

Kent SEPnet Astrodome

Launch Ceremony Thursday 25th June 2009

1:30PM Eliot College Hall, University of Kent, Canterbury

The Centre for Astrophysics and Planetary Science at the University of Kent is pleased to announce the launch of the “Kent SEPnet Astrodome”. This state of the art mobile planetarium allows researchers from the University to travel out to schools throughout the county and give students an exciting taste of astronomy without having to use a telescope in the middle of the night!

The mobile Astrodome, which is one of the most sophisticated in the country, uses a high-definition digital projector to provide a fully immersive cinema experience which can be used to explain concepts in space science and explore the universe. A series of talks and shows have been prepared which we hope will give students a fascinating insight into astronomy and space science as well as complimenting classroom based lessons following the national curriculum. The dome can accommodate 30 students at a time and can be inflated in a school hall in about 30mins.

The astrodome has been purchased as part of the University’s “International Year of Astronomy 2009” celebrations which mark 400 years since Galileo’s first glimpses through a telescope and the birth of modern astronomy (For more information see <http://www.astronomy2009.org/>). The dome will be used for a series space science shows over the summer including the University’s **Spaceschool** event held in August.

The astrodome has been bought with funds from the South East Physics Network (SEPnet) which aims to secure and promote physics as a strategically important scientific discipline within the South East of England.



Launch ceremony

The dome will be officially opened by Kent University Vice Chancellor Professor Julia Goodfellow at 1:30 on Thurs 25th June in Eliot College Hall where students from St. Stevens Primary school will receive the inaugural Astrodome talk.

If you would like to attend please contact David Wilson (david@davidmwilson.net 07968 702396) for further details.

For more information please contact:

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