



6th January '25



RE: Scholars Programme Information (Selected Year 5 Children)

Dear Park Lane Family,

Following the news of your child's exciting enrolment in the Scholars Programme, we are thrilled to share some further information about their course and how the project will run.

The course title for this academic year is 'Into the Deep, Dark Woods: A Journey through Literature.' Throughout the course, children will explore a range of texts that examine humanity's relationship with the natural world. The course will include the study of winter in medieval literature, the use of imagery and how literary portrayals of characters and settings have changed over time. Children will also consider why writers often idealise nature and what this reveals about human identity and values. In addition, the course will explore Romanticism, as well as the ways in which humans and animals are represented in stories.

During school time, over a 5-week period, your child will have targeted sessions delivered by their PHD tutor in two groups of 7 children. Following each session with their tutor, the children will have another Scholars session allocated in their school timetable to complete further academic research and submit their homework required ahead of their next session. After their first 5 sessions, they will then begin to draft their 1000-word assignment in two parts as discussed below.

- Part One includes producing a piece of creative writing that describes a natural setting as an introduction to a story (500 words)
- Part Two includes writing a commentary analysing your creative writing – this should cover how your piece of creative writing represents nature, how you would like your reader to think and feel about nature and what choices you made to create that effect (500 words).

More information will be provided closer to the time regarding their draft, including a marking criteria and key things that need to be included. Please note: We will not have this information to share until their 5th session is completed. In previous years, the Scholars children have then been tasked to come up with some initial ideas or a draft essay, if they feel confident, at home which will then be explored and written in school through guidance of staff at school and their PHD tutor. Following their assignment submission (deadline yet to be confirmed), the children then await their final results which will be marked externally by the Brilliant Club, before attending their very own graduation ceremony.

The programme will launch today where they will learn more about the course, university life and what the project entails. They will then have their initial tutor launch on 14th January where they will meet their PHD tutor, be familiarised with their chosen course and have chance to try out the Scholars online dashboard.

We hope your children will enjoy this experience, widening their horizons and prospects for university or further academic studies in the future. We thank you in advance for your support with the project and should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours Sincerely,

S Boyes
Deputy Head

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