

13 December 2017

SJ/JB

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 12 visit to the British Library – 19 January 2018**

I am delighted to be able to offer Year 12 English Language students the opportunity to attend a lecture on Friday 19 January by the world-famous Linguistics Professor, David Crystal, on pronunciation and accent. In addition to the lecture, there will be a workshop run by an expert from the British Library on accent and dialect. Students will also be able to see an informative exhibition at the British Library about Sound. This is a free exhibition and students will also have free time to explore other exhibitions in the foyer and galleries. The whole day will be hugely beneficial especially helping the students in their preparation for Paper 1, Paper 2 and the non-examined assessment. The cost of the trip is £23 to cover the price of the train ticket and the cost of the lecture. Students will also need money for an evening meal and they may like to bring a packed lunch for the train. The dress code is smart casual.

The free exhibition is Sound. Students will have the opportunity to explore the British Library sound archive. They will be able to look at the significance of sound since the phonograph was invented in 1877.

Sounds Familiar is the free workshop which is led by British Library research staff. Experts in English accents and dialects, this session introduces ways of analysing spoken English. Through this classroom-based talk, students will learn about language change, language variation, and regional vocabulary, pronunciation and grammar in the UK. Students will be introduced to Sounds Familiar, a site that captures and celebrates the diversity of spoken English in the second half of the 20th century, and *Voices of the UK*, a British Library research project that opens up the BBC Voices sound recordings to students and researchers.

David Crystal's lecture is tailored to meet the demands of the two main forces behind language: intelligibility and identity. Using his knowledge of phonetics, linguistics and physiology – as well as examples ranging from Eliza Doolittle to Winston Churchill – David Crystal explores the origins of national and international accents, how they are influenced by class and education, and how their peculiarities have changed over time.

The day's schedule is as follows:

- 10.55am** Meet at Grantham station  
Students can meet Mrs Ditton at Newark station if this is easier, but this will incur an additional charge. Meeting time -10.35am
- 11.07am** Train leaves Grantham
- 12.22pm** Arrive in London and walk to the British Library
- 12.50pm** Sounds Familiar Workshop
- 2.30pm** Sound Exhibition
- 3.30pm** Free time to explore other exhibitions and the British Library
- 5.30pm** Tea at St Pancras International
- 6.45pm** Return to the British Library

**7pm** David Crystal lecture  
**8.15pm** Leave the British Library  
**8.35pm** Train back to London  
**9.45pm** Arrive back in Grantham

Under the requirements of the Education Reform Act 1988 we can only raise the cost of any visit by voluntary contributions. However, the visit can only go ahead if the level of support is sufficient.

If your son/daughter would like to attend, please complete and return the slip below. The trip will then appear on your ParentPay account to enable payment to be made.

If you any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



**Sally James**  
Second in the English Faculty

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**Please return to: Mrs Sally James, Second in English, Carre's Grammar School**

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I wish my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ to visit the British Library on Friday 19 January.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_