



21st September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

YEAR 7 AND 8 STUDENTS – A F STEADMAN – FREE AUTHOR EVENT AT THE WYVERN THEATRE

This year celebrates the 19th anniversary of the Swindon Youth Festival of Literature. From modest beginnings, this well-respected annual event has grown year on year, nurtured by our passion for books and reading. We are proud to have attracted so many wonderful and diverse authors and performers and look forward to 2026 with great anticipation.

Our headline event for all schools will take place at the Wyvern Theatre on Monday 9th November in the morning when international best-selling author A F Steadman comes to town to talk about her blockbusting Skandar series. Get ready for unlikely heroes, elemental magic, sky battles, ancient secrets and ferocious unicorns. Find out about her original inspirations for the Skandar series, which has been translated into 45 languages and is set to hit the big screen with Sony Pictures.

Transport will be provided by coach, and the trip is free of charge. We have a limited number of places for this trip so unfortunately cannot guarantee a place to everyone. Once places are filled any students that have returned a permission slip will go on a reserve list in case a place becomes available. Further details will be given to students who have successfully secured a place on the trip with details of a selection of books for sale via Arbor School Shop. There may be an opportunity for students attending the trip to have their book signed by the author but I cannot guarantee this due to potential time constraints.

To take advantage of this fantastic opportunity please ask your child to collect a permission slip from Mrs Shurley in the library at break time or lunch time Monday to Thursday. Permission slips need to be returned by Thursday 1st October.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sarah Shurley

Library Manager/Librarian