

# Newsletter

The White Hills Park Trust

Issue 204 – 22nd March 2019

## The Importance of Books

The internet has changed our lives in many ways, and one of the areas where it has had a huge impact has been the world of books. A few years ago, sales of

e-readers such as the Kindle were gathering pace, and the fact that so much content could be accessed online seemed to be fundamentally changing the way we read. However, over the last few years, it appears that a surprising trend seems to have emerged – the internet is affecting book sales, but in a positive way. By making it easier for us to order online and have books delivered to our homes the next day, it has contributed to a steady upturn in sales. This has been particularly marked for books aimed at children and young people.

In school, we welcome this trend. The joy that books can bring is something that we try and share with every student. Through their English study, students will read many powerful and engaging books, but we know that this only scratches the surface of the potential of the wonderful books available.

Books are a hugely important part of our life in school. A couple of weeks ago, our schools celebrated World Book Day, by taking part in a range of activities, including dressing as book characters and sharing favourite books. This week, the Brilliant Book Award Quiz took place at Bramcote College – as last year's winners, we had the honour of hosting the event, which is part of the Brilliant Book Award programme, giving students the chance to work with professional authors. We are now beginning the Carnegie Award season, where a group of students and staff will read the eight nominated books over the next few weeks, and choose their own favourites. This has been a wonderful route into reading and literary criticism for many students over the years.

Our libraries are at the centre of our school. When we moved from the Bramcote School into Bramcote College, we positioned our library as the focal point of our school, as it is at Alderman White. It is a source of great pleasure to see how many students use the library at break and lunch. We have a wonderful team of librarians, led by Ms Welch, and they support and guide students in their book choices and ensure that our libraries are well-stocked.

DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time remains an important part of the curriculum. This gives students the opportunity to read quietly together every day, and it is wonderfully observed by students and teachers. Walking into a classroom when DEAR is taking place and being able to hear a pin drop is a lovely experience. We encourage staff to share their enjoyment of reading with students and talk about the books that they are enjoying reading (mine is currently 'The Sparsholt Affair' by Alan Hollingshurst).

Research is overwhelming – young people who read for pleasure are more likely to be successful in their school career. Reading is the key that unlocks the rest of the curriculum, and the level of reading that is now needed to access exam papers, makes it unlikely that students will be able to achieve good grades without a high level of skill in reading. If we manage to produce students who love books then we know that we will have done them a great service.

*Paul Heery*  
Executive Principal

## Dates for your Diary

March	TRUST	AWS	BC	BC6F
21st 22nd 23rd	Spring Production: 'Around The World in 80 Minutes'			
25th	AW & BC Paris Trip Meeting Alderman White School Hall 19:00			
27th	Breakfast Seminar: Sport			
28th	Meet The Marines Event			
28th	PTA Fashion Show Doors Open 18:30 Show Begins 19:00			
29th	Seventies Gala: Easter Music Concert 19:00			

## April

2nd	PTA Easter Egg Tombola			
2nd 3rd 4th	School Production: Annie Doors Open 18:30 Show Begins 18:45			
3rd	Breakfast Seminar: Maths			

Please see the My Ed app or our websites for a full calendar of upcoming events and important dates.

**BRAMCOTE COLLEGE PRESENTS**

# Annie

**THE MUSICAL**

**2nd, 3rd & 4th April**  
**BC School Hall**

Show time at 6.45  
Doors open at 6.30  
Refreshments from 6.00

**Tickets on sale now!**  
£4 each

## Brilliant Book Award Quiz

The beginning of the week saw Bramcote College hosting the annual Brilliant Book Award Inter-School Quiz. We welcomed teams from Rushcliffe School, The Becket School, Suthers School and Nottingham Girls High School, as well as Alderman White School of course. The quiz is very much a team event with Librarians from the visiting schools contributing quiz questions so that we all share the workload.

The Quiz is the culmination of the Brilliant Book Award 'season' with author visits having already taken place, all the reading of the short-listed books being completed and students excited and ready to demonstrate their impressive knowledge of the books they had read.

We introduced a new format this year to make the morning more interactive and to give the students an opportunity to work with students from another school. In addition to the 'official' teams from teach school we also had some 'informal' teams made up on the day answering paper based rounds. They had to identify the books from only a snapshot of a small extract of the cover, identify the books from pictures representing places in the books, identify the books from narrow strips of text taken from the centre of a page and put a list of characters from all the books in age order. Their knowledge was impressive.

For the main quiz we had two heats and a final with the scores being very close in every round. In the whole quiz there were only two questions that completely stumped all the teams. Looks like we'll need to make the questions harder next year!

Well done to Alderman White who were runners up and congratulations to The Becket School Team B who were the winners.

**Ms C Welch**



## Around the World in 80 Minutes



Avalanches, earthquakes, floods and armed revolution - just some of the seemingly insurmountable obstacles destined to thwart Fogg's mad dash across the world in Geoff Liptrot's musical play, inspired by Jules Verne's classic. However the show must go on! ....and it did, enchanting the audience, as the cast of more than 50 acted, sung and danced their way from one part of the globe to another, taking in a multitude of backdrops from Venice to Egypt and even the Australian outback. The audience cheered and applauded the cast on their musical journey as they performed spectacular vocal numbers and dance-routines, accompanied by a superb live band under the baton of Cameron Wedgeworth. The dance numbers were brilliantly choreographed by Jenna Fulton and Ellie Knight in Year 10 while Katie Taylor and Elina Laurie provided us with a superb set design which reflected the play's global theme. The costumes designed by Elaine and Steve Townsend, which were just as dazzling as Lewis Viaene's (Y10) lighting effects, provided the final touch. Special credit must be given to all the Year 5 & 6 primary pupils from five primary-schools - Round Hill, Bramcote C of E, Bramcote Hills Primary, Eskdale and The Lanes - who performed so brilliantly alongside Alderman White students and were such an integral part of the production. We were simply bowled over by their talent. The performances continue on Friday and Saturday night.

**Mr K Stephan**

## Alderman White Swing Band

On Saturday night members of the Alderman White Swing Band had the privilege of watching the Hallé Orchestra at the Royal Concert Hall.

Entitled 'Fantastic Worlds', the concert celebrated fantasy film, television and video game soundtracks, featuring favourites including Harry Potter, Star Wars, How To Train Your Dragon and even Angry Birds! We were all wowed by the performance and have already discussed a few tips we might take from the Hallé. Their exciting repertoire, professional stage presence, and perfectly-blended sounds were inspiring, and we hope to bring some of that to our concert on Friday 29th March (glittery dresses optional).



**Cameron Wedgeworth**  
**Swing Band Leader**



## Comic Relief Update



Alderman White School, in partnership with Sainsbury's (Community working partnership), official Comic Relief Sponsors have raised £1035 to date. We are still collecting in sponsor money from our danceathon, organised by Mrs Friend, so our total may raise even further. This is a fantastic effort for a small school. Well done everyone!

Particular thanks to Kate Hanslow, 7LEY, who raised £65 and was awarded a mermaid red nose from Sainsbury's, Joseph Verney 9HAV also awarded a jester red nose from Sainsbury's for his fundraising efforts, Harleigh Desmond 9LEA and Georgia Moon/Katie Cheetham Year 7 for selling merchandise and fundraising at social times. A big thank you also to Lewis Viaene. A great effort Alderman White.

**Ms J Francis / Mrs G Friend**



Well done to those at Bramcote College who took part in the 'Wear Red' non-uniform day at Bramcote College in support of Comic Relief. We raised over £400 from non-uniform donations alone, and brought the total up to just under £500 with an impromptu cake sale at break time. Thanks to everyone involved who donated and joined in the fun, and a special shout-out to the Maths department who all turned up in matching pink trousers!

## WHP Trust Trip to Madrid

Letters about the forthcoming trip to Madrid which is open to Alderman White and Bramcote College students in Years 7 to 10 will be available as soon as we return after Easter. We expect the trip to be popular, so students wishing to apply should collect a letter from Reception as soon as they are available on Tuesday 23rd April. The provisional dates of the visit are 3rd-8th October and the estimated cost is £320. We shall also need to ask for a £90 deposit with the application.

**Mr K Stephan**

## Host Families Wanted

We are hoping to host one or two French students in the summer term through a new arrangement with an international language school. We are also looking for host families: if anyone would be interested in hosting a French student for a few weeks during the summer term, please let me know ([karsten.stephan@whpfederation.org](mailto:karsten.stephan@whpfederation.org)). There will be some financial arrangement with the company to cover expenses. Anyone who is studying French in Y9 or Y10 could really benefit from this.

**Mr K Stephan**

Bramcote College PTA present an  
EASTER EGG TOMBOLA  
@Lunchtime  
Tuesday 2nd April  
Tickets Three for a Pound On the Day  
#winchocolate  
Bramcote College  
A member of The White Hills Park Trust

Alderman White School  
A member of The White Hills Park Federation Trust  
Fashion Show  
and Clothes Sale  
DEBENHAMS PURPLISH LONDON Monsoon  
White Stuff DOROTHY PERKINS oasis next M&S NEW LOOK  
Thursday 28th March @ 7.00pm  
Doors Open 6.30pm  
Alderman White School Chilwell Nottingham  
Tickets in Advance £3 Adults | £2 Children  
Tickets on the Door £4 Adults | £3 Children  
ALDERMAN WHITE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION  
Risley Fashion House

## Annie



Rehearsals are going well and tickets are selling fast for Bramcote College's upcoming production of Annie!

Our PTA will be serving snacks and refreshments from 6pm prior to the Annie performances, and at the half time interval (drinks, sweets etc.), and there will also be fun games to play and prizes to be won.

Tickets are still available via Reception, at only £4 each for what promises to be a fantastic night of entertainment!

### The Annie Team



Grace and Daddy Warbucks do not look convinced by Rooster and Lily's disguise

## Voter ID

To vote in the Broxtowe Borough and Parish Elections on 2nd May 2019 you will need:

ONE form of specified photo ID, such as a passport or driving licence

or

TWO forms of specified non-photo ID, such as a poll card or debit card.

No ID? You'll need to apply for a Certificate of Identity.

Visit [broxtowe.gov.uk/VoterID](http://broxtowe.gov.uk/VoterID) for more information.



**GCSE**  
Thought For The Week



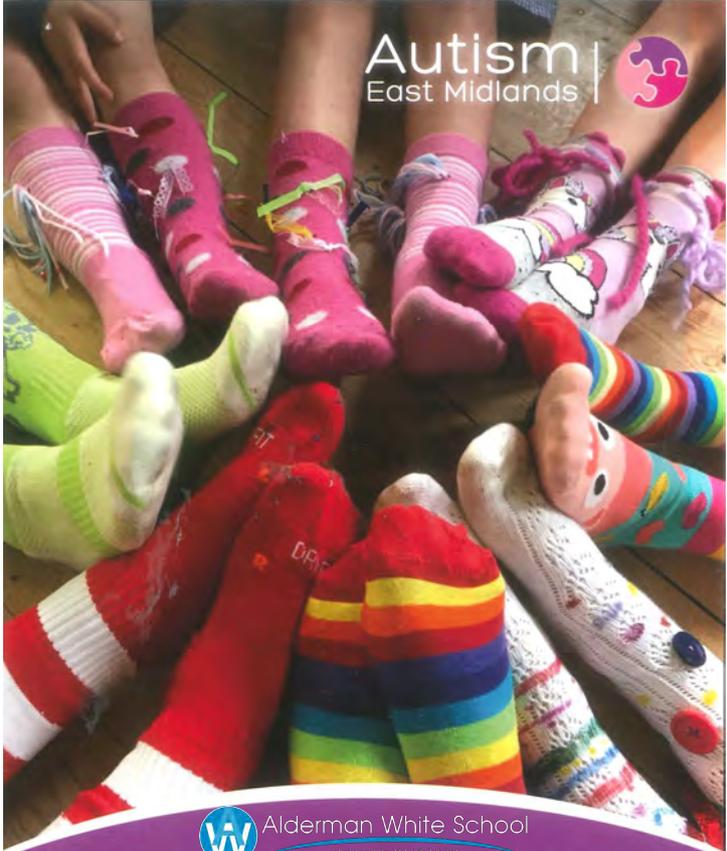
A lovely calm thing to look at to relax you.

**Don't cram your revision ...**  
leaving it to the last minute will make you panic and won't give you enough time really understand the work you're doing.

**7**  
▶ weeks to go until the exams start

**14**  
▶ weeks to go until the exams FINISH !!!

Work Hard. Be Well. Do Well.



Autism | East Midlands



 Alderman White School  
www.aldermanwhiteschool.co.uk

**SILLY SOCK DAY 2019**  
Friday 5th April  
£1 Donation on the Day #SillySockDay

## Hagg Farm Residentials



What a fantastic time we had this year on the Hagg Farm residential. Trip One, which consisted of Bramcote College students arrived early on the Sunday morning, and room allocations were shared with the students as they then made their beds for the night and got familiar with the surroundings for sleeping. We then had our picnic lunch and went off to undertake our afternoon of activities – this included a 5Km walking route, which got the students use to their waterproofs and walking boots. (The weather was not kind to us, we had rain, sun, wind hail and snow!)



On the second day it was time for the more adventurous activities which included caving and abseiling off the Millers Dale bridge just off the Monsal Trail. The weather was kinder to us while we were there, we only had one small shower. We had lunch and went out for our afternoon activities, one of which was a walk to look at Derwent Dam. As you can see from the photo the reservoir was full and overflowing due to the amount of snowfall we have recently had. After the activities we had our evening meal. All pupils were fed and watered.

For our evening activities the staff took the pupils on a night walk. They were led into the forest and had to turn their torches off and follow a rope course in the dark which had been set up in the forest called the 'Night Line'.



On Wednesday morning, Trip One had to pack all of their things and clean the centre before their return back to school. This is when Trip Two arrived (Alderman White pupils). This trip spread over the two centres at Hagg Farm and we used the **John Hunt base**. The Alderman White pupils settled in quickly. All pupils were kitted out with the Hagg Farm waterproofs straightaway as we knew this trip was in for some poor weather.



Even though the pictures make it look dry, it did rain for most of their stay. But all pupils were in great spirits.

We had the chance to go under ground into one of the caves called 'Carlswalk Cavern'. It has an amazing underground river bed of fossilised oysters made 300 million years ago. This is the only fossilised oyster bed in the UK. There was a little more water down there due to the amount of rain we have had.

Over the course of both trips I have seen the pupils achieve things that they would not normally achieve in school, from walking in a dark forest (even though they are scared of the dark), on their way to overcoming a fear of heights (by abseiling off a bridge), doing adventurous challenges underground in a cave (where they do not like small spaces) and walking in the countryside through some heavy rain and snow.



I would like to thank the pupils 100 pupils from AW & BC for their outstanding behaviour and positive attitude in trying new adventures, whether this was food, sleeping away from home, adventurous activities or meeting new friends. I would also like the staff Mr Bateman, Mrs Wood, Miss Cook, Miss Vizard, Miss Zhang, Miss Trimble, Miss Jerrett, and Mr Palmer for their cooking, organisational skills and team leading duties.

**Mr D Ramsden**