



# Park Community School

## NEWSLETTER

### Fortnightly Update 6th March 2023

#### Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Last week we celebrated our annual Park Literary Festival, with a range of events focused on celebrating stories and reading together. Students met three authors, participated in tutor competitions, and enjoyed storytelling as part of our Read-aloud-a-thon. Then Read-aloud-a-thon was held in the restaurant and hosted a different member of staff reading aloud all day every day. In addition to free books given to all Year 7 and 8 students who attended Student Review Day before half term, last week a further 90 books were given as rewards to students completing the reading survey. Reading is one of the most important factors influencing success at school.

This half term, Year 11 have begun their home-run to their exams. They are now only six school weeks away for their first GCSE exam. On Friday, all Year 11 brought home their Revision Wall Planner and have had guidance on how to complete this. Planning time to revise and completing revision is now the single most important thing students can do in preparation for their GCSEs. Please support your child to do this.

At the end of this month, Year 9 will make their Option Choices. By now, you will have had a chance to discuss the options with your child following Student Review Day, where they collected their Options Booklet and discussed initial thoughts with their tutors.

Finally, a reminder that mobile phones are not permitted in school. School is one of the few places where young people can be free from the constant alerts from social media and messaging. Please ensure your child leaves their phone at home every day or hands it into reception on arrival to school. Children seen with a phone in school will receive a detention and have their phone confiscated and placed into reception until the end of the day.



*CCd.*



*RH-Jahn*

#### Southern Book Awards

Well done to our representatives for the Southern book awards. The group travelled to Brighton last week to celebrate their success and meet authors. Congratulations to Emily who won a set of signed books. Students also got to meet Chris Riddell, one of our canon authors. He was delighted to hear he is included in the canon and offered to come and visit.

**Ms Hucklebridge**



#### Author William Hussey visits Park

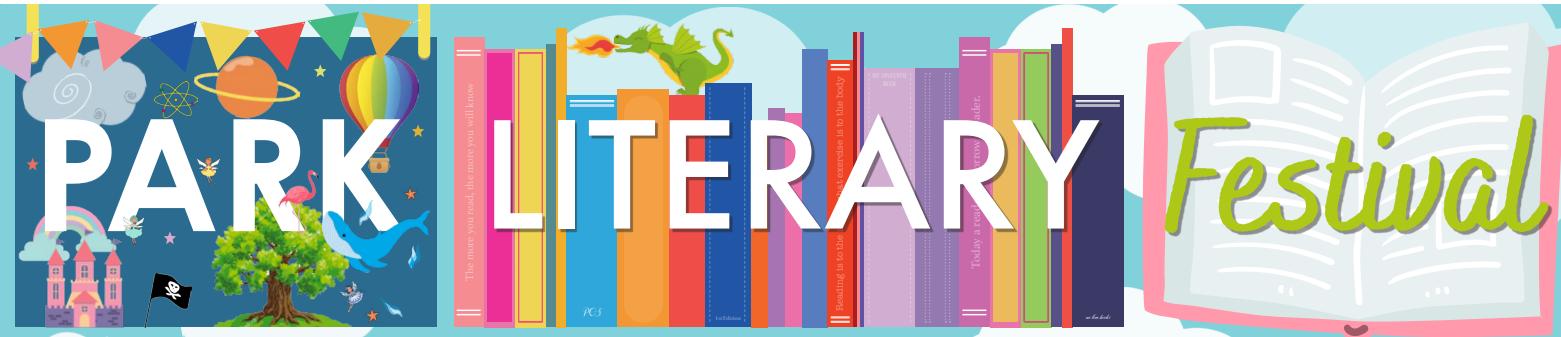
William Hussey spent the afternoon in school this week sharing his inspiration for his work and getting creative with Year 9 and 10 students. After his talk, William was happy to stay on to chat to students in the library and sign their books. Ms Turp also brought our LGBT club to speak to William. He was delighted to see them and said he wished he had such a thing when he was at school.

**Ms Hucklebridge**





# Park Community School



## Park's Literary Festival

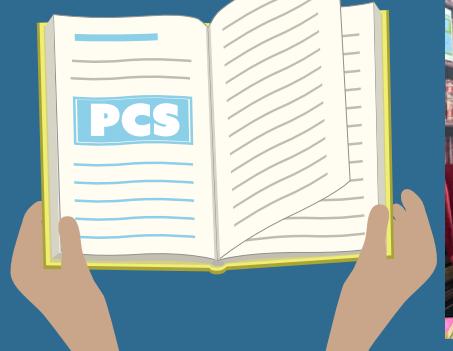
28 February- 3 March 2023

What a wonderful week of reading we have had.

This week marked Park's annual Literary festival and we focussed on celebrating reading, listening to one another and learning more about the books in our canon.

Events have included:

- Free books for all Years 7 and 8 prior to half term
- Free books from the canon for all 99 students who completed our library quiz this week
- Guess the Shelfie competition
- Park's Read-aloud – athon
- Three author visits!
- Guess the opening line
- Celebrating reading in every lesson every day



*Andy Mulligan, author of Trash, speaks to Years 7-10*

Every student in Years 7-10 got to meet Andy Mulligan, author of *Trash*. Andy said he had a fab day and enjoyed his time with our students, in particular he mentioned that our Year 7 group were the one of the best behaved and engaged audiences he has had for a long time! He also praised the commitment and enthusiasm of our staff. Andy said it was especially nice to see how positively the staff interacted with each other showing genuine respect and camaraderie.

Before leaving, Andy completed a stint of the read-aloud-athon in our restaurant.

**Ms Hucklebridge**

**Park  
Literary  
Festival**



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## Read-aloud-a-thon



I've been wanting to read this book for ages! - Emily 8JMA



After the author talk I chose Trash because Andy Mulligan is a really good writer and now I have one of his books - Jayden 8JMA



After I have read this I will have read 8 canon books, I really want a bronze badge - Mitchell 8JWA

## Student and Teacher voice:

'We were really impressed with Andy Mulligan's talk – he was so interesting and had amazing stories linked to his novel *Trash*.'

'William Hussey's talk and focus on the exploration of prejudice was wonderful – he was very engaging!'

'Meeting Andy Mulligan was such an honour! I have taught his novel to students for many years and it was an absolute privilege to be able to talk to him about his work and about how much our students at Park love reading his book.'

## Year 7 Novel Sharing

Miss Tomkinson's Year 7 English group enjoyed hearing about her favourite reading book so much that they asked if they could have the opportunity to share their favourite books too! They had a wonderful lesson where everyone sat as a class and each person shared their favourite book and why they thought it was brilliant!





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## Competitions Galore!

Below you will find snippets from all of the fantastic competitions that students took part in during tutor time last week. Everyone really enjoyed exploring different aspects of books and vocabulary and all were very keen to win!

### The Canon Opening Lines Quiz

Students had their chance to test their literary knowledge this week with a quiz of first lines from different books from our canon.

**1. MY NAME IS RAPHAEL FERNANDEZ AND I AM A DUMPSITE BOY**

**2. There was no possibility of taking a walk that day**

**3. Late in the winter of my seventeenth year, my mother decided I was depressed, presumably because I rarely left the house...**

**4. The platform was a battlefield: seventy yards of carnage transplanted straight from the coasts of northern France**

**5. THIS IS THE BRIGHT CANDLELIT ROOM WHERE THE LIFETIMEERS ARE STORED...**

**6. I am the black flamingo. The black flamingo is me.**

**7. MR UTTERSON THE LAWYER WAS A MAN OF A RUGGED COUNTENANCE THAT WAS NEVER LIGHTED BY A SMILE... JEKYLL**

**8. It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen**

**9. I shouldn't have come to this party**

**10. No matter how hard you try you will never be able to grasp just how tiny, how spatially unassuming, is a proton.**

**11. Today is the ritual of purity**

**12. There was a hand in the darkness, and it held a knife.**

1. *Trash* by Andy Mulligan
2. *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
3. *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green
4. *When the Sky Falls* by Phil Earle
5. *Mort* by Terry Pratchett
6. *The Black Flamingo* by Dean Atta
7. *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
8. *1984* by George Orwell
9. *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas
10. *A Short History of Nearly Everything* by Bill Bryson
11. *The Gilded Ones* by Namina Forna
12. *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman

### The 'Shelfie' Quiz

Monday saw the return of the much-loved staff 'Shelfie' competition where students had to guess which book shelf belonged to which member of staff. Students had the opportunity to apply their knowledge of previous conversations about reading with staff to the match up activity. Lots of tutor groups came close to all correct answers.



Mr Banting



Ms Bannard



Mrs Pearce



Ms Hucklebridge



Mrs Wilson



Miss Brigite



Mrs Freestone



Ms Dermy



Mrs Loake



Mr Folkins



Mrs Spies



Mrs Cavanagh



Miss Theed



Mrs Nuttall





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I was overjoyed to have the chance to meet Andy Mulligan and hear his stories that influenced his writing. He was also kind enough to give me his autograph too! **Mrs Tonks**



## The Vocabulary Challenge

The final quiz of the week was a vocabulary challenge where students had to explore their vocabulary knowledge and try to match up different names of phobias to their different definitions.

Phobia	Definition
Acrophobia	Fear of heights
Dendrophobia	Fear of trees
Microphobia	Fear of small things
Chronomontrophobia	Fear of clocks
Bibliophobia	Fear of books
Genuphobia	Fear of knees
Chronophobia	Fear of time

## The Big Canon Quiz

Students tested their Canon knowledge this week with a quiz that focussed on what they could recall from all of the texts they have read.

### Q1: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon

What is the name of the Dog?

- a. Wellington
- b. Napoleon
- c. Nelson

### Q2: The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Who was Katniss protecting when she volunteered as Tribute?

- a. Violet
- b. Primrose
- c. Rue

### Q3: The Outrage by William Hussey

What is the name of the of the authoritarian government?

- a. The Protectorate
- b. The Republic of Gilead
- c. One State

**Park Literary Festival**

**SHELFIE  
11LCo**

**VOCABULARY  
QUIZ  
10DPa**

**THE  
WINNERS  
ARE...**

**THE  
BIG CANON  
QUIZ  
10STo**

**FIRST LINES  
QUIZ  
9KTo**

**Well done  
to everyone  
who took  
part!**



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## Chiquitos for Year 11 Linguists

Spanish students had an amazing time at Chiquitos restaurant. The aim of the trip was to reward them for improving grades in the last mocks. Students really appreciated this opportunity and they were able to celebrate and try Mexican/Spanish food! Churros were one of the favourites! We had a chance to talk about revision, exams and future plans. It was lovely seeing their good manners and interactions with the restaurant staff.

### **Miss Garcia Garcia**



## Sports Ambassadors at Trosnant Junior School

Our sports ambassadors went to Trosnant last week to deliver gymnastics. We worked on counter balance, tension and support balances. The students were fantastic and really enjoyed leading the young pupils at Trosnant. Heroes of Park are: Jayden, Ruby, Abi, Luke, Callum, Leo, Harry and Logan. Well done.

### **Mr Herriot**



## D&T Chair Challenge at Winchester College

On the 21st February, two teams of STEM ambassadors won a first and a fifth place in a Design and Technology Challenge at Winchester College. They had to construct a chair using only cardboard with no glue or other fixings. The chairs were scored based on their design, market potential, comfort and durability. The girls were amazing and a real credit to the school. The other schools were Henry Beaufort, UTC Portsmouth, Hamble School and Winchester College.

### **Mr Green**



## Sports Ambassadors Officiating Girls' Primary Football Finals at Park'

A group of Sports Ambassadors officiated the Girls Primary Hampshire football finals before half term at Park. They faced a lot of pressure officiating the games and took it in their stride. We had ten Primary schools in battling it out for the trophy. Rowlands came out on top this year.

Special mention to Emily in Year 11 who came out to support the event too.

### **Mr Herriot**





# Park Community School

More great work from art inspired by Holocaust Memorial Day



## Year 9 Lifelab trip

Some of our Year 9 students had the opportunity to visit Southampton University's Lifelab suite. They were able to participate in a range of activities all linked to health and well-being. Activities included being able to view the veins/arteries in their necks using an ultrasound, measuring their blood pressure and even learning some very important CPR skills.

In the afternoon, they were lucky enough to speak to some of the scientists working in the hospital; an immunologist, a data statistician and a microbiologist. They were able to share information about their job and how this impacted the hospital.

Finally students were able to carry out an electrophoresis on some DNA samples. They had to use some specialised equipment to separate the DNA and were able to compare different samples.

This trip was part of our participation in the University's health and well-being research, which culminated in this trip.

An amazing day for all students involved as they were able to see science in the real world!

**Ms Conner**





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## Challenge Day

Wednesday 8th February was our second Challenge Day of the year and saw students taking part in a range of interesting and exciting activities designed to add to the 'Much More' experience.

Year 7 spent a day looking at what makes them British. They looked at stereotypes, how other countries perceive us and the things that make us part of a wider community along side cooking some traditional British treats. Their day culminated in a tea party where they were able to share the afternoon teas they have made while chatting about their day.

Year 8 created a science fair which was presented to other students and parents at the end of the day. Several weeks of preparation in class including experiments, information gathering and planning were brought together in a wonderfully exuberant showcase with topics ranging from the impact of vaping to climate change.

Year 9 had a more serious day, with a range of workshops from Prison Me? No Way! One of the highlights of the challenge day programme, students had workshops on issues such as county lines, saw the reality of a prison cell and heard emotive talks from people who had committed crimes but were now determined to help others from making the same mistakes. While hard hitting and at times emotional, the day had a real impact on students who were able to see the consequences of split second bad decisions first hand.

Year 10 continued their careers journey by exploring the purpose and structure of CVs before writing their own. They also had two sessions with English teachers preparing for their GCSE literature exam

Year 11 continued their path towards their GCSEs by taking part in Maths and English walking talking mocks, exploring growth mindsets and taking part in a wellbeing focused PE session. Exams are approaching rapidly so all sessions were carefully focused on helping them achieve their goals.

The next Challenge Day takes place on 31st March and also includes the Race at your Place - watch this space for pictures.

**Mrs Loake**





# Park Community School

## COME ON ALL YOU KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS

Thank you to our community for creating our lovely remembrance waves in school

We need your help again in 2023!

We have 150 metres of railing outside the school and we would like to make a display for the community.

We can supply red wool and buttons if need be.



**THANK  
YOU FOR  
TAKING  
PART!**



Please deliver all poppies to Park Community School for inclusion in our display.

023 9248 9800

Park Community School  
Middle Park Way  
Havant  
PO9 4BU

## EASY GARTER/KNIT STITCH PATTERN FOR BEGINNERS

**Colour A** Red (one ball will make a lot of poppies!)  
**Colour B** Scrap of Black or a black button

### BODY OF POPPY

1. Using Col A cast on 120 stitches.
2. Rows 1-4 Knit
3. Row 5 Knit 3 stiches together across the row (40 stiches)
4. Rows 6-9 Knit
5. Row 10 Knit 2 stiches together across the row (20 stiches)
6. Rows 11-14 Knit
7. Row 15 Knit 2 stiches together across the row (10 stiches)
8. Cut yarn leaving a tail of about 20cm
9. Thread tail through yarn needle and slip all the remaining live stiches onto the yarn tail and pull tight. Pull around into a circle and then mattress stitch (or use whatever stitching you normally use) to seam for an invisible seam. Sew in ends.

### CENTRE OF POPPY

1. Using B, cast on 16 sts. Cast off. Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre.  
Or use a black or green button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy. Add pin.



## Drop-in for young people

- Tuesday – Year group: 6, 7, 8  
Session time: 4:30PM – 6:30pm
- Wednesday - Year group: 9, 10, 11  
Session time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm
- Thursday - College / 6th form age  
Session time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm



Motiv8, The Hub,  
Leigh Park,  
Havant,  
PO9 5AA

## The lighthouse drop-in will offer

- Activities such as games, mindfulness, art & crafts, cooking, and peer support workshops
- Wellbeing workshops such as exam stress, resilience, relaxation, low mood, anxiety, body image and self-esteem
- A safe, open access youth drop in for young people from 10 to 18 from the Havant area.
- 1:1 youth work or tailored mental health work if needed
- A chance to build positive relationships and access a range of flexible advice
- Signposting to other support, organisations, help and advice, and escalation to more intensive support if needed

## What to expect

- Friendly and welcoming group
- Opportunity to access a safe space
- Welcome on arrival, relaxed atmosphere
- Calming, non-judgemental, environment
- Biscuits and squash, with games and workshops
- Opportunity to discuss coping skills, mindfulness and relaxation techniques
- Signposting to apps, websites and telephone support

Lead by Havant and East Hants Mind  
In partnership with Motiv8

For more information:  
[www.easthantsmind.org](http://www.easthantsmind.org)



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