

Able Writers' Day

Each term, talented writers from Year 5 or Year 6 are invited to join children from other local primary schools at Able Writers' workshops held at Harborne Primary School.

Ofsted inspectors have highly praised this programme on many occasions as it not only gives the children the opportunity to work with a current writer, challenges the more able children, approaching literature from a different angle, but it also helps to further build links between schools in the local community.

On **Thursday 23rd November 2018**, five of our most gifted writers from Year 5 were chosen to participate in this prestigious event which was hosted by children's author, Harriet Goodwin.



Harriet launched into a character-building workshop, using a questionnaire. Before the session was up, all the students had created a rounded character, complete with unique appearance, thought-provoking family background and plenty of personality. They were fizzing with ideas!

The second session got to the heart of creating a story and explored ways of writing a truly fantastic opening. The students had plenty of opportunities to put pen to paper. Next came some fun acting, with Harriet showing the students how to get their writing to spring off the page ("showing not telling").

The final session combined everything the students had learnt: they planned, they wrote, they edited - and then they took it in turns to read out their work. By the end of the day, all the children felt exhilarated and empowered.

Draft examples of writing completed at the workshop.

