

SECONDARY SCHOOL LIBRARY NEWS

SUMMER 2010

Speed date / Read date Thursday 8th July 2010

This annual event, previously held on World Book Day took place as always in our favourite venue, The Paul Robeson Theatre. Forty three pupils from seven secondary schools across the borough came to meet each other and share their passion for books and reading. The morning was led by Tony Dallas, a facilitator with a long established relationship with Hounslow schools. Tony got the group moving around and meeting each other. Once they were warmed up and starting to become more confident they took their seats for the speed date. Boys went first and were given a minute to pitch their chosen book to a girl, taking turns as the girls moved round the circle.

After a refreshment break the girls decided which book they most wanted to read after hearing about them from the boys. The whole process was then reversed with the girls doing the talking. The morning ended with a group activity that where pupils were asked to identify authors from photographs.

Feedback from the pupils was very enthusiastic, most asking for a longer session as they had enjoyed it so much. Here are just a few of their comments:

"it was nice to interact with new people"

"I have a lot more books I want to read now"

"it was fun"

"I'll have a wider knowledge of different authors"....



The pupils then voted for the books that they would most like to read on the strength of the recommendations they had heard. Their top three choices were as follows:

Girls recommendations :

Hunger Games by *Suzanne Collins*
The Wee Free Men by *Terry Pratchett*
Flowers in the Attic by *Virginia Andrews*

Boys recommendations:

The Last Taboo by *Bali Rai*
Scorpia by *Anthony Horowitz*
Percy Jackson by *Rick Riordan*

Other books recommended included: **Child 44** by *Tom Rob Smith* ,
Hush Hush by *Becca Fitzpatrick*, **Cathedral of the Sea** by *Ildefonso Falcones*,
Battle Royale by *Koushun Takami*, **Holes** by *Louis Sachar*, **The Edge** by *Alan Gibbons*,
Wolf Brother by *Michelle Paver*, **The Book Thief** by *Markus Zusak*, **The Shack**
by *Willaim P Young*, **Mummy's Little Girl** by *Jane Elliot*.

We think this is a most impressive and varied selection of reading material and is certain proof to counteract the constant refrain that 'teenagers don't read'!



Hounslow Teen Read 2011

The long list for the Teen Read should be ready to sent out to schools before the end of term. Short listing will happen in the autumn term and the award event will be held in the spring term.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The SLS team

Charlotte Arthur, Librarian
Becky Heather, Librarian
Michelle Golding, SLS assistant
Jo Kelly, SLS assistant
Sue Brown A/V driver

Tel: 0845 456 2905
Fax: 0845 456 2928
Email: charlotte.arthur@laing.com
becky.heather@laing.com
schoolslibraryservice-hct@laing.com

Neil Gaiman winner of this year's Carnegie Award
with **The Graveyard Book** has a good site at:
www.mousecircus.com/

*Congratulations to Mahavir Ladva who has been
appointed Library Assistant at Cranford Community
College. We wish him well!*

Have a great summer holiday and remember we are here to help in any way we can.