



It has been a wet few days, but hopefully we have some drier days to come.....do please make sure your daughter or son is coming to school with a jacket on and is prepared for the day. We have been very pleased with uniform so far this term, and continue to be able to help if support is needed; please contact us through [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) and we will get back to you.

A reminder, please, that all contact to school should be through [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#); using this enables us to track communications and ensure we can get back to you. Unfortunately, a small number of parents and carers are continuing to email staff directly or copying individual staff into emails; this does not help us with our processes which we have been working to improve and have also worked with our Parent and Carer Forum on. They are still evolving, but it is important that all members of the school community play their part in helping us to get this right. This system also enables us to follow up with school staff if we have not adhered to what we have said we will do.

Thank you to parents and carers who have taken the time to respond to our consultation about homework; this remains open until 27th October - <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=UTeH7weljks2mO4DGypXkim203fYHApLtyX1rQ-vKqJUNUJIWTIYTeZTDNaMEY4QU9KV1ZSRUIJNi4u> – and we hope that as many of you as possible will take the time to help us develop our approach to homework. As we have outlined previously, success is achieved through hard work and our students do need to be completing more learning at home.

Upcoming Dates

Thursday 10th October – Year 7, 8 & 13 Student Council Conference, Arrow Vale

Friday 11th October – Year 9 Loudmouth Performance

Thursday 17th October – Year 7 Settling In Evening

Friday 18th October – Flu Vaccinations – All Years

The Knife Angel

The Knife Angel is in Sandwell for October; details can be found by visiting [Knife Angel | Sandwell Council](#)

Assembly Themes

Assembly focus this week was British Values

w/c 07/10 – Black History Month

w/c 14/10 – Anti-Bullying

Please take the time to talk to your child about what they have learnt in Assembly.

Curriculum and Assessment Review

The Department for Education is consulting all people with an interest in Curriculum and Assessment for students across England and Wales in KS1-4, and 16-19 year olds; please see [Please see Improving the curriculum and assessment system - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) and [Curriculum and Assessment Review - Department for Education - Citizen Space](#) to provide your input for the DFE Curriculum and Assessment review. Please note that this closes on 22nd November 2024.



Follow us



YEAR 11 Gospel Oak School

Your Connexions Careers Advisors are:

Danielle Wells & Emma Dixon-Reid

You will be offered a one to one careers interview in school to discuss your career ideas, look at your post 16 options and have help with applications and interviews

You can contact us on

danielle_wells@sandwell.gov.uk
emma_dixonreid@sandwell.gov.uk

www.connexionssandwell.co.uk



We can offer
School
Experience



SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH EXCEPTIONAL SCHOOLS

<https://centreregionschoolstrust.co.uk/teach-central/>



Interested in teaching? We have availability on our courses across Secondary and Primary phases, we offer a bespoke training programme and multi tiered support, get in touch to find out more..

Visit our Website



Applications for 2025/26 open on 8th October, courses can be viewed from 1st October.

Apply here



For more information, please contact - twilson@crst.org.uk

In collaboration with

Teaching

Search: Get Into Teaching

We have availability in our schools across Dudley, Sandwell, Birmingham, Redditch & Worcester



Gospel Oak School Vacancies



Gospel Oak School are looking for a team of Exam Invigilators
For more information, please visit:
<https://www.gospeloakschool.org.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=13>
Apply by: 4th November

Keep water beads away from young children

child accident prevention trust

Children love water beads. But it's really dangerous if a young child swallows them.



They expand in the belly and can block the bowel. Some grow as big as golf balls.



A child may need major surgery to remove them. So please keep them away from young children.



If you suspect a child has swallowed a water bead, get medical help straight away.

Scan to learn more



www.capt.org.uk
@ChildAccidentPreventionTrust @capt_charity

BILSTON SWIMMING CLUB



Swimming in Bilston, Darlaston and Wednesbury

If you have a young swimmer age 7-9yrs old who can complete 25mtrs Front crawl, Backstroke and Breaststroke who is interested in competitive swimming, we would like to hear from you.

Please contact us via our website – www.bilstonsc.co.uk

Email - marierusson.bilstonsc@gmail.com

If you have a swimmer who is not quite at this level then BILSTON SWIMMING CLUB would also welcome you to join our MINI CLUB programme.

Contact – 07493 727404 Or email – miniclub.bilstonsc@gmail.com

A. A. CHAUDHURI

LIVE Sandwell Libraries & Archives



A.A. Chaudhuri is a History graduate and former City lawyer. Born and raised in Portsmouth, Hampshire, she now lives in Surrey with her family, where she writes full time.

Her fourth psychological thriller - UNDER HER ROOF - was released this year.

All of Alex's books have achieved bestseller status on Amazon UK, Amazon US, Amazon Australia and Amazon Canada.

She will be joined for a Q&A by two other notable crime writers.

VENUE: BLEAKHOUSE LIBRARY
DATE: WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER
TIME: 2.30PM


Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code




SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

AJAY CHOWDHURY



LIVE Sandwell Libraries & Archives



Ajay Chowdhury is the inaugural winner of the Harvill Secker-Bloody Scotland crime fiction award. He is a tech entrepreneur, writer and theatre director. His children's novel 'Ayesha and the Firefish' was published in 2016. His first crime novel in the Kamil Rahman series – The Waiter – was published in 2021, was named the Sunday Times crime book of the month and has been optioned for television. Its follow ups – The Cook (2022) and The Detective (2023) – came out to strong reviews and he is currently working on the next book in the series – The Spy – due to be published in 2024.

VENUE: SMETHWICK LIBRARY
DATE: MONDAY 21 OCTOBER
TIME: 2.30-3.15pm

Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code

SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

**INCREDIBLE
INDIA FROM THE
PUNJAB**

8th October 2024

Butter Chicken

Dal Makhani

Rice
Gajar Matar
(Spiced Carrots & Peas)

Additional
Naan

Enjoy!



**INCREDIBLE
INDIA FROM THE
PUNJAB**

**Don't miss out on this
opportunity to savour
the essence of Punjab
right here!**

**Mark your calendars
and bring your
appetite!**

8th October 2024



Sixth Form

Welcome back to all the students at Gospel Oak sixth form. It is lovely to see you all back and working hard. During the summer holidays the sixth form area moved into a purpose-built area which consists of a new common room and silent study area. Giving students more space and IT equipment to use to support them in their journey to Post 18.

Your Sincerely

Mr Bala
Director of Post 16

Year 12 student of the week – Sharlie T
Year 13 student of the week – Jess K

Year 12 attendance – 97.13%
Year 13 attendance – 94.3 %

Events –

16th October - Unifrog event Online – students are invited to meet 40 universities in two hours online – giving practical advice from the experts to help them get a step closer to their dream university.

24th October Post 16 Open evening 6.00-8.00.

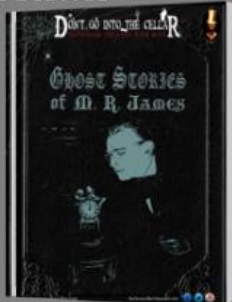
THEATRE PRODUCTION

An Evening of Classic Ghost Stories



BY DON'T GO IN THE CELLAR

An evening of classic ghost stories where you, the audience, chooses which tales are performed! No two performances will be the same, guaranteed! Jonathan Goodwin plays Montague Rhodes James in a show scripted by himself.



VENUE: CENTRAL LIBRARY
 DATE: TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER
 TIME: 7pm – Doors Open 6.30pm
 TICKET PRICE : £5.00
 Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



Central Library, High Street,
 West Bromwich, B70 8DZ
 Telephone: 0121 569 4900
 email:
 central_library@sandwell.gov.uk

SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

THEATRE PRODUCTION

WILD By Black Country Touring



Wild. What does wild mean to you? Is it cliff edges, howling winds and raging seas, or running through city streets, fuelled by adrenaline? Black Country Touring returns with a brand-new theatre production that explores the wild within us and the wild that surrounds us.



'Wild' is devised from dozens of conversations with people across the Black Country. What is your wild?

VENUE: CENTRAL LIBRARY
 DATE: THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER
 TIME: 7.30pm – Doors Open 7pm
 TICKET PRICE : PAY WHAT YOU CAN
 To Book please log into Black Country Touring Website



Central Library, High Street,
 West Bromwich,
 West Midlands, B70 8DZ
 Telephone: 0121 569 4900
 email:
 central_library@sandwell.gov.uk

SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

ANDREW LOUND



Join Titanic expert Andrew Lound as he explores the people & various industries in the Black Country in the life of most famous ship in the World. The ship may have been built in Belfast, registered in Liverpool & sailed from Southampton but over 70% of her interior came from the Midlands.

VENUE: CRADLEY HEATH LIBRARY
 DATE: TUESDAY 22ND OCTOBER
 TIME: 2.30PM
 FREE
 Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

CARL CHINN



THE REAL PEAKY BLINDERS

Professor Carl Chinn MBE is a social historian with a national profile, writer, teacher, tour guide, and public speaker. An off-course bookmaker until 1984, he is the son and grandson of illegal bookmakers in Sparkbrook, whilst his mother's family were factory workers in Aston. His writings and broadcasting are deeply affected by his family's working-class background and life in the back-to-backs of Birmingham, and he believes passionately that history must be democratised because each and every person has made their mark upon history and has a story to tell.

VENUE: GREAT BARR LIBRARY
 DATE: WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER
 TIME: 12 NOON
 FREE
 Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



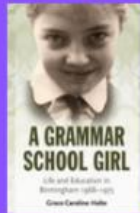
SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

GINA MADDISON

GRACE CAROLINE HOLTE



Gina Maddison was born in Birmingham in 1957, to two factory workers who each spent 50 years working in industry. A sister followed in 1958; they were part of a close, extended working class family. A Grammar School Girl is the final book in her Birmingham Trilogy, set in the years 1968 - 1975, when her family were relocated to the brand new Newtown Council Estate, and she attended King Edward's Grammar School for Girls, Handsworth. The new council estate housing offered a new start in life, and her years at King Edward's enabled her going to University, the first in her family ever to do so.



VENUE: WEDNESBURY LIBRARY
DATE: MONDAY 21 OCTOBER
TIME: 2PM

Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

ANDREW LOUND



Join Titanic expert Andrew Lound as he explores the people & various Industries In the Black Country In the life of most famous ship in the World. The ship may have been built in Belfast, registered in Liverpool & sailed from Southampton but over 70% of her Interior came from the Midlands.

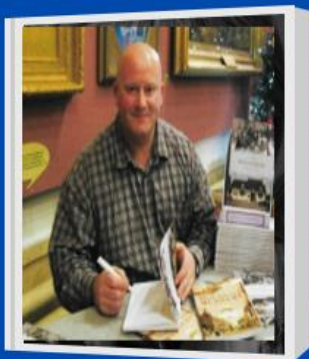


VENUE: Hill Top LIBRARY
DATE: Friday 25th OCTOBER
TIME: 12PM
FREE
Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

IAN BOTT

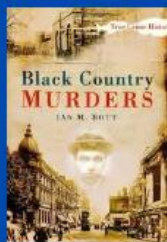


Gruesome Black Country a new talk full of gruesome events and tales from our local area. Join Wednesbury's favourite historian and discover largely forgotten history of tragic events which happened locally.

VENUE: WEDNESBURY LIBRARY
0121 569 4945
DATE: WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER
TIME: 2PM



Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

KIM NASH



Kim Nash is an author of uplifting, funny, heartwarming, romantic, feel-good fiction and has wanted to write books since she was a little girl. Her latest books are the Cornish Cove series published by Boldwood Books.

VENUE: STONE CROSS
DATE: TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER
TIME: 2PM

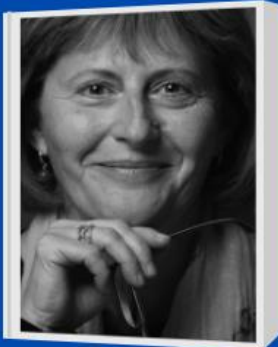


Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

LESLEY KARA



Lesley Kara is a Sunday Times Top Ten and Amazon #1 bestselling author of psychological thrillers. She is the author of *The Rumour*, *Who Did You Tell*, *The Dare*, *The Apartment Upstairs* and *The Other Tenant*.

The *Rumour* was the highest selling print crime fiction debut of 2019.

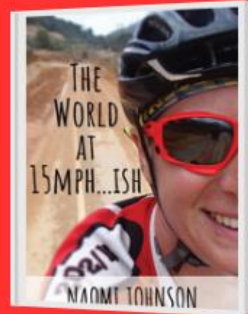
VENUE: GLEBEFIELDS LIBRARY
DATE: FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER
TIME: 11AM

Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

NAOMI JOHNSON



Aged 36 and ready for a change in her life, Naomi set off to cycle the world on the adventure of a lifetime - with a man she'd met only three times before!

With early school reports noting Naomi would be better at sport if she at least turned up, this is not an athlete's journey - but the story of an ordinary person with a great opportunity and a can-do attitude.

The trip would be life-changing, seeing Naomi travel almost 20,000 miles and through 26 countries, including riding from Cairo to Capetown and crossing over the 5,416m Thorong-la pass in Nepal.

Naomi's inspiring memoir is a story of overcoming challenges, making the most of life's opportunities and, of course, of travel, cycling, relationships and the oft-missed part of travel writing - how do you adjust to life on your return home?

VENUE: BLACKHEATH LIBRARY
DATE: SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER
TIME: 11.30AM

Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

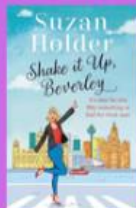
SUZAN HOLDER



Suzan trained as a newspaper journalist and worked on regional and national newspapers before moving into TV production at Central and Granada Television Studios. She worked on a variety of television news and lifestyle programmes and was Series Producer of ITV's network daytime talk show *Loose Women*.

Married to musician, actor and presenter Noddy Holder, Suzan has one son, two step-daughters and two step-grandchildren. She loves music, dancing, dirty martinis and clunky (rather than kinky) boots.

Suzan has written for newspapers, television and theatre and is thrilled to have written two novels *Shake it Up, Beverley* and *Rock n' Rose* for One More Chapter, HarperCollins; the first a romantic comedy about Beatles fan Bev and her internet dating adventures, the second about a young woman who travels to Memphis, Tennessee to solve a family mystery involving Elvis Presley.



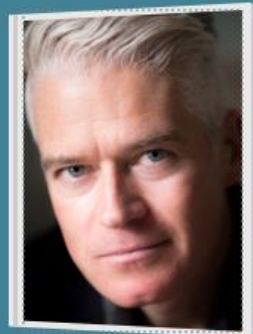
VENUE: TIPTON LIBRARY
DATE: WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER
TIME: 5PM

Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

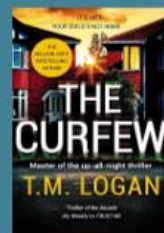
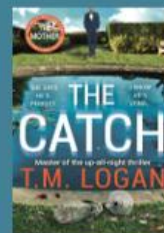
T. M. LOGAN



Bestselling author TM Logan was a national newspaper journalist before turning to novel-writing full time. His thrillers have sold more than two million copies in the UK and are published in translation in 22 countries around the world including France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany, South Korea, Poland, Hungary, Serbia, Greece, Romania and the Netherlands

VENUE: WEDNESBURY LIBRARY
DATE: TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER
TIME: 2PM

Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

CARL CHINN



THE REAL PEAKY BLINDERS

Professor Carl Chinn MBE is a social historian with a national profile, writer, teacher, tour guide, and public speaker. An off-course bookmaker until 1984, he is the son and grandson of illegal bookmakers in Sparkbrook, whilst his mother's family were factory workers in Aston. His writings and broadcasting are deeply affected by his family's working-class background and life in the back-to-backs of Birmingham, and he believes passionately that history must be democratised because each and every person has made their mark upon history and has a story to tell.

VENUE: THIMBLEMILL LIBRARY

DATE: FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER

TIME: 11AM

FREE

Bookings: Contact Library or scan QR code



SANDWELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Sandwell Literature Festival 2024



Mine Craft Workshops

Pop-Up Gaming workshop sessions
for ages 7 to 14

Date: Monday 28th October 2024

Venue: Wednesbury Library

Time: 2.00pm

Booking: Please book in advance

Telephone: 0121 569 4945

Wednesbury Library, Walsall St, Wednesbury, WS10 9EH

Tel: 0121 569 4945

email: wednesbury_library@sandwell.gov.uk



NEW WELL BEING CLUB



Join us on a journey of self-discovery and rejuvenation as we guide you through ancient practices to harmonize our physical and mental well-being.

The FREE 12 week course includes:
Flexibility and self-regulation techniques
EFT tapping
Manifesting
Crystal work
Positive thinking
Breathing techniques
Understanding Crystals and bespoke bracelet making
Affirmations
Vision boards and Well Being Journals

Dates: 2024

Tues: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct,

Tues: 5, 12, 19 & 26 Nov

Tues 3, 10, 17 Dec

Time:- 15:30 - 16.30

Location:- Bistro



Please contact Ms Rolls (based near SEN) to secure your place.



Gospel Oak School

Bilston Road
Gospel Oak
Tipton
West Midlands
DY4 0BZ

T 0121 556 1351

F 0121 506 7833

W www.gospeloakschool.co.uk

To: Parents/Carers

25th September 2024

Our Ref: SBa.KH.3115

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Sixth Form Open Evening

We are excited to invite your son/daughter to our sixth form open evening. The sixth form open evening will take place on Thursday 24th October 2024 from 6.00pm and 8.00pm. There will be the opportunity for students, together with their parents/carers, to talk to subject staff in each of the courses that are on offer from September 2025.

We offer a diverse curriculum to reflect the students' ambitions and interests. We have recently relocated to a new area of the school that has been purpose built to ensure students are able to study effectively. This area will be open for you to visit as part of the open evening.

Our sixth form prospectus will be available on the open evening for you to take away and have conversations with your son/daughter about what our sixth form has to offer. Our full curriculum offer for 2025-26, along with information about each subject, is available on our website.

We look forward to showcasing our sixth form to you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bala
Associate Assistant Principal Post 16



To: Parents / Carers

1st October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Philosophy, Ethics and Religious Studies Offering

We are excited to announce a new and enriching offering for our students: Philosophy, Ethics, and Religious Studies (PERS). This comprehensive programme is designed to deepen your son's/daughter's understanding of a variety of secular and religious perspectives, fostering critical thinking and broadening their worldview. To enhance the learning experience, we have organised a series of educational trips for all Key Stage 3 students. These visits will offer your son/daughter the opportunity to engage with diverse religious cultures within the community we serve. The planned trips are as follows:

- Year 9: Visit to St Marks Church, Tipton on 8th November 2024
- Year 8: Visit to a local Gurdwara on 14th March 2025
- Year 7: Visit to a local Mosque (date to be confirmed)

Throughout the academic year, we will also host a series of guest speakers who are experts in various fields of philosophy, ethics and religious studies. These speakers will present on a range of topics, providing valuable insights and build discussions that will challenge and inspire our students. In addition to these activities, your son/ daughter will benefit from a detailed and structured tutor time curriculum designed to develop their understanding of both secular and religious viewpoints. This curriculum will include:

- In-depth study materials and resources.
- Interactive classroom discussions and debates.
- Opportunities for personal reflection and critical analysis

We believe that this comprehensive approach will not only enhance your son's/daughter's academic experience but also support their personal growth and development as thoughtful and informed individuals. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

We look forward to your continued support and to a successful year of learning and exploration.

Many regards,

Warren Jones
Assistant Director of Learning Standards – Religious Education

Gospel Oak School

Bilston Road
 Gospel Oak
 Tipton
 West Midlands
 DY4 0BZ

T 0121 556 1351

F 0121 506 7833

W www.gospeloakschool.co.uk

Our Ref: WJO/RQU/001