



RIDGEWOOD
HIGH SCHOOL

21st September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Author Visit to School – Wednesday 27th September

We are delighted to be able to inform you that next Wednesday we will be welcoming the author Joel Arcanjo to Ridgewood. Joel has a degree in Criminology and Psychology from Aberystwyth University and a Masters in Creative Writing and Publishing from City University, London, and currently works in Editorial at Bloomsbury Publishing. He has published two crime novels for adults and last year, his debut children's novel, *Crookhaven: The School For Thieves*, was published by Hachette in 2022 and was announced as one of *The Sunday Times* best books for children in 2023. Its sequel, *Crookhaven: The Forgotten Maze*, was published in August 2023.

Joel will be with us on Wednesday afternoon and will begin by meeting Year 7 students and signing copies of his latest book, for those who wish to purchase it. Although this is a sequel, it is not necessary to read *Crookhaven: The School for Thieves* first. The following is the blurb for his latest book:

“An irresistible series about chosen family, high stakes thievery, and what it really means to do good. It's Gabriel's second year at Crookhaven School for Thieves. And with a tricky Break-In challenge to the teacher's section of the library to attempt, plus a new class called Reclamation, his Miscreant year is already off to a busy start.

Then Gabriel and his friends learn about Marvel's Maze. Hidden deep beneath the lake, forgotten about by the school, it's a labyrinth of obstacles. Each tests a crook-related skill – and all are nearly impossible. But the impossible has never stopped Gabriel's crew before, especially not when there's something at the heart of the maze that they all desperately want...

The second book in the 'criminally good' Crookhaven series, the secret school where students are taught to do wrong, so that one day, they can put the world to rights.”

From 2.15pm to 3pm, Joel will host an event in the hall with all our Year 7 students and students from Year 6 at St James's Church of England Primary School in Wollaston. This is a fantastic opportunity for the students to meet a new, upcoming author and be inspired to develop their own reading and writing skills.

Purchasing a copy of *Crookhaven: The Forgotten Maze*

Joel's book is being offered to us for £6.50 per copy (the RRP is £7.99), but we have decided to offer this to Year 7 students for £5.00. If you would like your child to meet Joel and receive a signed copy of the book, please pay via Parent Pay by Monday, 25th September.

Yours faithfully,

Mr I Duff

English Teacher

Ridgewood High School



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