

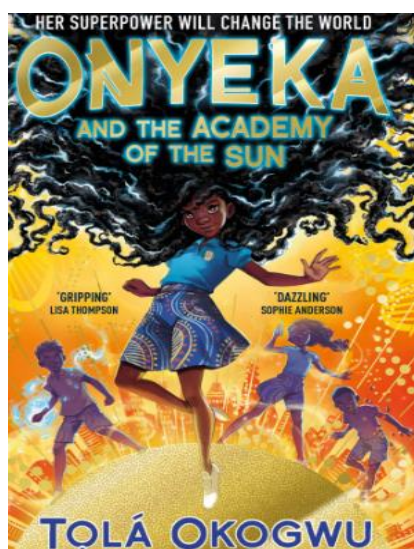
Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun

On *Tuesday 7th June* we had an amazing opportunity to welcome the bestselling author *Tola Okogwu* to our school to tell us about her new book.

Her book *ONYEKA* was selected in The Bookseller children's previews as Book Of The Month, and with a Netflix film in production, *ONYEKA* is set to take the world by storm.

Tola Okogwu is a British-Nigerian children's author, journalist and hair care educator. She believes it's important for children to read books that are reflective of their own experiences as well as other cultures and she seeks to create these opportunities through her books and wider writing.

Tola (the author) delivered a rich and engaging talk for Years 4-6. She told us about her writing journey and inspiration and also talked to the children about real life and imaginary superheroes, who form a basis for her writing. Many children brought in money to buy a copy and these will be delivered soon. We have bought some *ONYEKA* books for each classroom as well as other books by Tola.



A debut children's novel packed full of memorable characters, *Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun* is the effervescent story of a British-Nigerian girl who discovers her curls have psychokinetic abilities and the thrilling adventures she undertakes with her new-found superhero friends.

Onyeka has a lot of hair - the kind that makes strangers stop in the street. She's always felt insecure about her vibrant curls, until she makes an important discovery: she can control her hair with her mind!

Her mother quickly whisks her off to the Academy of the Sun, a school in Nigeria where Solari - children with superpowers - are trained. But Onyeka and her new friends at the Academy soon have to put their powers to the test as they find themselves embroiled in a momentous battle between truth and lies...

This visit was organised by Afrori Books which is a local Brighton independent book shop, situated in the North Laine, that specialises in books by black authors and is worth a visit when you're next in town.

