

15th October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted to announce that Gary Toward, a local writer, will be visiting the school on Monday 4th November 2019 to discuss his first published book, *The Magpie*, with our Year 7s. Gary has visited us before and after those successful visits we have invited him back again.

We are extremely excited to be able to offer this fantastic opportunity to our students, and hope they will gain a much greater understanding of the way a book is created and developed, and eventually published. Hopefully, they will also learn a little more about the history of World War 1, which will certainly help them with their English and History lessons in the future. It is also poignant since the day is just a week before the armistice.

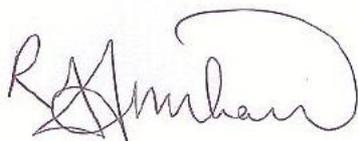
Before turning his hand to writing Gary taught for over 33 years in six schools, leading three as Head Teacher. As well as writing both fiction and non-fiction books, Gary continues to work in the educational sector as a speaker, trainer and author. *The Magpie* is his first foray into the world of fiction, and he is currently working on a sequel.

In *The Magpie* Gary relates the story of Detective Constable Frank Bolam, a working class policeman with a powerful sense of duty. A series of murders rocks his sleepy town in the North East, and Frank believes the killer has fled to Belgium to hide in the trenches. The story follows Frank's quest across the Channel in order to bring the killer to justice, and takes the reader on a fascinating and historically accurate journey through the horrors of World War 1 trench warfare.

If you wish to buy a copy of his book before the event Gary would be more than happy to sign it on the day. Copies can be ordered from bookshops or online at; amazon.com, austinmacauley.com, waterstones.com, brownsbfs.co.uk or other online booksellers. Prices differ regularly, so shop around for the best one.

Gary will also be bringing copies to buy directly from him too at TQEA on the day and at a reduced price of £5, please send in cash on the day if your child would like to purchase one during the session.

Yours sincerely,



Mr R Armishaw
Assistant Principal

