



Royal
Astronomical
Society

The 2024 Secondary and Further Education Award is awarded to Arabi Karteepan

Mrs Arabi Karteepan is very proactive in promoting Astronomy and Space Science at the school where she has been teaching for 3 years and in the wider community for well over a decade.

Mrs Karteepan led one of the first successful launches from a UK school (Croydon High School) of a two high altitude meteorological balloon involving 2 payloads. They reached an altitude of over 30,000 metres and both were successfully recovered.

Further to this Mrs Karteepan has successfully promoted the schools Astrogazers club which is now over-subscribed inspiring many pupils into science and astronomy. She also achieves this via school assemblies where she misses no opportunity to promote science and astronomy to the wider audience. She also displayed creativity in streaming many of these via YouTube - not an easy feat.

Mrs Karteepan has continued to work with other agencies to help engage her pupils into other exciting scientific projects which included working with Open Weather to host a workshop for them on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration images using amateur radio. Meanwhile Mrs Karteepan continues to work on other weather balloon projects not to mention a potential satellite project.

So infectious is her passion, she is now being contacted by other communicators for advice and ideas on how to promote space and astronomy within their educational institutions.

For these reasons, Mrs Arabi Karteepan is awarded the RAS Secondary and Further Education Award, 2024.