



# Library Newsletter

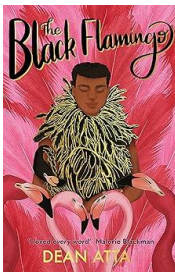


April 2024

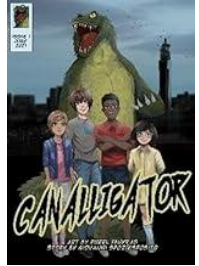
## AUTHOR VISITS: MARCH 2024

In March and, as part of Barnwood Book Month, we hosted two author visits. The authors and poets, Dean Atta and Spoz, were received warmly by the students who listened to their talks, took part in workshops and then wrote their own poetry.

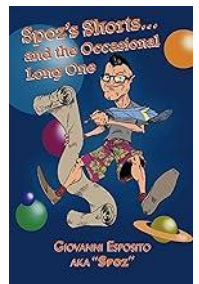
Dean worked with the students in Y9 and Y10 talking about topical and personal subjects, while Spoz worked with those in Y7 and Y8. In Dean's presentations, he spoke about his journey to becoming a writer and the inspiration behind his two young adult novels in verse, **The Black Flamingo** and **Only on the Weekends**.



During Spoz's whole year group talk to the Y7 students, he asked if anybody knew of any poets. The students recalled William Shakespeare, William Blake, Michael Rosen, Dean Atta and Mr Mountain to name a few! Dean had visited the previous week and although he worked with the older students, it was clear that his presence had been felt around the school. Mr Mountain is clearly making an impression too!



Several students wrote fantastic raps and poems (see the term 4 whole school newsletter for examples) and the younger students learnt an acronym for RAP (Rhythm and Poetry).



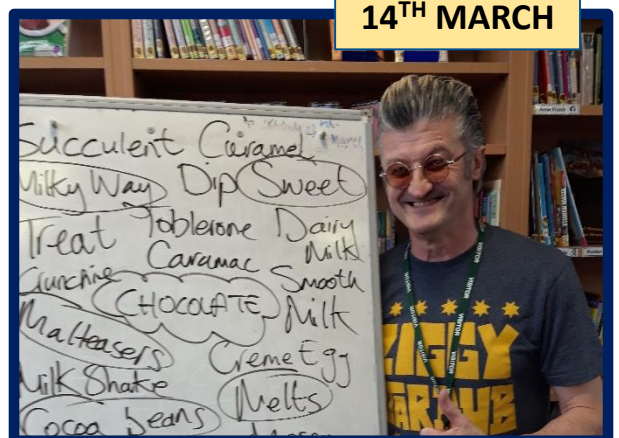
There was a buzz around school during the visits and it was great to see the students engaging with the poets and embracing the tasks.



DEAN ATTA ON TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

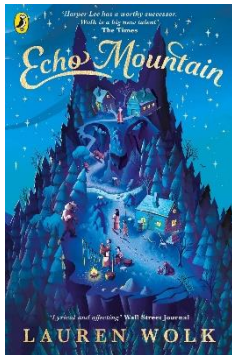


SPOZ ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH



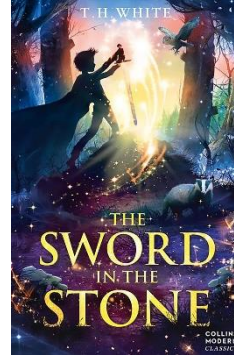
**STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS: REVIEWS IN  
A FEW WORDS**

Reviews written in a few words by our book group members. Why don't you come to the library to borrow one of the books?



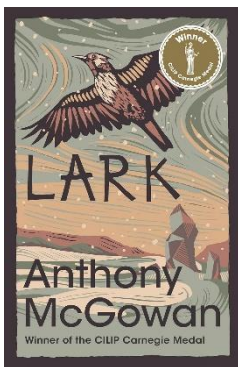
**Echo Mountain**  
by Lauren Wolk

Healing  
Adventurous  
Mysterious



**The Sword in the Stone**  
by T H White

Long-winded  
Detailed  
Descriptive  
Humorous



**Lark**  
by Anthony McGowan

Emotional  
Powerful  
Short but sweet  
Interesting  
Sad



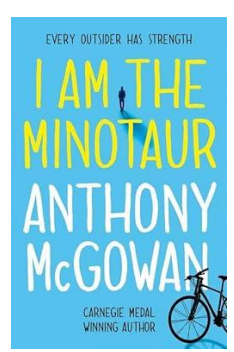
**The Eternal Return of Clara Hart**  
by Louise Finch

Plot twist  
Repetitive  
Suspense



**Freedom**  
by Catherine Johnson

Educating  
Thrilling  
Hopeful



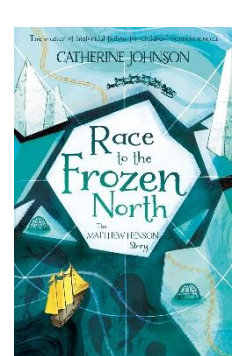
**I Am the Minotaur**  
by Anthony McGowan

Dramatic  
Funny  
Conflict  
Friendship  
Wholesome



**Punching the Air**  
by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam

Artistic  
Topical  
Engaging  
Racism



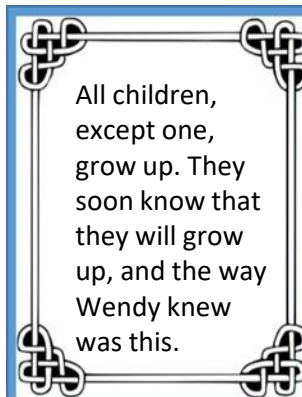
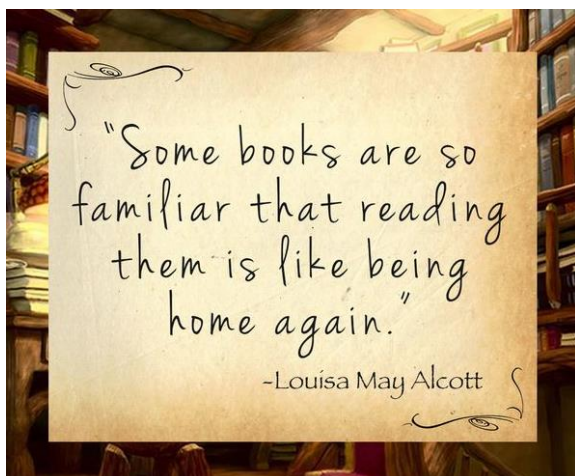
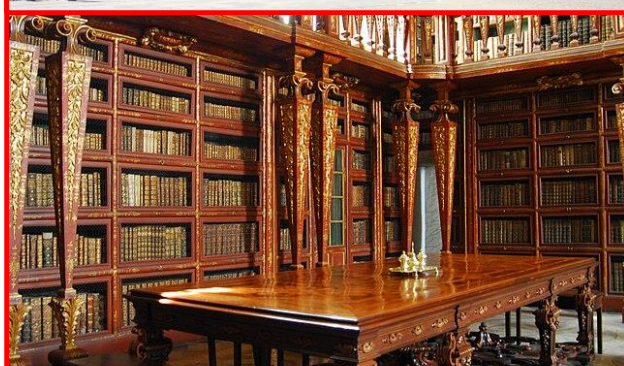
**Race to the Frozen North**  
by Catherine Johnson

Exciting  
Adventurous  
Tragic

## FABULOUS LIBRARIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD: BIBLIOTECA JOANINA/JOANINE LIBRARY

Built in the 18th century, the Joanine Library is located in the Paço das Escolas of the University of Coimbra, next to the Faculty of Law. When it comes to monumental libraries, the Joanine Library is perhaps the most famous. Built by King John V of Portugal, the baroque work is known for the use of gold in its decoration. It houses around 70,000 books, some of which are historical editions. Inside the building there are three rooms interconnected by arches. Gold was the most used decorative metal.

To preserve the works, the library has become home to bats, feeding on insects that would otherwise affect the paper quality of centuries-old books. Another library situated in Portugal, the Mafra Palace Library, is also home to dozens of bats, again serving as pest control.



NAME THE BOOK!

These are the first lines of a particular book. Can you name the book and the author?  
Answer at the end of the newsletter.

