

Classroom News



Class Name: Oxford Term: Summer 1

Term 5 2025-2026

Topic: My future Self

What we have been doing this term:

This term our topic has been 'My Future Self'. We have been learning about the history of a range of objects such as household items, telephones and transport. We have been looking at how the different objects have changed over time and making predictions about what they might be like in the future. We have watched episodes of 'Tomorrow's World' from 1970s and 1980s and we explored what their predictions were for the future.

In English we have been focused on the work of Anthony Horowitz. We wrote questions for him that Liz took with her when she went to listen to him speak. We even had a response from Anthony Horowitz in which he answered many of our questions. We also planned and wrote new versions of Alex Rider stories. We focused on writing stories with a clear beginning, middle and end.

In Maths we have been exploring directions. We used the Beebots and programmed them with a series of instructions including forward, backwards, left and right to move the Beebot from one location to another. We have also been collecting and presenting information on tables and in venn diagrams and graphs.

We've been busy in the kitchen. We have made snacks and simple meals with a small budget such as sandwiches and pasta and sauce. We have also had another visit from Jan from The Berkshire Show who helped us to make rhubarb muffins. We also made vegetable and lemon and pomegranate couscous. Many of us even tried the finished dish and discovered it was tasty.

In Science we have been learning about healthy lifestyles. We have explored healthy eating including the 'Eat well plate' and the importance of exercise. We investigated the impact of exercise on our heart rate. We have learnt about the different parts of the human body including organs such as the heart.

Dates & Points to remember:

Term Ends – Friday 23rd May
Summer 2 term begins – Monday
Prom for Year 11+ pupils- Thursday 9th July

Some photos of us!



13th May 2026
Oxford Class
The Catholic School
Levee Lane
Downington
Berkshire RG14 2JG

I was delighted to hear from Ms. Whitebe how much you have enjoyed some of my Alex Rider and Diamond Breakers books and I apologise it has taken so long to reply to your questions, but I have recently been away on a UK promotional tour for my new novel, *A Deadly Apology*.

All of your questions were fantastic and here are answers to just a few of them!

How did you get the idea to be an author?
My inspiration to become an author stemmed from my love of reading and telling stories to my friends at school (also I wasn't really very good at anything else!).

How old were you when you wrote your very first book?
I started writing at school when I was 18 years old although it took many books and a long time for my first book to be published.

Why did you decide to write spy and detective novels?
I have written spy books as I started writing the Alex Rider series because I thought it would be fun to have a teenager as a spy who could have many exciting adventures.

What is your favourite book?
I am most proud of *Stormbreaker* as it is the first book in the Alex Rider series and it has sold over 21 million copies.

Who was your favourite author when you were a child?
As a child I enjoyed reading all sorts of books from Agatha Christie to Charles Dickens but my favourite book was actually a series – The *TinTin* series. He has wonderful adventures and he happens to be a writer!

What gives you the inspiration behind your books?
I get inspiration from everything around me – from the news, my dreams and conversations with family and friends and I spend a lot of time thinking about plots when I'm walking my Labrador, Chase, along the river.

How long did the books take to write?
Research and taking inspiration from everything around me is important when I'm writing and it can take six months from when I first have an idea for a new plot to actually start writing the book.

Do you use a laptop to write or do you use a pen and paper?
All of my notes and my first draft of a book are always handwritten – I use an ink pen and a different coloured ink for each book. Once I have reviewed my first draft I then use my laptop!

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of the Alex Rider books – there are 14 in the series!

With best wishes

ANTHONY HOROWITZ

STORMBREAKER
PRODUCTIONS
ANTHONY HOROWITZ, CEO