

Recount of when we saw Kate DiCamillo

On Monday 25th September, 2017, Ella Bisma, Migle, Hela, Lateesha, Zaynab and Eesha went to the Wolverhampton Grammar School with Mrs Swift to visit a wonderful author, Kate DiCamillo.

She told us she was born in 1964 in Philadelphia in Pennsylvania and had an older brother. She became ill by catching pneumonia in three consecutive winters and pneumonia is when your lungs are full of liquid.

Whilst in hospital, her dad gave her a gift. It was a wooden moon, a wooden sun, a wooden farmer and a farmer's wife and a cow. Her dad told a story with the figures and she learnt about story. She learnt tell a story and she showed a story back to her dad.

The nurse said she had to move to a warmer country and they moved to Florida, except her father did not go with them. Kate told us she did not know why her father moved away. But in Florida she caught lots of infections like measles 3 times, pink eye(conjunctivitis) multiple times, scarlet fever, chicken pox and impetigo.

Kate missed lots of valuable school time. Whilst her mother was off teaching she was home alone reading amazing books that inspired her to become a writer. Her favourite books are 'Island of the Blue Dolphins', 'Abraham Lincoln', 'The Borrowers' and 'Paddington'. DiCamillo also enjoyed Looney Tunes and Tom and Jerry.

Soon enough she got a job at Disney world telling people to mind the step but a few years later she moved to Minnesota and got a job at a book warehouse. It was full of people who dreamed to be famous writers. Soon she met a man called Garry who didn't believe in her but Kate proved him wrong.

Finally, after 473 rejection letters she became a true author when 'Because of Winn-Dixie' was published.

By Eesha and Zaynab