

# Year 7 Literacy Evening

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, The Eastwood Academy held a Literacy Evening for the parents of Year 7 pupils. Parents were informed about what literacy actually is, its importance and the ways in which the Academy is promoting and developing it. The main objective of the evening was to highlight what parents can do to help their children, either by working with them at home and/or encouraging them to embrace the various activities across the Academy.

After the staff presentations, everyone was set a task to come up with a descriptive piece incorporating many language techniques, such as: metaphors and repetition, to engage the audience. Pupils in Year 9-11 were on hand to assist with the task. The best pieces were judged at the end with those who won, winning a book and an Easter egg.



It was a successful event with many parents giving positive feedback. One of the parents I interviewed said, "The evening was a great way of letting me comprehend the literacy standards within The Eastwood Academy and how my child is being pushed to achieve the grades she is capable of, which I feel is really important to have in a school, otherwise my child wouldn't be able to achieve the high grades that she accomplishes now. I obtained a wealth of information about how I can challenge my child and what is happening in the English community within the school. I feel the evening was really worthwhile, and I believe this could benefit other years within the school - not just Year 7- and I thank the school for allowing me to be part of this useful and developing evening."

One of the Year 7 pupils who attended the evening exclaimed, "The evening was great fun as I got to write creative stories and build on my knowledge on how to make my work better, but most of all, I liked the evening because I won a book and I got an Easter egg to share with my mum. I feel these types of evenings and activities would be beneficial for many Year 7 pupils and others within the school. I hope I can win more books and chocolate in future activities."

Overall the evening was a great way to engage parents and pupils and I can't wait for the next instalment.

Alex Green (Year 9)

## *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*

An exciting event is happening within the literacy community in the UK. J.K Rowling has announced an original play, seen as being the 8th instalment of the Harry Potter books, set 19 years later, and the first official Harry Potter story to be presented on stage. *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* is one play presented in two parts, which is intended to be seen in order on the same day (matinee and evening) or on two consecutive evenings. Performances will start on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2016 in London's West End at the Palace Theatre this summer. For more information go to: [www.harrypottertheplay.com](http://www.harrypottertheplay.com)