30 November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

**Year 11 Final Reminder of GCSE Poetry Day External Study Event**

This is the final reminder for Year 11 of the scheduled event to enhance the compulsory unit of Poetry for AQA GCSE English literature. The event is 1 February 2019, an all day event to which students travel to and from the venue by coach. Students also receive a study guide for the unit ‘unseen poetry’.

**We are closing application to attend to all Year 11 students at midday on Tuesday December 4.**

We were permitted to book 140 tickets and therefore this is on a ‘first come first served basis’ with 50% subsidy to Pupil Premium. Tickets are £37.50. Accounts will close off bookings to parents and carers when 140 is reached or at the time above: whichever comes first.

This event includes Simon Armitage. He is one of Britain’s best poets, with a superb ear for language. This is a great opportunity to hear the Oxford Professor of Poetry read his work from the anthology.

Carol Ann Duffy and Gillian Clarke will give an exhilarating joint reading. Their session is one of the most illuminating parts of the day for students. Carol Ann Duffy is one of the most read, studied and loved of today’s poets and such an inspired choice for the role of Poet Laureate. John Agard gives one of the most exciting performances in contemporary poetry, not only in the way he delivers his poems, but also in how he talks about them, combining historical awareness, cultural insight and extraordinary humour.

Imtiaz Dharker, and others will read their works.

Poets will respond to student questions and discuss how poems connect to and influence other poems.

**In the examiner sessions our highly experienced Chief Examiners will deal with two skills vital for success in the GCSE English Literature examinations.**

The first session will look at how students might deal with unseen poems in the exam, both how to think about them and how to write for the best possible results.
The second session will look at comparing poems, whether they are studied poems or unseen, and how to write most effectively in either situation.

These sessions have proved invaluable to students’ thinking, whether they are in Year 10 or Year 11, and are an outstandingly successful aspect of GCSE Poetry Live.

Yours sincerely

Ms C Bourne
Deputy Head of English
Head of KS4 English
To: Bursar’s Office  
Re: Year 11 Final Reminder of GCSE Poetry Day External Study Event

Form & Teaching Group  .................................................................

☐ Having read and understood the details of the visit as set out in the letter of 30 November 2018, I wish my son/daughter ................................................................. (Name in block capitals) to participate in the trip to GCSE Poetry Day.

☐ I acknowledge the need for my son/daughter to behave responsibly and agree to the School’s procedures in this respect. Although the staff of the School escorting the party will exercise due care and attention, I understand they cannot necessarily be held responsible for any loss, damage or injury, which may befall my child named above during or as a consequence of the journey and visit. I understand that upon return to School my child will no longer be under the authority of the School and my child is aware of the arrangements for getting home.

☐ I understand that the School reserves the right to remove any student whose behaviour at School does not meet the standards required of all our students. In such cases any deposits paid will be non-refundable, and the full cost of the trip may be payable if a replacement cannot be found.

☐ I understand that I must notify the School office of any change in the medical condition of my son/daughter, and of any change to the Emergency contact numbers provided below.

Emergency Contact Number 1:............................................................

Emergency Contact Number 2:............................................................

Please tick against method of payment below:

Online payment: I am registered for the School internet payment facility and would like to make online payments. Please check back daily should the system not yet show this item. ☐

Cheque payment: please make cheques payable to Rickmansworth School and hand in at the Bursar’s Office ☐

Cash payment: please hand in with this slip at the Bursars’ Office ☐

Pupil Premium: My son/daughter is in receipt of Pupil Premium ☐

My email address is.................................................................

Signed (Parent/Carer)............................................................

If the payment is in cash and over £20 a receipt MUST be obtained from the Bursars Office. Cheque and cash payments MUST be placed in an envelope clearly labelled with the Student’s name and the payment reference. Thank you.