



Park Community School

NEWSLETTER

Fortnightly Update

28th January 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

This week in school we have been thinking about discrimination and focussing particularly on Holocaust Memorial Day. In My Bryce's assembly he reminded us of the powerful story of Sir Nicholas Winton who worked tirelessly to rescue children from concentration camps in World War 2. We watched the moving moment when he met these children as adults and was thanked for the difference he made.

On Thursday, Holocaust Memorial Day, Year 8 students attended Havant's Holocaust memorial service and read a poem written by our very own Miss Dempsey. Meanwhile, in school Year 9 Historians joined a live assembly which ran across the country and painted stones which will form part of a memorial. Another group of Year 9 students joined a live webinar and got to meet Liz Kessler, the author of a novel inspired by children's experiences of the Holocaust.

Other great moments this week included our Year 10 debaters qualifying for the regional finals of the Rotary debating competition after participating in a compelling debate about gender equality. Congratulations go to Year 10 Catering students, Kye and Ashlee, who took part in the Rotary Young Chef competition last weekend. Both were commended for their dishes and Ashlee has made it to the next round. It was great to welcome back former student, Isabella Darmanin, who is now a professional chef and judge in the competition.

Next week our House Step Challenge continues with students competing in their Houses to gain the most steps. Mr Crowley has issued each tutor group with a set of pedometers. Their steps, or distance travelled, will be recorded every day before the winning House and tutor groups are announced and rewarded. Staff efforts mean that Blue House are currently in the lead.

Good luck to Year 11 students next week. They begin their mocks on Monday morning and have been working hard to ensure they are well prepared.



Good luck to Year 11 in their mock exams next week

Congratulations to our Year 10 debating team

Well done to Brooke, Archie and Alfie. Their debate on gender equality this week gained them a place in the regional finals of the Rotary debating competition. Good luck at the regionals!

Mr Folkins



Rotary Chef Competition

Park Community School hosted the group stage of the Rotary Young Chef competition where two of our students competed. Kye and Ashlee had to cook two dishes for two people in two hours. Both students were commended for their flavours and clean working by the professional chef Isabella Darmanin, who is an ex student of Park and a previous winner of the competition. Ashlee came third place so progresses to the next round at HSDC in February. **Mr Payne**





Park Community School

Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Service at Havant Cemetery

Four History Ambassadors: Jake, Sophie, Lucas and Ben joined schools from the local area to mark Holocaust Memorial Day at an annual service led by the Mayor of Havant. Sophie, Lucas and Ben read a poem written by Miss Dempsey titled 'The Long Silence'.



Foundation Stones #BigStonePaintLive workshop

Students in Year 9 joined a live assembly with schools from all around the country to mark Holocaust Memorial Day by painting a stone. Around 5,000 stones were painted at the event. The students' stones will be sent off to become part of the new UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre being built next to the Houses of Parliament.



Live author meet with Liz Kessler, author of 'When the World was Ours'.

Students from Year 9 joined a live assembly with Liz who explained how she wrote her story, set during the Holocaust.

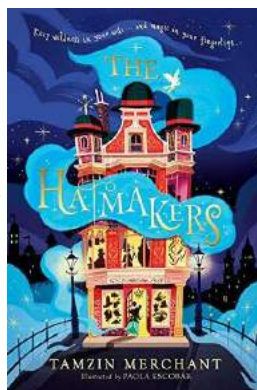


Mr Pycroft

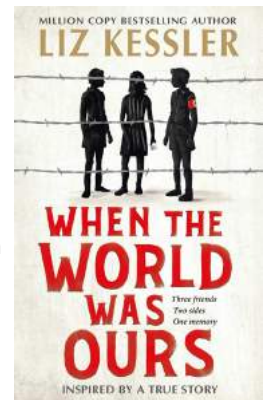
Latest from the Library

Here at Park Community we believe everyone can enjoy reading for pleasure, it's simply a case of finding the right book! With this in mind we aim to expose our students to a wide variety of authors and genres for them to explore, and hoped this year to invite some authors to visit our students. With the pandemic preventing authors from actually coming into school we decided instead to arrange for them to visit us virtually via Zoom links.

The first of these was with Tamzin Merchant, actress and author of 'The Hatmakers'. Set in an alternative Georgian London its a swashbuckling, magical adventure of villains, brave and resourceful children, and other wonderfully colourful characters. It also conveys important messages about the importance of family, loyalty, cooperation and peace against the threat of greed, betrayal, resentment and war. The narrative is littered with Shakespearean references and rich descriptions of clothing and settings alongside a gentle humour that will appeal to fans of Harry Potter or similar fantasy adventures. Tamzin read an extract from her book and spoke to Year 7 students about her inspiration for this delightful fantasy novel. Year 7 student Frankie said, "It was super fun and I would recommend the book to others".



In collaboration with our History department, some Year 9 student took part in a virtual visit from Liz Kessler, best-selling author of the 'Tails of Emily Windsnap'. Liz's new book is very different from her usual fun-filled fantasy adventures. 'When the World was Ours' is the story of three young friends growing up in a time when Europe is descending into a growing darkness, and how events test the bonds of their friendship. Liz read passages from her novel and talked about her research trips to Europe where she visited numerous museums, concentration camps and other historical sites. Liz also shared with us the remarkable story of her father's escape from Nazi Europe along with family heirlooms from the period. Drawing on Kessler's own family history, the book is a brilliant yet haunting read; essential for young readers who must, like all of us, never forget.



Both of these wonderful books are available to borrow or buy from our school library. We are also pleased to offer both of these books to all Park Community School students for the special price of only £2.00 (normal RRP £7.99). To order your copy simply email library@pcs.hants.sch.uk or pop into our library.

Miss Hucklebridge



Park Community School

Geography, Geology and Sustainability Club

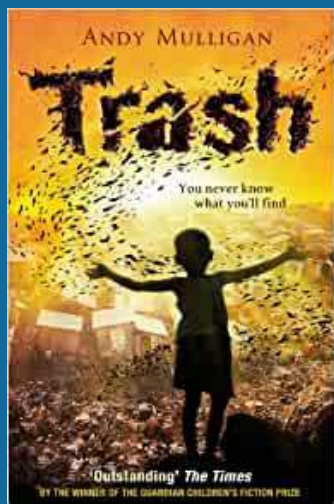
GGs Club got off to another great start this week, we started making a movie about how we can save the world. Students got to take home another mineral (they should have a collection by now).

Please email 20a.sykes@pcs.hants.sch.uk, j.macefield@pcs.hants.sch.uk if you have any questions/ suggestions for the club.

Alfie 8TDE



Trash Andy Mulligan



A boy who lives and works on a rubbish mountain, finds a bag with money and a map, which the police are very keen to get their hands on.

Raphael is a dumpsite boy. He spends his days wading through mountains of steaming trash, sifting it, sorting it, breathing it, sleeping next to it. Then one unlucky-lucky day, Raphael's world turns upside down. A small leather bag falls into his hands. It's a bag of clues. It's a bag of hope. It's a bag that will change everything...

AWARDS:

Shortlisted for the Red House Children's Book Award 2011

Shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal 2012

Shortlisted for the UKLA Book Award 2012

I'd suggest this book to other people as it makes you want to read on and you won't want to put the book down. I also like how close the characters are and the relationships that they have with each other. This book also makes you feel mixed emotions for every chapter you read for example one moment you would feel really excited for them but then the next chapter would be really sad. SOPHIE 8TPE

Trash was an interesting book that really opened my eyes to the way other people live around the world, we are very lucky in comparison. I find books interesting when they showcase real life situations as you learn a lot from them. If you are anything like me you will really enjoy this book. JENNIFER 9SMU

I read Trash during my English lessons. I personally enjoyed this book because the story line was very intriguing. I liked the relationship between the characters and how they helped each other throughout the book. I would give this a 5/5 because of the mixed emotions throughout and making me want to read on. AVA 8TPE

A favourite to read and teach! Trash is a fast-moving adventure with a heart. This is a story of hope, friendship, and justice; despite poverty and hardship, four children show the importance of never giving up, revealing the truth and following a dream. MRS FREESTONE

Miss Hucklebridge

