

13 January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

We are thrilled to announce that Selwood Academy will be hosting the author Finbar Hawkins on Tuesday 24th January for all Year 7 and 8 pupils.

The local author will be talking about his new novel 'Stone' which is set in the Somerset countryside and deals with a mixture of local mythology as well as an exploration of how we grieve:

*On the day of his dad's funeral, Sam finds a strange stone which he senses has supernatural power. But that is just the beginning.*

*Stowed in his pocket, the stone increases Sam's strength and speed at a single touch. And he starts seeing things: two girls dancing, a lone figure on a hilltop summoning ravens, walking with wolves... and his dad too. Could this small stone really help bring back his dad?*

*Grappling with grief, guilt and an array of untested, otherworldly abilities, Sam's life feels too crowded – as lies, threats and his lightning temper cause chaos. How can he cope with the turmoil in his head and all around him?*

*An engrossing story of fathers and sons, death and grief, and unexpected bonds, new and old, forged by dark and benign magic.*

Copies of both 'Stone' and Finbar's debut novel 'Witch' will be made available at a specially discounted price through our partners at Hunting Raven Books in Frome. 'Stone' will be available for £12.99 and 'Witch' for £6.99 - both can be purchased through ParentPay.

Many Thanks

**Mr O Crook-Wynn (He/Him)**  
**Head of English**

**'Let your light shine before others' Matthew 5 v 16**  
**Head Teacher: Mr Daniel Jeffries BA(Hons) MA NPQH NPQEL**

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Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility - Selwood Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and we expect all members of staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.