



Alameda Middle School

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October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have the exciting opportunity to have the established author – Julian Sedgwick - visit Alameda Middle School. We have scheduled this visit in for our Key Stage 3 students on the morning of 16th October 2019. The visit will take place during morning lessons and will not impact on Year 8 options lesson 1.

Julian's first book for children - '*Mysterium: The Black Dragon*' - was published in July 2013 and won the Rotherham Children's Book Award. The second and third instalments of the trilogy '*The Palace of Memory*' and '*The Wheel of Life and Death*' were published in 2014. The first installment in Julian's new supernatural thriller trilogy - '*Ghosts of Shanghai*' - was published by Hodder Children's in July 2015, followed by sequels '*Shadow of the Yangtze*' and '*The Pale Revenant*'. Julian has a lifelong interest in the arts and culture of China and Japan and this has influenced much of his writing.

We are hoping from the talk that students gain knowledge in several areas: what inspires authors to write; how English at school links to a career as an author; how ideas and characters develop over the course of the writing process. We have now been fortunate enough to have several author visits over the past few years, and we are confident that this visit will be equally as exciting for students to experience.

The publishing house and Julian are able to offer books to purchase during the visit and these will be priced at £6.00 for individual books from any trilogy, and £16.00 from complete trilogies. Julian has said that, after the talk to KS3, he is happy to sign these for students too. If you would like to purchase a book, please send money in on the day in a clearly-labelled envelope with your child's name, form and the purpose for the money written on the front.

With warm regards,

Mrs A Mckinnon
English Leader

Mrs C Sharpe
Librarian