

## PRESS RELEASE

'Press Release – Robin Stevens makes two St Catherine's girls' day very special'



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**Murder Mystery writer inspires a new generation of detectives!**

Two girls at St Catherine's Prep School, Bramley, Amber and Ava, used their initiative and wrote a letter to award-winning author, Robin Stevens, with unexpected results! Robin is best known for her children's mystery 'Murder Most Unladylike' novels set in a boarding school in 1930's England in which two fictional schoolgirls, Daisy and Hazel, are faced with a variety of murders to solve and found a detective society to do so. Ava and Amber told her what huge fans they were and pleaded with her to interrupt her very busy schedule to visit their school. For years St Catherine's had tried unsuccessfully to secure a visit from this talented author, so one can only imagine Amber and Ava's delight when the school received a phone call from Robin's agency confirming that she could come!

Ava, aged 11, and now in Year 6, described how events unfolded. 'Amber and I first wrote our letter to Robin Stevens back in January when we were in Year 5. Robin's Daisy and Hazel are such fantastic characters- they had inspired my friend and me to try to start our own detective agency. We weren't expecting anything back from Robin, so when we found out she had contacted St Catherine's and could come to our school, we were ecstatic. We absolutely loved hosting her at St Catherine's and enjoyed getting all our books signed. It was great to have the opportunity to interview her. The whole day was incredible and worth the wait. This just shows if you put your mind to something, you really can achieve it.'

Amber, aged 10, explained, 'Ava originally introduced Robin's books to me...the moment I read the first page I was totally drawn in. So, once we had both finished reading the whole series, Ava thought that we should write to her and invite her to St Catherine's. We knew that it was *extremely* unlikely that she would see the letter, let alone respond. I am Robin Stevens' biggest fan ever and I was so excited to get to meet her and ask her questions – I even had an idea for a new book for her!'

During Robin's visit, St Catherine's pupils from Year 5 - 8 were treated to a fascinating insight into the mind of the award-winning crime writer. Robin talked passionately about her own childhood observations and boarding-school days which inspired her series of compelling 'whodunnits' championed by the notorious detective duo, Daisy and Hazel. Robin then guided St Catherine's pupils in the creation of their own bespoke murder mystery, demonstrating many classic plot twists and techniques. The girls were hooked, revealing their boundless, creative appetite for a world of fictional crime. For Ava and Amber, it was a dream come true, and who knows what super sleuths and writers in her audience Robin may have inspired and what leads they will follow next!

For more information, please contact Mrs Sally Manhire, Marketing at St Catherine's Prep School on 01483 899665 or [sally.manhire@stcatherines.info](mailto:sally.manhire@stcatherines.info)