

# Welcome to Evolve Academy's Term 4 News 2026



**Second Chances. Strong Futures.**



National Year of Reading 2026



## Primary News

- Ramadan Mosque Visit
- Celebrating Shakespeare Week
- Carnegie Award for Writing & Illustration Shortlist Announced Age 3-10+

## Secondary News

### Curriculum News

- STEM Club: Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths
- GCSE English Language & GCSE Maths Exams

### Reading News

- Youth Fiction -Recommended Reads No.2
- Carnegie Shortlist for Writing Age 12+

### SEND News

- Expressive & Receptive Language Skills

### Mental Health & Wellbeing

- Action for Happiness

### Personal Development

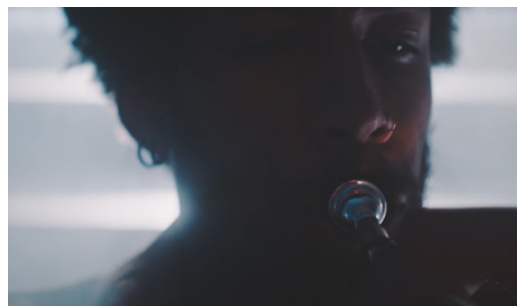
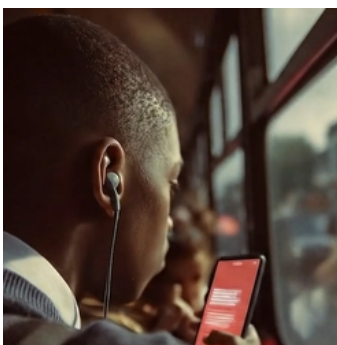
- Go Live Theatre
- Hamlet Cinema Trip
- World Book Day Guest Author Visit

### Careers / Post 16

- London Fire Brigade

### Safeguarding

- Contacts Update:



## **STEM CLUB**

Coming Soon!

We are excited to announce the launch of our school's STEM Club. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, and the club is designed to give students fun, hands-on opportunities to explore these subjects beyond the classroom.

Keep a look out for further information.



## GCSE Exam Schedule

9 am Thursday <b>14th May</b>	GCSE <b>Mathematics</b> Paper 1
9 am Thursday <b>21st May</b>	GCSE <b>English Language</b> Paper 1
9 am Wednesday <b>3rd June</b>	GCSE <b>Mathematics</b> Paper 2
9 am Friday <b>5th June</b>	GCSE <b>English Language</b> Paper 2
9 am Wednesday <b>10th June</b>	GCSE <b>Mathematics</b> Paper 3

## Results Day

Results Collection

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 10.00-12.00

## Information for candidates

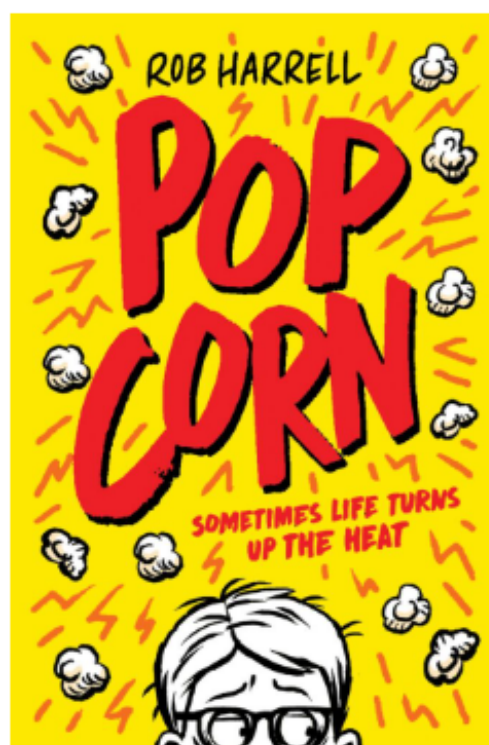
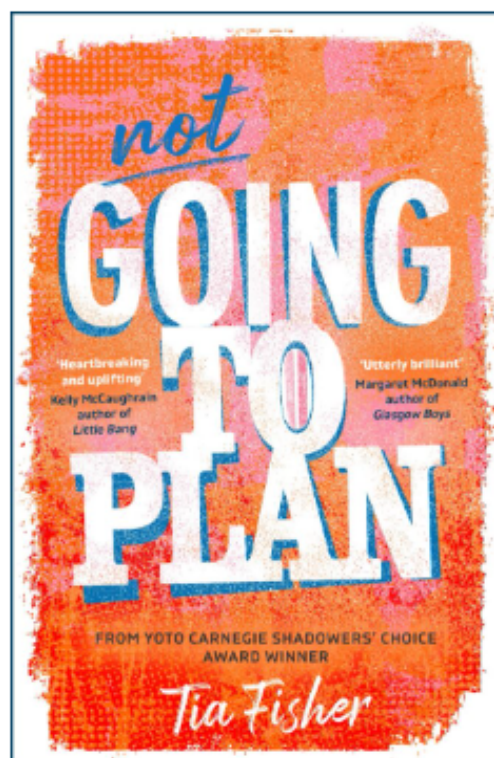
Written examinations

With effect from 1 September 2025

## Carnegie Medal for Writing - Shortlisted Announced

The 2026 Carnegie Medal shortlists feature 16 books, with eight titles each for Writing and Illustration, highlighting themes of identity, belonging, and innovative storytelling.

**Ages 14+**



## PROMOTING EXPRESSIVE AND RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE SKILLS EVERYWHERE



How we understand the language around us and the ability to hear/understand/comprehend language.

Needed for learning, play, communication with others, understanding directions, safety, and participation in everyday activities.

The use of language to communicate with others.

Expressive language is "expressed" through speech, sign, written words, picture symbols, gestures, body language, or alternative forms of language to communicate wants, needs, thoughts and ideas.

Expressive and receptive language fit together like important puzzle pieces.

## PROMOTING EXPRESSIVE AND RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE SKILLS EVERYWHERE

### **Receptive vs Expressive language**

**Receptive language focuses on the ability to understand.**

**It includes:**

- Reading skills
- Listening
- Following directions
- Knowing the meaning of what is read or said

**Expressive language focuses on the ability to communicate.**

**It includes:**

- Speaking
- Facial expressions
- Gestures
- Writing
- Vocalization

# ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

[Calendar](#) [Take action](#) [10 Keys](#) [About Us](#) [Resources](#) [Volunteer](#) [Q](#)

[Join our movement](#)

Let's take action to be  
**Happier and  
Kinder,  
Together**

[Take Action](#)



## Giving

Do kind things for others



## Relating

Connect with people



## Exercising

Take care of your body



## Awareness

Live life mindfully



## Trying Out

Keep learning new things



## Direction

Have goals to look forward to



## Resilience

Find ways to bounce back



## Emotions

Look for what's good



## Acceptance

Be comfortable with who you are



## Meaning

Be part of something bigger



## Send me the calendar every month

Be the first to hear when we launch our monthly campaign.



The best way to cheer yourself  
up is to cheer someone  
else up ~ Mark Twain



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

# GO LIVE THEATRE



## Workshop Update

The project has been going really well, with students showing strong engagement and steady growth in confidence. Today's GoLive workshop continued that positive trajectory, and the students are now preparing for a showcase taking place in a week's time. This event will bring all their hard work to life, as they present using the scripts they've been learning and developing throughout the project.

We also had a casting director visit the group, which was a real highlight. They spoke with the students about the wide range of career opportunities within the film industry and the many pathways available. This conversation gave the students valuable insight and an extra push to keep going, helping them see the real possibilities ahead of them.

Overall, the project has had a strong, uplifting energy, and the students' effort is building towards an exciting final showcase.

## London Showcase

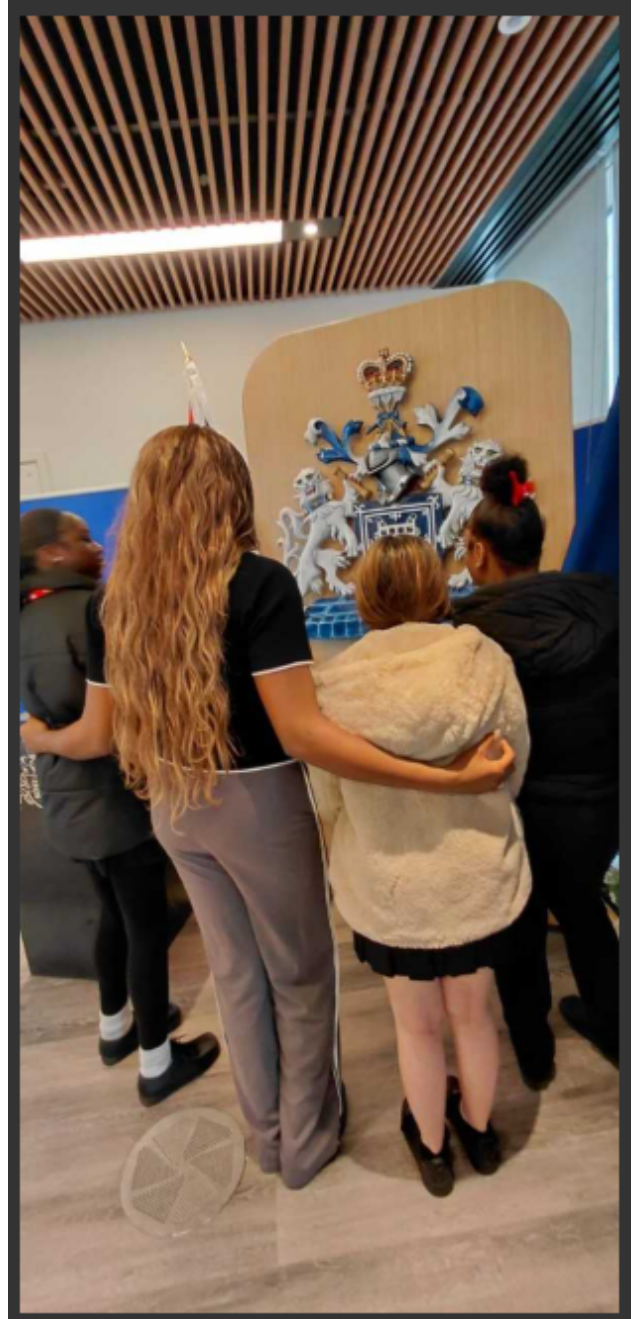
Our KS3 students recently took part in the Creative Connections London Showcase with Go Live Theatre, performing at The Other Palace Theatre. The day included rehearsals, workshops and a final live performance, giving students a unique opportunity to build confidence, develop creative skills and experience the professional theatre environment. This inspiring experience highlighted new pathways within the arts and supported students' personal development.

# INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY



## International Women's Day

To celebrate International Women's Day, a group of our KS4 girls visited New Scotland Yard to take part in an inspiring event celebrating women's success. Students heard from a range of professionals, including a detective inspector, firefighter, athlete and entrepreneur, who shared their journeys and challenges. The experience empowered our students and broadened their aspirations for future careers



# WORLD BOOK DAY GUEST AUTHOR

## Nana-Kofi Okyere World Book Day Workshop At Evolve Academy

We were delighted to welcome author Nana-Kofi Okyere, who led an engaging and interactive writing session with our pupils.

The session began with an introduction to Nana's journey as a writer, offering insight into how their passion for storytelling developed. Pupils also heard about Nana's book and had the opportunity to take part in a short Q&A.

The workshop then moved into a creative group activity. Pupils were divided into small groups and introduced to key characters from Nana's book through visual prompts. After exploring these characters in more detail, each group worked together to create their own original story.

Once the stories had been shared, the class collaborated to develop alternative endings, encouraging imagination and creative thinking.

The session concluded with a discussion about writing and creativity, giving pupils the chance to reflect on how they could express themselves through storytelling.

We were pleased to see such enthusiasm and creativity throughout the session.



### Author Biography

My name is Nana-Kofi Okyere. Everybody calls me Nana! I am from East London, specifically Newham, I was born and raised in Canning Town. I am a published Author, I published my first book *Fallen City* in 2019. I have recently recently my second book *Fallen City 2: Broken Seed*. I have been immersed into reading and writing since I was a young child to adulthood. Reading and writing has shaped so much for me in my life, my strongest addiction after my addiction to Fried rice and chicken. I am also a Senior Lead working in the LA in the SEND team. I have been working in SEND since 2012 and I also started my own business in 2024 called SEN Bytes. It is a consultation company that helps to gives bitesize advice around anything related to SEN"

## LONDON FIRE BRIGADE TRIP



### **A Day to Remember at the London Fire Brigade**

From the moment our Year 11 students stepped through the gates of the London Fire Brigade training centre at West Norwood, you could feel the buzz. There was that perfect mix of excitement, nerves, and the kind of curiosity that makes days like this truly special.

The morning kicked off with an unexpected but powerful talk about prostate cancer—delivered with honesty, humour, and heart. It wasn't just informative; it was a reminder of the importance of awareness, early action, and looking out for one another. The students listened with a maturity that made us incredibly proud.

Then came the hands-on experience, and that's when the magic really happened. Climbing the training tower ladder—some confidently, some with shaky legs but determined spirits—became an instant highlight. Watching them push past their fears and cheer each other on was one of those moments teachers quietly store away.

Next came the hose drills. Within minutes, the students were transformed into a squad of enthusiastic firefighters, laughing as they tried to control the powerful spray, discovering just how much strength and teamwork it takes to do the job.

And of course, the Fire Brigade uniforms tied it all together—suddenly they weren't just students; they were a team, stepping into the boots of real firefighters for a day.

By the end, the kids were glowing—tired, proud, and full of stories. And honestly, so were we. Days like this remind us why we do what we do. Their courage, their humour, their willingness to try something new... we couldn't have been prouder.

It wasn't just an experience day. It was a day of growth, grit, and genuine joy.

## PRIMARY MOSQUE TRIP

The Primary trip to the Mosque was very informative. The children observed the place where Wudu takes place.



The children enjoyed looking at the children's learning resources, used to teach Islam and Arabic.



Children were very respectful and reflective during the visit.



## Feb - Mar Celebrating Shakespeare Week

### 23<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> March

Shakespeare Retold is a series of ten stories written by well-known children's authors. Each story is inspired by or based on a play by William Shakespeare. These are not straight retellings but stories with a spin, told only the way each individual author could tell them. Some are closer to the original play than others. The stories are intended as a very light introduction to some of the characters and themes found in Shakespeare's plays and have been written to appeal to children at KS2.



### [King Lear: A Tragedy in 5 Acts](#)



### **The Tempest: The Isle of Noises**



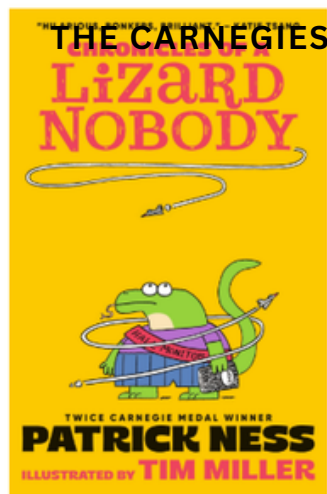
### **Hamlet Lives Forever**

## Recommended Reads

### Carnegie Medal for Writing - Shortlisted Announced

Click on the book links to find out more.

**Ages 7+, 9+ 10+**



## Carnegie Illustration Awards Age 3-12 years



# SAFEGUARDING AT EVOLVE



## Designated Safeguarding Leads:

### Primary

Ronan Stewart

[rstewart@evolveacademy.org.uk](mailto:rstewart@evolveacademy.org.uk)

### Secondary

Catharine Maddock

[cmaddock@evolveacademy.org.uk](mailto:cmaddock@evolveacademy.org.uk)

**Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.**

## Please remain attentive to:

- Sudden behaviour changes
- Emotional distress
- Concerns about online safety
- Signs of neglect or bullying

## If you ever have a concern:

Speak to a trained adult immediately

Provide clear and factual information

Complete a safeguarding referral if required