



LANSDOWN ROAD
CHELTENHAM
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
GL51 6QS
TEL 01242 512217

Friday 27th September 2019

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s) of children in Year 4

I am writing to you with details of the **Year 4 trip to The Cheltenham Literature Festival on Friday 4th October**, the event taking place from 10.00 to 11.00 in Montpellier Gardens.

Before giving you those details may I say how keen I am to see all DCPS pupils discovering the pleasure of private reading – and then developing/maturing as keen young readers. I often give pupils three gentle, firm reminders: “No.1 - at least 10 minutes reading at bedtime, most nights of the week is our Dean Close *minimum expectation*; No.2 - put your screens outside your bedroom door; No.3 – your parents love seeing you children reading ... make them happy!” I am sure that you will do all you can to encourage your child to read at home – thank you.

Year Four pupils are really going to enjoy hearing the award-winning writer, **Robin Stevens**, talking about her work (yes – ‘Robin’ is female, and went to Cheltenham Ladies College). She is an enthusiastic, animated speaker and an author whose novels have got many DCPS children hooked on reading. You might like to look her up on line, with your child, in advance of the trip.

Here is a brief summary from this year’s festival brochure: *“Presenting her Murder Most Unladylike series, Robin shares tips on how to write a great mystery and reveals the people and places from her Cheltenham school days who inspired her books. Tap into your own detective skills as you get the chance to help Robin create and solve your very own mystery.”*

Important trip information:

- Pupils will be leaving and returning during normal school hours, by coach, so no special pick-up arrangements will be required.
- Regarding uniform, the event will be inside a festival marquee - pupils will wear normal smart school clothes.
- We will not have time to visit the festival bookstore; children must not bring money, cameras or any other electrical items.
- If your child suffers from asthma, please ensure that they bring an inhaler with them for the trip. Staff will, of course, check all medical requirements.

Kind regards,

Mr R Shelley (Head of English)

rpsheeley@deanclose.org.uk