 October
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

James Uffindell is a technology entrepreneur and one of the UK's leading experts on the entry level talent market. James has spent the last 20 years helping over one million students with their applications to both blue chip employers and leading universities. James set up his first business in his university bedroom in 1999. Frustrated at the lack of careers support for graduates, James founded Bright Network in 2013, a high-growth technology platform that uses data and insights to build the workforce of tomorrow. Bright Network now employs 150+ people, serves 20M+ of careers advice content a year and supports 600,000+ graduates and 300+ of the world's largest employers including Google, Accenture, Dyson, Goldman Sachs and PwC.



FARAZ SHIBLI

An Encounter with the Mongolian Gobi Desert
Friday, 14 October
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

Faraz Shibli is a barrister, travel writer and adventurer. In 2011, he bought 12 Bactrian camels with a group of strangers he met online and set out to walk 1,600km across nomadic Mongolia, the world's most sparsely populated independent country. He will talk about his life-changing journey across the Gobi Desert and the advantages of living adventurously.

THE RT HON THE LORD HESELTINE CH

Monday, 31 October
Science Lecture Theatre | 6.00pm

Lord Heseltine was a Member of Parliament in Britain from 1966 to 2001. He was a Cabinet Minister in various departments between 1979 and 1986 and between 1990 and 1997. He was Deputy Prime Minister from 1995 to 1997. He is founder and Chairman of the Haymarket Group, a privately owned media company.



He has written books on Europe and his political autobiography, Life in the Jungle. His latest book co-written with Lady Heseltine, Thenford: The Creation of an English Garden was published in October 2016. Lord Heseltine is an enthusiastic gardener and is a Vice President of the Royal Horticultural Society.



ZIAUDDIN YOUSAFZAI

An Encounter with an Educator, Social Activist and Father
Friday, 4 November
King's High Hall | 4.15pm

Ziauddin is an educator, human rights campaigner and social activist. He hails from Pakistan's Swat Valley where at great personal risk among grave political violence, he peacefully resisted the Taliban's efforts to shut down schools and kept open his own schools. Since college as a student leader, Ziauddin has stood up for the rights of those who couldn't speak for themselves. Ziauddin spoke on national and international media resisting the Taliban's atrocities and promoting the right of children's education and peace through active pacifism. His courage and passion inspired many people including his own daughter, Malala Yousafzai, to join him in standing up for human rights—the right of freedom, the right of education and the right of every child to attend school. As a long-time campaigner for peace and education, Ziauddin never dreamed the "sins of the father" would be visited upon his daughter rather than himself. Ziauddin jokes that Malala used to be known as his daughter, but now he is known as her father – and he is proud to have it that way.

PHILIP NORTON

An Encounter with Parliament
Friday, 11 November
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

Lord Norton of Louth is Professor of Government, and Director of the Centre for Legislative Studies, at the University of Hull. At the time of his appointment to his chair, in 1986, he was the youngest professor of politics in the UK. His publications include 35 books – including Governing Britain, Parliament in British Politics, and Politics UK (now in its 10th edition) – and almost 300 book chapters and scholarly articles. He is Chair of the History of Parliament Trust and the Higher Education Commission, President of the Study of Parliament Group, and Editor of The Journal of Legislative Studies. He has been described in The House Magazine as 'our greatest living expert on Parliament'.





AMEET GILL OW

Friday, 18 November
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

Ameet Gill runs three companies that work in and around business and politics: Hanbury, a public affairs and communications agency, which advises a range of corporates on their biggest repetitional challenges; Stack, a polling company, which works for a number of political parties around the world; and Forefront, a macro politics research advisory service, which works with a range of investors on geo-political risk. Prior to founding these companies, he was formerly

Chief Speechwriter, Director of Strategic Communications and Director of Strategy to Prime Minister David Cameron. He spent six years working in Downing Street and has an unparalleled knowledge of the workings of Whitehall. He has been described by the Mail on Sunday as 'the most influential figure from an ethnic minority background in British politics'.

PROFESSOR PHILIP BURROWS

An Encounter with Subatomic-Particle Accelerators
Friday, 25 November
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

Philip Burrows is Professor of Physics at Oxford University, Fellow of Jesus College, and Director of the John Adams Institute for Accelerator Science. His research covers subatomic-particle physics with an emphasis on cutting-edge R&D for the particle accelerators that provide the engines of discovery for the field, such as the Large Hadron Collider at CERN.



AC GRAYLING

An Online Encounter with the Quest for the Meaning of Life
Friday, 2 December
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

AC Grayling CBE MA DPhil (Oxon) FRSA FRSL is the Founder and Principal of New College of the Humanities and its Professor of Philosophy. He is the author of over thirty books of philosophy, biography, history of ideas, and essays. He has contributed to many leading newspapers in the UK, US and Australia, and to BBC radios 4, 3 and the World Service, for which he did the annual 'Exchanges at the Frontier' series and has often appeared on television. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, a Vice President of Humanists UK, Patron of the Defence Humanists, Honorary Associate of the Secular Society, and a Patron of Dignity in Dying.

JAMIE STONE MP

Friday, 9 December
Science Lecture Theatre | 4.15pm

Jamie started his working life as a cleaner on the Kishorn Oil Rig building yard in the Highlands. He then moved on to a fish factory in the Faroe Islands where he gutted fish and began to learn Danish. In 1986, Jamie was first elected as a Liberal Democrat councillor. Jamie then served as a Member of the Scottish Parliament from 1999 to 2011 where he worked primarily on devolved matters like improving maternity services in the Highlands and straightening the hazardous A9 road that runs through his constituency. He was elected a Member of Parliament in Westminster in 2017 and is Liberal Democrat Defence and Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport (DCMS) spokesperson. Jamie has featured in a handful of pantomimes. He is a keen gardener and can identify any edible fungi!



Encounters will return in Lent Term 2023

Featuring the author Keggie Carew, Christian Horner (Team Principal for Red Bull), and many more.