

21.01.2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Book author visit

We are very excited to inform you that we have arranged for an amazing author, Dan Smith, to visit James Calvert Spence College on **Friday 18th March 2022**. All students in Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 will be invited to a presentation with the author, followed by a Q&A session and our students will also have an opportunity to have their book signed.

Author visits are an invaluable experience that encourage wider reading, creative writing and reading for pleasure - and we all know the benefits of reading for pleasure! It builds better vocabulary, broadens horizons, heightens creativity, heightens empathy, teaches us new things, relieves stress, helps us focus and concentrate, it improves memory, it builds new skills and . . . so much more!

Students in Year 5 will be reading and producing writing around "She Wolf" – one of Dan Smith's books - during the time of his visit. This is a great opportunity for them to meet the author of the book they are studying in class.

Dan Smith's books are aimed at children aged 9+. If your child wants to purchase a book in order to have it signed at the event then they will **need to buy their book in advance** as the author will not have books available to sell on the day. I recommend Amazon as they seem to have books available at a lower cost compared to independent book stores. I have listed Dan Smith's books so that you can have a look and purchase them before the event takes place.

Dan Smith's books:

- *Boy X
- *My Friend the Enemy
- *She Wolf (studied by Year 5 in Spring 2)
- *My Brother's Secret
- *Below Zero
- *Big Game
- *The Horror of Dunwick Farm (released in January 2022)
- *Nisha's War (released in February 2022)

We hope that our students are as excited as we are about the visit!

Many thanks,

Mrs Payne

Director of English

James Calvert Spence College