



THE PRIORY SCHOOL

D O R K I N G

Headteacher: Mrs J Trimnell

Dear Parents,

GCSE Poetry Live! at the Brighton Dome: 6 February 2023

The English department has been fortunate to secure places at the Poetry Live! Conference at the Brighton Dome.

This is a fabulous opportunity to see and hear performances from contemporary poets, including Carol Ann Duffy, John Agard and Simon Armitage, who feature in the AQA GCSE Anthology, which we are studying for the final exams. As well as performances and question-and-answer sessions with the poets, there will also be speakers such as exam markers, who will advise on how to approach and prepare unseen poems in the exam, how to compare poems, and how to write for the best possible results. The day covers vital skills for the English Literature GCSE in a vibrant and engaging way and would prove a most useful revision session for the final GCSE Literature exams. Previous Year 11 pupils have had a fabulous day and returned to school feeling much more enthusiastic and confident about their poetry studies. Some of their comments are below:

'I thought the poets' personal insight into the poems was useful in helping me understand the key messages of and comparisons between the poems. Many of the poets were funny and their reading and response to their works insightful.'

'I enjoyed listening to the poets read their own poems and learning about what they were thinking when they wrote them, as well as what inspired them to start writing. The examiner's sessions were also really helpful for the unseen poetry part of the exam.'

We will be travelling by coach, departing school shortly after 9.00am and returning at approximately 4.30pm, therefore pupils will miss the normal school bus departure and need to make alternative arrangements. They will need to bring a packed lunch and must wear school uniform (this is specified by the Poetry Live! organisers).

The conference takes place on **Monday 6th February 2023**. The total cost is £32.00 which covers the coach and ticket. An initial payment of **£10.00** will be required to confirm your place by 31st October 2022 and then the balance due by 31 January 2023 which can be paid in instalments if you prefer. Please make payment on Scopy under **English – Poetry Live 2023**.


Places are limited, so if you would like your son/daughter to attend please make payment as soon as possible. Once the places are confirmed you will receive a medical consent form to complete.

We are highly unlikely to be able to secure more tickets, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Holder
Head of English

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