

3rd November 2021



**Vyners School**  
Striving for Excellence

Dear Parent / Carer

**Subject      Year 9 Philip Pullman Workshop- 24 November 2021 – 3.10-4.40pm**

I am writing to invite your son/daughter to take part in an exciting workshop. In this after-school session, Year 9 students will have the opportunity to explore the first novel in Pullman's acclaimed trilogy, *Northern Lights*. For those who haven't read *Northern Lights* yet, the story introduces us to Lyra, a young girl who begins to uncover dangerous secrets about the adults around her. When her friend Roger goes missing, Lyra and her pet daemon Pantalaimon, embark on a perilous journey to the ice kingdoms of the North to find him - but what they discover there changes their destiny forever...It is not a requirement of taking part that students have read the novel before the workshop, although it is advised to be familiar with at least some of the story.

In the second half of the workshop, students will get the opportunity to join a Zoom call with the author himself. During the event, Philip Pullman will be talking about the inspiration behind *Northern Lights* and the *His Dark Materials* trilogy. There will also be an extended Q&A, which will be a fantastic opportunity for students to share their thoughts on the book and learn more about the characters, themes and process of writing. Students will be provided with chromebooks so that they can participate in the Q&A activity.

The workshop will run from **3.10 - 4.40pm on Wednesday 24th November**. It will take place in school, in an **English classroom (room 112)**, run by **members of Vyners' English Department**. There is **no cost** for this activity.

We really hope that this is something that your son/daughter is interested in as it is a great chance to broaden and deepen their knowledge of English literature. It is also an opportunity to interact with a world-renowned author.

Please complete the Google Form attached [here](#) to indicate your child's participation in the Philip Pullman Workshop. We will be limiting the number of students to 25 and allocating places on a first-come-first-served basis. The deadline for completing this form is Monday 15th November. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Ms C Connolly  
Deputy Subject Leader, English

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