



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

We are very proud of our partnership work in the community, with top universities and recently with Hays Education and Trees for Cities. These partnerships provide wonderful opportunities for our students to develop curiosity about the world around them.

Reading is an important part of school life and it was wonderful to celebrate World Book Day this week with lots of activities in the library - many thanks to Mrs Ranchhod and Mrs Lindsey for all their support and encouragement.

Wishing you all a fantastic weekend,

**Ms Rooke, Headteacher**

## Trees for President Kennedy School

President Kennedy School was delighted to welcome colleagues from Hays Education and national charity Trees for Cities to work with selected Bridge and Gateway students to plant a number of trees on the school site as part of the Trees for Schools initiative.

**Trees for Schools** is a Trees for Cities programme, which aims to transform urban school grounds into leafy green oases for both the children of today and for future generations. Their award-winning work in schools is delivery-focused and involves transforming school grounds into greener and healthier places to be. They specialise in innovative design, high-quality planting and landscaping, and inclusive engagement of the school community. Working in partnership with children and schools, they create Healthy Playgrounds; urban playgrounds are reimagined and redesigned; with the introduction of trees, forest gardens, food-growing, outside classrooms, woodland play areas, mini-forests and wildlife habitats. Tarmac playgrounds are transformed into natural green environments that are adapted to the changing climate, enabling creative education and connecting children to nature, supporting their mental health and well-being.

Trees for Cities colleagues were joined by the Hays UK Head of Sustainability, Karen Young, who is working with the President Kennedy School Eco-Council on a challenge to make the school more sustainable over the next 12 months. Hays Regional colleagues and Rob Bromfield, the school gardener, supported the students in planting a number of young trees within an area of the school identified for 're-wilding' by the Eco-Council and within the Echo Eternal Curriculum Garden featured recently on the BBC 'One Show'.

The students learnt a great deal about the planting season and care of the trees from Caitlin and Tom from Trees for Cities, who were incredibly impressed with the students' knowledge and engagement, as were Karen, Michelle and Sharni from Hays.

It is hoped that the relationship with Trees for Cities will continue, and Karen Young will be returning in the Summer Term to assess the progress of the trees and deliver workshops with Year 12 students on 'Ethical Sustainability' as part of their 'Human Dilemma' Ethics Conference in July.

**Mr Mort, Director of the Futures Teaching Alliance**





## Year 7 Library Team Participate in Coventry School - CIBA Hooked on Book Quiz

On Thursday 2nd March – World Book Day, the Year 7 Library Teams participated in the Coventry Inspiration Books Awards, “*Hooked on Books Quiz 2023*”, competing online against other schools in Coventry.

In preparation for the Quiz, the students had to read all of the books that were shortlisted in the “*Hooked on Books*” category of the Coventry Inspiration Book Awards 2023 – a total of 8 books.

Our students did really well to read all the shortlisted books in a short period of time and all enjoyed taking part in the quiz.

Well done to our Year 7 teams – Bisma, Madeena, Layla, Fatma, Skye, Izzy, Amy and Eleanor.



## Book in a Box

For our **World Book Day 2023** celebrations this year, the Library asked our students to get creative, by inviting them to produce their favourite “**Book in a Box**” in our competition. Here are some of the entries...



The winning boxes were:

**Paddington** by Kalsoom  
**The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe** by Libby  
**The Elves and the Shoemaker** by Taran  
**Pages and Co: Tilly and the Bookwanderers** by Maisie

**Oranges in No Man's Land** by Krisha  
**You Reached Sam** by Maja  
**Hansel and Gretel** by Ritik  
**The Hunger Games** by Neava, Katie and Yulia



Library Staff





## World Book Day Competitions

We also ran competitions in the Library throughout the day, where students had to “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” and “Guess the Book by the First Line”. Students had to visit the Library to find the clues.

The winner for “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” was: Ella-Adora

The winner for “Guess the Book by the First Line” was: Damilola

The winner for “Guess How Many Books in the Box” was: Alexis

The Library also ran a free Book Raffle and winners who picked tickets ending with 0 or 5, received a free book.

At lunchtime the Library was the place to be (as always) with free cakes to celebrate World Book Day 2023.



## Macbeth Performance in School

On Monday this week, students in Year 11 had the opportunity to watch a production of Macbeth performed for them in the school hall. It was a wonderful experience, which allowed them to consolidate their study of the play, as well as enjoying the text as Shakespeare intended – aloud!

The production was a small team of three actors who used costumes, voice and gestures to play a variety of characters, all while still staying faithful to the text.

Many Year 11 students commented that hearing the key quotations in the context of each scene really helped them to understand the impact and meanings intended by the author.

After the performance, the actors were kind enough to run a Q&A session where they shared more fascinating insights into the psychology of the characters, contextual links and their own personal interpretations of key scenes. Altogether, it was a great afternoon!

**Miss Stentoft Teacher of English**





# BOOK FAIR

**SCHOLASTIC**

## in the school library

### "Getting Children Reading"

World Book Day vouchers can be used at the Fair

From Thursday 9th March 2023 to Tuesday 14th March 2023

ALL BOOKS ARE BUY 1, GET 1 FREE!

Book Fair Opening Times:  
Lunchtimes in the Library  
During Year 7 & 8 English Lessons

You may reserve and pay for them by Tuesday 14th March 2023 (payment by CASH ONLY)

## HE+ Conference with Cambridge University

On Monday 6th March we welcomed students from five schools to take part in the HE+ Conference with Cambridge University. Students received a lecture on Climate Change and Biodiversity from Cambridge Lecturer Ed Turner, followed by breakout sessions which gave them the opportunity to experience what lectures and seminars at University level were like.

Students had a fantastic time and really engaged with the challenges they were set! Students on a humanities

pathway worked together to suggest new policies DEFRA (Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs) could adopt to protect our native biodiversity, while science pathway students looked at a range of insects including butterflies (although the stick insects weren't popular!) to create experiments which could help us understand why some species are adapting to climate change better than others.

Thank you to Ed and Libby, who ran the sessions and to all the students who attended!

*Mrs Elliott, Teacher of History*



## Year 7 and 8 Rugby

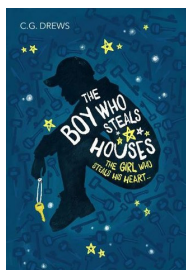
The Year 7 and Year 8 rugby team played Southam College on thursday night. The Year 7 team lost 40-25 and the Year 8s won 30 -10

*Mr Garlick, P.E Department*



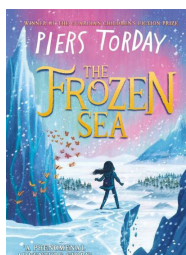
## FANTASTIC BOOKS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM...

This week the Library's recommended reads are...



### **The Boy Who Steals Houses by C G Drews**

Sam is only fifteen but he and his autistic older brother, Avery, have been abandoned by every relative he's ever known. Now Sam's trying to build a new life for them. He survives by breaking into empty houses when their owners are away, until one day he's caught out when a family returns home. To his amazement this large, chaotic family takes him under their wing - each teenager assuming Sam is a friend of another sibling. Sam finds himself inextricably caught up in their life, and falling for the beautiful Moxie. But Sam has a secret, and his past is about to catch up with him.



### **The Frozen Sea by Piers Torday**

Jewel Hastings doesn't know who she is. But she is about to discover that she is one of the most remarkable people to have ever walked the earth. On the run from school bullies, Jewel tumbles through the door of a mysterious old bookshop, and falls headlong into Folio, the world of the imagination. There, she must begin a quest to rescue her missing aunt, helped only by her rude pet hamster Fizz and a malfunctioning copper robot. From the shimmering lights of the Idea Jungle, to the desolate expanse of the Frozen Sea, their mission will bring them face-to-face with a danger both more deadly and more magnificent than they ever imagined. And what Jewel discovers will change her life for ever.

Both books are available to borrow from the School Library.

*Library Staff*

