

24th May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

‘Dreadlock Alien Poetry Workshop’ – Thursday 16th June 2022

Year 9 and year 10 pupils have the opportunity to work with the highly acclaimed 2005-2006 Birmingham Poet Laureate, Dreadlock Alien (a.k.a. Richard Grant). A world-renowned performance poet, who has toured the nation delivering workshops to a wide variety of schools, Dreadlock Alien will be encouraging pupils to write their own poems and perform them in an X Factor style poetry Slam. The workshop will be for two hours and will enable students to appreciate why poetry is a powerful medium of self-expression. Dreadlock Alien stated in an interview, “I would like to bring poetry to a new and younger audience by using the genres of slam, hip hop and performance rather than the written format.”

The workshop is a voluntary activity undertaken with the permission of the School Trustees and designed to supplement pupils’ study of GCSE ‘Love and Relationships’ poetry; an integral component of the English Literature GCSE course. It will enable pupils to revise the poems and the key themes within it, in preparation for their examination.

The cost of this workshop will be £4.50. If you wish your son/daughter to participate, please complete the slip below and return it to your child’s form tutor by **Monday 6th June**. Payment for the trip can be paid directly to Parent Pay. Assistance may be provided for any family in receipt of Family Income Support. If the voluntary contributions do not cover the cost of the workshop it may have to be cancelled. It is hoped that all secondary students will be able to attend.

Yours sincerely,

**Ms Gabriel
English Department**

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Name of student..... Form.....

I give permission for my child to attend the Dreadlock Alien poetry workshop and have paid £4.50 online via Parent Pay.

I confirm that there are no changes to my child’s medical or emergency contact details.

Signed..... Date.....
(Parent/Guardian with legal responsibility for the young person)