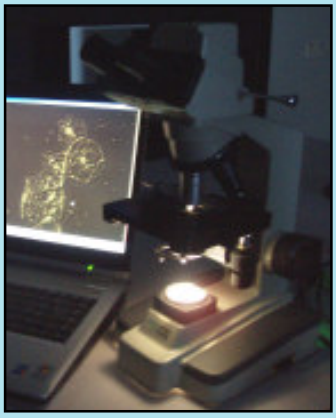
THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH

RSE @ Schools



Seeing Life Through a new Light

Claire Patterson

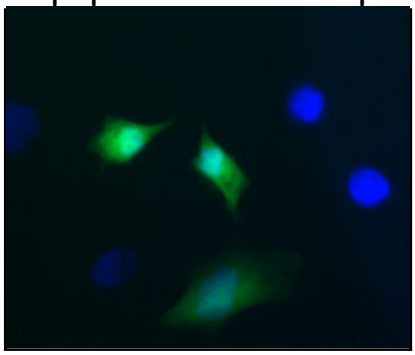
Science Communicator

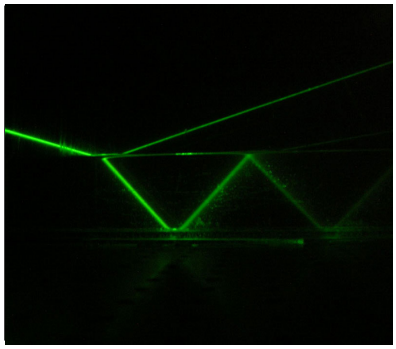
Light is amazing and it is being used in incredible ways in biology and medicine. Light can be used to image and even move microscopic objects such as cells. In healthcare, light can be used for treatment of conditions such as cancer. But how do we 'see the un-seeable'? How are scientists shining a light on cancer? How can lasers be used as tweezers and scissors?

Claire Patterson will explore the above topics through a number of demonstrations, slides and discussion. She will convey some of the basic principles of light and physics and how they are used in exciting 21st century interdisciplinary science. The talk is suitable for primary (p5-7) or secondary (S1-S6) pupils.

Claire is a Science Communicator in the Optical Trapping group in the School of Physics and Astronomy, University of St Andrews.

Claire normally bases her presentations on a slideshow and incorporates a number of demonstrations. If the audience is small enough she can also offer the pupils a chance to participate in some hands-on activities.





Suitability: P6/7 S1/2 Standard Grade Higher

Photographs courtesy of Claire Patterson.