

HRL/sck

12th October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: 'Alleyne's Readers' Presents Time Travelling with a Hamster by Ross Welford

'Alleyne's Readers' is the largest club in our academy, including every single member of the Thomas Alleyne community. This annual academy-wide reading project is part of our continual drive to share our love of reading across the academy.

This year, we are delighted to inform you that we will be providing every single student in the academy with a copy of Time Travelling with a Hamster by Ross Welford.

This is a charming story about a boy called Al Chaudhury who is thrown into a moral dilemma on his twelfth birthday when he receives a letter from his late father asking him to travel back in time to save his life. Al knows there are many risks involved but it comes as no surprise when he decides he should do what his father requests and he uses a time machine to discover what life was like in 1984 – taking his pet hamster with him for company!

Time Travelling with a Hamster covers a wide range of themes appropriate for every age group, including family relationships, the effects our choices have on both ourselves and others, and poses some interesting 'big questions' about science and the impact time travel could have on the world.

Students will be given their copy of Time Travelling with a Hamster tomorrow. They should start reading their book as soon as they receive it and they have until Friday 8th December to finish it. On this day, we will be collapsing our curriculum during lessons 3, 4 and 5 and the students will work in their tutor groups to engage in a wide range of activities based on the key messages of the story.

We are also delighted to announce that the author, Ross Welford, will be joining us on this day and all our students will get the opportunity to hear him talk about his experiences as a writer and what inspired him to write this story.

We are very excited about this year's 'Alleyne's Readers' project and hope that you will join us in encouraging your child to read their copy of Time Travelling with a Hamster. The students will be allowed to keep their book and we are sure other members of your family will enjoy reading it too, as it is a book that can inspire children and adults alike.

Yours faithfully

Helen Russell

Mrs Helen Russell
Assistant Headteacher (Teaching and Learning)