

EDINBURGH  
INTERNATIONAL  
**BOOK**  
FESTIVAL

# RBS Schools Events

All the best in children's literature

August 2006

[www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk)

 **RBS**  
The Royal Bank of Scotland



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*The Royal Bank of Scotland*

RBS is committed to the education and development of the next generation and we are proud to be associated with one of Edinburgh's most prestigious festivals. As sponsors of the Schools Gala Day, Bus Fund and Schools Programme RBS recognises the importance of encouraging schools, pupils and teachers to connect with the world of books through participation, imagination and creation.

[rbs.com/community](http://rbs.com/community)

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The Edinburgh International Book Festival is sponsored by



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## Welcome to the 2006 Edinburgh International Book Festival Schools Programme.

This six-day programme is packed with the best in children's writing for primary and secondary pupils plus a Schools Gala Day created especially for primary classes.

As always, we have put together a first-class programme of authors, from perennial favourites to rising talent, as well as fantastic interactive events and workshops. This year's Scottish contingent includes Catherine MacPhail, Julia Donaldson and Keith Gray. New to the programme are Steve Voake, John Boyne, Michelle Paver and Heather Dyer. An outstanding line-up for teenagers includes Graham Marks, Malorie Blackman, Bernard Ashley and Susan Price. For younger pupils, we bring you, amongst others, Simon James and SF 'the Cat Man' Said who will be back with more tales of mystical feline adventures.

We are committed to enabling children to engage in the wonderful world of books in many different ways with the focus firmly on participation, imagination and creation. All this takes place in a specially created and young person-friendly tented village at Charlotte Square Gardens.

You will notice that our schools events and bus fund are made possible by the kind support of The Royal Bank of Scotland. We are delighted to welcome them on board as sponsors of our Children's and Schools Programmes.

So with almost 60 brilliant events to choose from, book now to join in the fun at the largest festival of author and arts events for children in the world!

**Karen Mountney, Children's Programme Director**

- Author events – bring your pupils face-to-face with their favourite authors and new writers at events and book signings
- Put stories into action with costumes and props with Pam Wardell
- Bookmaking sessions, poetry workshops and writing workshops
- Reading advice and book lists for all ages with Read Together
- Interactive explorations of global issues with Amnesty International
- RBS Children's Bookshop – featuring over 3,000 different titles!

## RBS Schools Gala Day Tues 29 August

A fun-packed day sponsored by The Royal Bank of Scotland, when the Book Festival is dedicated entirely to primary pupils! See pages 25 – 31. Revel in the buzz of the Book Festival and enjoy an unforgettable and unique day of fun, books, and possibly even sunshine.

## Want to know more?

If you want to know if tickets are still available or have a query about your booking, call the Schools Booking Co-ordinator on 0131 718 5652 (from 19 April – Wednesdays and Fridays, 10am – 4.30pm).

**Booking opens on Wednesday 19 April**

You can download a full Schools Programme from [www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk)

If you want to talk about the content of events or the authors call Karen Mountney, Children's Programme Director on 0131 718 5666 or email [karen@edbookfest.co.uk](mailto:karen@edbookfest.co.uk)



# Outreach Programme

Can't bring your class to the Book Festival? Then we will bring it to you! Our Outreach Programme, in association with Scottish Book Trust, will be touring some of the authors in the Schools Programme to libraries across Scotland. Contact Catriona Scott at Scottish Book Trust on 0131 524 0160 for information.

## Events for teachers Tickets £5.00

Wednesday 16 August at 5.30pm **Encouraging Confident Individuals with Carol Craig**

The new Curriculum for Excellence lists, as one of the four purposes of education, the development of 'confident individuals'. In this talk Dr Carol Craig, Chief Executive of the Centre for Confidence and Well-Being and author of *The Scots' Crisis of Confidence*, will outline what confidence is and how teachers can nurture this in pupils. Suitable for teachers of all stages.

Thursday 17 August at 5.30pm **Fostering Creativity: a hard look at soft thinking with Ian Smith**

How can teachers foster creative thinking in the classroom? Based on the idea that creative thinking does not just happen but needs to be nurtured and developed, acclaimed teacher-developer Ian Smith will examine practical ways to foster and develop both your own creativity as a teacher and that of your pupils. Suitable for teachers of all stages.

Monday 21 August at 5.30pm **The Motivated School with Alan McLean**

Alan McLean is a Principal Psychologist in Glasgow and was commissioned by the Scottish Executive to produce The Motivated School training programme. This programme provides tools and activities to help teachers reflect on the motivational capacity of their classrooms. Alan will also talk about The Learning Stances, a framework which examines how learners adapt to and engage in the learning climate. Suitable for teachers of all stages.



Tuesday 22 August 10.30am – 3.30pm **Reading Makeover** RBS Workshop Tent, FREE  
Read Together co-ordinators, Lindsey Fraser and Kathryn Ross will be on hand to offer reading advice to teachers and pupils of all ages. Book lists will be available for you to take away.

**To reserve tickets call our Schools Booking Co-ordinator on 0131 718 5652 (available from 19 April on Wednesdays and Fridays 10am – 4.30pm) or add to your booking form.**

# diary

DATE	TIME	AGE	AUTHOR	PAGE
21 August 2006	10.00am	P1-3	Simon James	5
21 August 2006	10.00am	S2-4	Graham Marks	5
21 August 2006	10.30am	S1-3	Malorie Blackman	6
21 August 2006	10.30am-12 noon	S2-4	PEN Workshop	6
21 August 2006	11.30am	P4-6	Karen McCombie	7
21 August 2006	1.00pm-2.30pm	S2-4	PEN Workshop	7
21 August 2006	1.30pm	S1-3	Catherine MacPhail	8
21 August 2006	1.30pm	P4-7	Joseph Delaney	8
21 August 2006	2.00pm	P4-6	Philip Ardagh	9
22 August 2006	10.00am-11.30am	P5-7	Amnesty International Workshop	9
22 August 2006	10.00am	S1-4	Keith Gray	10
22 August 2006	10.00am	P6-S1	Steve Voake	10
22 August 2006	10.00am-11.30am	P6-S1	Kjartan Poskitt & Philip Reeve	11
22 August 2006	11.30am	P6-S1	Catherine MacPhail	11
22 August 2006	1.30pm	P5-7	Hazel Marshall	12
22 August 2006	2.00pm	P7-S2	Elizabeth Laird	12
23 August 2006	10.00am	S2-4	Susan Price	13
23 August 2006	10.00am-11.30am	S1-2	Amnesty International Workshop	13
23 August 2006	10.30am	S2-4	Geraldine McCaughrean	14
23 August 2006	11.30am	S1-3	Patrick Cave	14
23 August 2006	1.30pm	S1-4	Paul Magrs	15
23 August 2006	1.30pm	P2-4	Julia Donaldson	15
23 August 2006	2.00pm	S2-4	Bernard Ashley	15
24 August 2006	10.00am	P5-7	Steve Cole	16
24 August 2006	10.30am	P4-5	Joan Lingard	16
24 August 2006	11.00am	P4-6	Kenneth Steven Workshop	17
24 August 2006	11.30am	P3-4	Jamila Gavin	17
24 August 2006	1.30pm	P3-5	Paul Stewart & Chris Riddell	18

24 August 2006	1.30pm	P4-6	Kenneth Steven Workshop	18
25 August 2006	10.00am	P7-S3	Eleanor Updale	18
25 August 2006	10.00am-11.30am	S1- 2	Rachel Hazell Workshop	19
25 August 2006	10.30am	P7-S2	Theresa Breslin	19
25 August 2006	12.00 noon	P7-S2	Julie Hearn	20
28 August 2006	10.00am	S1-3	Anne Fine	20
28 August 2006	10.00am	S1-3	Catherine Forde	21
28 August 2006	10.30am	P1-3	James Mayhew Workshop	21
28 August 2006	10.30am	P7-S2	GP Taylor	22
28 August 2006	10.30am	P1-2	Pam Wardell	22
28 August 2006	11.30am	P5-7	Michelle Paver	23
28 August 2006	1.00pm	P3	Pam Wardell	23
28 August 2006	1.30pm	P6-S1	John Boyne	23
28 August 2006	1.00pm	P1-3	James Mayhew Workshop	24
28 August 2006	1.30pm	P5-7	Michael Morpurgo	24
28 August 2006	2.00pm	S1-3	Nicola Morgan	24

GALA DAY				
29 August 2006	10.00am	P6-7	Joan Lingard	26
29 August 2006	10.00am	P5-7	Justin Richards	26
29 August 2006	10.30am	P4-7	Caroline Lawrence	27
29 August 2006	10.30am	P1-4	Vivian French & Chris Fisher Workshop	27
29 August 2006	11.00am	P1-3	Heather Dyer	28
29 August 2006	11.30am	P5-7	John Fardell	28
29 August 2006	12.00 noon	P1-3	Aileen Paterson	29
29 August 2006	12.30pm	P4-6	Louise Arnold	29
29 August 2006	1.00pm	P1-4	Vivian French & Chris Fisher Workshop	29
29 August 2006	1.30pm	P6-7	Itchy Co	30
29 August 2006	1.30pm	P1-3	James Mayhew	30
29 August 2006	2.00pm	P4-6	SF Said	31

All events last no longer than one hour unless indicated





# How to book

- Choose your event/s
- Choose up to 2 alternative events in case your first choice is already fully booked
- Fill in the Event Booking Form on page 32 (photocopy if necessary – use a new form for each booking)
- Send to: Edinburgh International Book Festival, Box E, 5a Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, EH2 4DR
- Or fax to 0131 226 5335

Please note that tickets are sold on a first come, first served basis. We will contact you to let you know if your booking is successful.

# Your visit

We have a dedicated team of staff to ensure your visit to the Book Festival is as enjoyable and smooth as possible from the minute you book. We will send an information pack to you with your invoice in June which will tell you everything you need to know for your visit.

# Bus fund

If you need financial assistance to transport your pupils to the Book Festival you can apply to our Bus Fund for a reimbursement of transport costs. Reimbursement is offered on a first come first served needs basis when you book your event.

On the Event Booking Form (page 32) please tick the Bus Fund box and give an estimate of your transport costs. This is essential – the fund is finite and this will ensure we make it go as far as possible.

If making multiple event bookings, please only indicate the transport cost for the single booking on your event booking form (you can apply for the bus fund for each event booking).

We will confirm whether your school can be allocated Bus Fund money in June. Please note the deadline for Bus Fund applications is 19 May.

# 25% discount on your books

Your pupils will get so much more from their Book Festival experience if they are all able to read the relevant books beforehand. We can supply books to schools in advance of your trip at 25% discount. Postage and packing are free.

Please note that this discount will not be available in the RBS Children's Bookshop on the day of your visit – this discount is only available for pre-festival, multi-copy orders.

# How to order your books

- Choose your books – you can refer to the Bookshelf sections of individual event entries (there must be a minimum order of 5 books per title)
- You can also order copies of any children's book currently in print, even if it is not mentioned in this brochure
- Complete the School Book Buying Form on page 33
- Please remember to apply an order number – we cannot process your booking without one!
- Send to Box B at the address on page 33

Any questions? Call James Shaw, Booksales Manager, on 0131 718 5666

S2 – 4

Monday 21 August, 10.00am, RBS Children's Theatre

# Graham Marks: Talking About Writing



## EVENT SYNOPSIS

Graham Marks's latest novel is called *Tokyo*, and, not surprisingly, that's where a lot of it is set (his previous book was called *Zoo*, which gives absolutely no clues at all as to where it takes place). He'll be talking, amongst other things, about why he likes to travel to the places he writes about, how he constructs his stories and the influence movies and comics have had on the way he writes. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers.

## Biography

Graham Marks began his career as a designer and Art Director; when the time came for a change he turned his hand to writing. He learnt his trade by working on everything from comic strips for Marvel UK to journalism and a stint as an advertising copywriter. He won the South Lanarkshire Book Award for his second young adult novel, *How It Works*.

## Tips for Teachers

- Graham Marks writes in a very visual, cinematic style (the author as the camera) and always in the third person. You can use his books to discuss different ways of telling stories, and how well (or not) books transfer to the screen. His book *Radio Radio* is actually written in a screenplay format, complete with shooting details.
- He is also always very aware of place and tries to combine a sense of atmosphere with what is happening to the characters – almost a fusing of fiction and non-fiction. You could use this style to discuss what it adds to the story.
- Because character is very important, Graham Marks uses a lot of dialogue to move the story along. You can use this method with students as a means of storytelling.

## Bookshelf

*Tokyo* £6.99, *Zoo* £5.99, *How It Works* £5.99

Website [www.bloomsbury.com/grahammarks](http://www.bloomsbury.com/grahammarks)



P1 – 3

Monday 21 August, 10.00am, RBS Main Theatre

# Simon James



## EVENT SYNOPSIS

A natural performer, Simon James's events are lively and interactive. Here he'll talk about how he came to be an illustrator, where his stories come from, what inspires him, as well as reading from his latest creation, *Baby Brains Superstar*, the eagerly awaited sequel to the award-winning *Baby Brains*. Enthralled by buoyant storytelling and amusing illustrations, children will definitely leave with smiles on their faces!

## Biography

Simon James studied graphic design at art college, and it was soon after he completed his course that he wrote and illustrated his first book, *The Day Jake Vacuumed*. Since then he has made many more picture books and is the winner of the Smarties Book Prize Silver Award and the New York Times Best Illustrated Book of the Year for *Leon and Bob*. *Baby Brains* was the overall winner of the Red House Children's Book Award 2005.

## Tips for Teachers

- The child: always centre-stage in *The Birdwatchers*. Look at the way Jess takes on the role of narrator as she explains what her grandad believes. Ask children to draw one character in a variety of different postures to convey what someone is saying.
- Journeys: many of the stories are based on a journey, either linear or circular where the main character returns to the starting point. This journey is also figurative as the characters grow in stature, achieving understanding, wisdom or self knowledge by the end. Look at *Sally and the Limpet* and its ecological message. By the end of the story Sally has learned her lesson and has come to respect nature. Ask the children to re-write the story from Sally's viewpoint. Remind them that changing the viewpoint from 'she' to 'I' will change the perspective from which the story is told.
- Familiar settings: *Leon and Bob* describes a situation well within the experience of many children. Leon has just moved and spends much of his time alone. How do you know that Leon loves, and misses, his dad? What does the empty chair in Leon's bedroom signify? Why does Leon have a map of America behind his bed?

## Bookshelf

*Baby Brains Superstar* £10.99, *Baby Brains* £5.99, *Sally and the Limpet* £4.99  
*The Day Jake Vacuumed* £4.99, *Dear Greenpeace* £4.99

Website [www.walkerbooks.co.uk](http://www.walkerbooks.co.uk)





S2 – 4

Monday 21 August, 10.30am – 12 noon, RBS Workshop Tent

## A PENPower (Scottish PEN and NUJ) workshop on freedom of expression with Jean Rafferty

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

This workshop will raise issues about freedom of expression, using not just the trainer's own experiences as a freelance journalist in the UK, but also her knowledge of the situation in Turkey, where many writers and publishers are charged because their work displeases the government. Pupils will have the opportunity to discuss the issues and also to engage in writing themselves.

It would be helpful if pupils had read Jean Rafferty's Sunday Herald article on the trial of Ragip Zarakolu which can be found at <http://www.englishpen.org/writersinprison/bulletins/jeanraffertyfromscottishpenatt/> and more time can then be spent on craft skills. Please contact Karen Mountney at the Book Festival if you have difficulty downloading the article.

*Please note: bookings for this workshop are limited to 25 pupils plus teachers.*

### Biography

Jean Rafferty is an award-winning writer who has worked for many national papers and magazines. She is currently working on a book about prostitution with the help of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. She is extremely enthusiastic about PENPower, a joint project by Scottish PEN and the National Union of Journalists to promote free speech in modern societies.

### Tips for Teachers

- The workshop will look at the importance of ideas in creating a piece of writing and if there is time, the pupils will write something themselves. Afterwards teachers might want to look at the place of ideas in the work of writers on the curriculum and the different methods writers use to make ideas come alive.

### Bookshelf

*The Cruel Game, Ladies Of The Court*

**Website** [www.jeanrafferty.com](http://www.jeanrafferty.com)  
[www.scottishpen.org](http://www.scottishpen.org)

S1 – 3

Monday 21 August, 10.30am, Studio Theatre

## A Chat with Malorie Blackman

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

This event will be a chat about the Noughts and Crosses series of books in particular and Malorie Blackman's books for Young Adults in general. It would be useful if students had at least read the first book in the trilogy (*Noughts and Crosses*). Malorie will discuss how and why she writes and how she turns ideas into stories. The ideas behind the books *Pig Heart Boy* and *Tell Me No Lies* will also be discussed. Please come with questions – plenty of time will be left for them at the end.

### Biography

Malorie Blackman had her first book published in 1990 and since then has written over fifty books. She has also written TV scripts including episodes of *Byker Grove*, the first four episodes of an adaptation of her own book, *Pig Heart Boy* and a number of *Whizzwig* episodes for CITV.

### Tips for Teachers

- Noughts and Crosses* might be used for a number of debates on citizenship, friendship, identity and the nature of terrorism. Do the ends ever justify the means? Can individuals really make a difference to society? These are the kinds of questions raised in the story.
- Noughts and Crosses* is very loosely based on Romeo and Juliet.

### Bookshelf

*Noughts and Crosses* £6.99, *Knife Edge* £6.99, *Checkmate* £12.99

**Website** [www.malorieblackman.co.uk](http://www.malorieblackman.co.uk)



P4 – 6

Monday 21 August, 11.30am, RBS Children's Theatre

## Karen McCombie



### Biography

Karen McCombie is the best-selling author of the *Ally's World* and *Stella Etc.* series, as well as a collection of teen novels. She used to write for the teenage magazines *J17* and *Sugar*. She lives in London with her husband and two fat cats.

### Tips for Teachers

- Writing techniques: the Indie Kidd books are written from the point of view of ten year old Indie. Ask pupils to write a story from the point of view of one of the other characters from the books – maybe even the D.I.B (Dog In Black) himself!
- Look at the way the author keeps the reader turning the page. Look at chapter beginnings, chapter endings, narrative hooks and twists. Ask pupils to come up with an interesting, quirky or intriguing start to their story to keep the reader hooked. Ask them to think up their own ideas for twists to end their story - these can be funny, silly or even scary.
- Indie and her friends always seem to be getting into funny situations. Discuss how Karen McCombie uses humour in her books.
- Are We Having Fun Yet? (Hmm?)*, *Being Grown Up Is Cool (Not!)*, *How To Be Good(ish)...* Ask pupils to brainstorm a list of titles which convey the central idea for their story.

### Bookshelf

*How to Be Good(ish)* £4.99, *Oops, I Lost My Best(est) Friends* £4.99, *Being Grown Up Is Cool (Not!)* £4.99, *Are We Having Fun Yet? (Hmm?)* £4.99, *Wow, I'm a Gazillionaire (I Wish!)* £4.99

**Website** [www.walkerbooks.co.uk](http://www.walkerbooks.co.uk)  
[www.karenmccombie.com](http://www.karenmccombie.com)



S2 – 4

Monday 21 August, 1.00pm – 2.30pm, RBS Workshop Tent

## A PENPower (Scottish PEN and NUJ) workshop on freedom of expression with Robin Lloyd-Jones

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

This workshop will raise issues about freedom of expression, using not just Robin Lloyd-Jones's own experiences but also his knowledge of the situation in many countries, where many writers and publishers are persecuted because their work displeases the government. Pupils will have the opportunity to discuss the issues and also to engage in writing themselves, time permitting.

It would be helpful if pupils had read the content about Writers in Prison on the Scottish PEN website at [www.scottishpen.org](http://www.scottishpen.org) and also Jean Rafferty's Sunday Herald article on the trial of Ragip Zarakolu which can be found at <http://www.englishpen.org/writersinprison/bulletins/jeanraffertyfromscottishpenatt/>. Please contact Karen Mountney at the Book Festival if you have difficulty downloading the article.

*Please note: bookings for this workshop are limited to 25 pupils plus teachers*

### Biography

PENPower is a joint project by Scottish PEN and the National Union of Journalists to promote free speech in modern societies.

Robin Lloyd-Jones was educated at Cambridge University and then came to Scotland as an Education Adviser for Strathclyde Region, where he has lived since. He has published several titles in both fiction and non-fiction. He is also a past-President of Scottish PEN and actively involved in the Writers-in-Prison campaigns.

### Tips for Teachers

- The workshop will look at the importance of ideas in creating a piece of writing and if there is time, the pupils will write something themselves.
- Afterwards teachers might want to look at the place of ideas in the work of writers on the curriculum and the different methods writers use to make ideas come alive.

### Bookshelf

*Lord of the Dance, Fallen Angels: Stories of Los Gamines, Dreamhouse*

**Website** [www.scottishpen.org](http://www.scottishpen.org)

S1 – 3

Monday 21 August, 1.30pm, RBS Main Theatre

## Action. Pace. And Cliffhangers! With Catherine MacPhail



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Catherine MacPhail will talk mainly about *Nemesis: Into The Shadows*, the first in a crime thriller series. She will also talk about how to sustain a character and stories throughout a series of books: how to keep up the pace, how to keep the reader hooked. She is hoping everyone will have a spontaneous brainstorm about what could happen next in the series! Action, pace and cliffhangers are elements Catherine MacPhail always tries to have in her stories. Read *Roxy's Baby*, *Underworld*, *Missing* or *Tribes*.

### Biography

Catherine MacPhail's characters and plots are always sparked by real life. The magic is where the ideas come from, how they grow. *Run Zan Run* was inspired by what happened to her daughter, Katie. *Another Me*, by her greatest fear. *Roxy's Baby* by a horrific story she heard on the radio.

### Tips for Teachers

- Use a scene or chapter from a book, finish on a cliffhanger and ask the class to write what happens next. The first chapter in *Tribes*, for instance. Or a sequel to *Another Me*; which one has survived, Fay or her fetch? Where did Angie go after *Underworld*? Hopefully during the event author and pupils together will come up with lots of ideas of how a story can be carried forward with pace and drama, ideas which can be followed up, used and expanded in the classroom.

### Bookshelf

*Nemesis: Into The Shadows* £5.99 (published Sept 2006), *Roxy's Baby* £5.99, *Dark Waters* £5.99, *Another Me* £5.99

### Website

[www.bloomsbury.com/catherinemacphail](http://www.bloomsbury.com/catherinemacphail)



P4 – 7

Monday 21 August, 1.30pm, RBS Children's Theatre

## Joseph Delaney: writing The Spook's Apprentice



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Joseph Delaney will talk about the Wardstone Chronicles series with particular emphasis upon the first book, *The Spook's Apprentice*. The aspects of writing considered will be inspiration, development and the writing process. No specific preparation is required. It would help if children had read the first book but it isn't vital.

### Biography

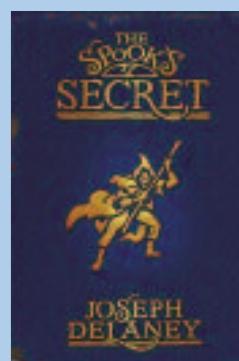
Joseph Delaney taught for almost thirty years (mainly as an English Teacher), ending his career in 2004 as the Head of Media and Film studies at Blackpool Sixth Form College. He wrote for many years without being published, getting up at 6am, six days a week to do so.

### Tips for Teachers

- The Spook's Apprentice* could be considered against the frame of its genre. How is it similar to, and different from, other examples? What are its genre indicators and where (if anywhere!) lies its originality?
- The strengths and weaknesses of a first person narrative.
- The creation of characters (archetypes?).
- The use of dialogue to maintain interest.
- Narrative structure – how does it keep pages turning?
- Heroes and heroines; good and evil (with shades of grey); the representation of witches.
- Are females represented here in a negative fashion?
- A sense of place (Lancashire or any shire?).

### Bookshelf

*The Spook's Apprentice* £5.99, *The Spook's Curse* £8.99, *The Spook's Secret* £8.99 (published July 2006)



P4 – 6

Monday 21 August, 2.00pm, Studio Theatre

## WOW! Discoveries and Inventions that Changed the World with Philip Ardagh



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Today we live in a world where we take so much for granted. We get light at the flick of a switch, and nowhere on Earth is more than 24 hours away. Many diseases which were killers in the past can now be cured with a single pill. Philip Ardagh will look at the amazing stories behind some such discoveries and inventions, which appear in *WOW! Discoveries* and *WOW! Inventions that changed the world* (published in association with the Science Museum). There will be plenty of the participation and fun that make Philip Ardagh's appearances such popular events.

### Biography

Philip Ardagh has been described by The Scotsman as one of nature's fact-finders. Though probably best known for his best-selling Eddie Dickens trilogy, he's written over seventy books, many of which are non-fiction. He reviews for The Guardian and pops up on Radio 4 and BBC7.

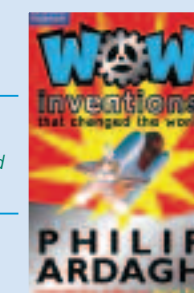
### Tips for Teachers

- 101 uses for a brick: get your class to come up with as many uses for a brick as possible: a paperweight, a pet bowl, a plant stand... get those creative juices flowing!
- Wacky inventions: if technology was no problem, what ideas for inventions can your class come up with? A dog coat that automatically vacuums up its loose hairs? A machine for making ice-cream out of waste paper? (Draw labelled pictures and diagrams.)
- An everyday challenge: try to come up with practical ways of cleaning windows on a high-rise building (big ladders, cranes, hoists, flipping windows and cleaning them from the inside, self-cleaning, robotics, etc). Maybe apply this to another 'simple' task too.
- The history of flight: using *WOW! Inventions*, create a sequence and/or timeline in the development of human flight from giant kites to jet planes and journeys into space. Any ideas for the future?

### Bookshelf

*WOW! Discoveries that changed the world* £3.99, *WOW! Inventions that changed the world* £3.99, *Why Are Castles Castle-Shaped?* £4.99

Website [www.philipardagh.com](http://www.philipardagh.com)



P5 – 7

Tuesday 22 August, 10.00am – 11.30am, RBS Imagination Lab

## A Long Way to Cherrytime with Amnesty International



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

How would you feel if you were taken away from your family and friends, or if someone you knew suddenly disappeared? What would you do? In this special 90 minute interactive event, you will be transported to Morocco where you will try to track down a newspaper seller who has vanished from a busy marketplace.

### Tips for Teachers

- Excellent resources and statistics on refugees are available from:**
  - Refugee Council ([www.refugeecouncil.org.uk](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk))
  - UNHCR ([www.unhcr.org.uk](http://www.unhcr.org.uk))
  - Edinburgh Student Action for Refugees
- Good reads:**
  - We Left Because We Had To* (Jill Rutter, Refugee Council)
  - Kiss the Dust* (Elizabeth Laird)
  - One Day We Had To Run* (Sybila Weekes, Evans Bros/UNHCR/SCF)
  - What do we mean by Human Rights: Freedom of Movement* (Catherine Bradley)

### Bookshelf

There is a list of Amnesty books on [www.amnesty.org.uk/education](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/education)

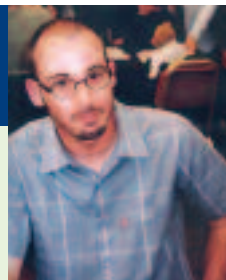
Website [www.amnesty.org.uk](http://www.amnesty.org.uk)



S1 – 4

Tuesday 22 August, 10.00am, RBS Main Theatre

## Keith Gray: Strong Plots & Big Ideas



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Where do stories come from? It is the question every writer always gets asked. What was the spark? What fires up the imagination? Keith Gray will talk about the writing process behind his books, focussing on how exciting plots can be used to explore all sorts of ideas, issues and themes.

Please come armed with plenty of questions.

### Biography

Once a reluctant reader, now an enthusiastic writer, Keith Gray has so far written thirteen books for children and young adults including *Warehouse*, *Malarkey*, *The Runner* and *The Chain*. His books have been shortlisted for and won many awards both in Britain and abroad.

### Tips for Teachers

- After reading *The Fearful* ask students to discuss what they think the book is actually about. Is it simply a story with a lake monster, or is there something else going on just below the surface? Is the Mourn real? Does Tim make the right decision?
- After reading *Malarkey* discuss how the author keeps the reader turning the pages. Talk about how important first person narrative is to the plot. Ask whether or not Malarkey is a conventional hero.
- After reading *Creepers* discuss how the author hid the 'twist' ending – did anyone already have it figured out? Ask what themes are interweaved with the story.
- Keith Gray will give lots of ideas for students and teachers to follow up in class.

### Bookshelf

*Creepers* £4.99, *Malarkey* £4.99, *The Fearful* £10.99

### Website

[www.keith-gray.com](http://www.keith-gray.com)



P6 – S1

Tuesday 22 August, 10.00am, RBS Children's Theatre

## Steve Voake



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Steve Voake will talk, not only about his books *The Dreamwalker's Child* and *The Web of Fire*, but also about some of the incredible insects that inspired him to write them in the first place. He will also try and give a few tips on how to avoid that sinking feeling you get when you try to write a story and find yourself faced with a blank sheet of paper and an even blanker mind...! There will be plenty of time for questions at the end.

### Biography

Steve Voake has always been fascinated by insects, but it wasn't until he was tracked and bitten by a horsefly that he got the idea for *The Dreamwalker's Child* and its sequel, *The Web of Fire*. In order to find the time to write, he used to get up at 3am and work through the night. After many happy years as headmaster of a primary school in Somerset, he finally hung up his mortar board to write full time.

### Tips for Teachers

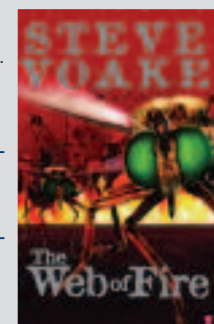
- The books feature a variety of giant insects that have been converted into vehicles for travelling around in – motorbiking fleas, wasp fighter jets, hunter ants. Think of some other insects that could be used in imaginative ways and draw some designs for them.
- Skipper is a young and incredibly courageous wasp-pilot. Look at some of the scenes which show examples of her bravery, then have a go at writing an action-packed scene which involves her and some daring new exploits!
- When Sam first arrives in Aurobon, it is night time and a storm is brewing. This helps to create a rather dark and tense atmosphere. Look at some of the words used and then write some descriptions of the weather to try and create a particular atmosphere for the start of a story.

### Bookshelf

*The Dreamwalker's Child* £4.99, *The Web of Fire* £12.99

### Website

[www.faber.co.uk](http://www.faber.co.uk)



P6 – S1

Tuesday 22 August, 10.00am – 11.30am, Studio Theatre

## Kjartan Poskitt & Philip Reeve



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Philip Reeve and Kjartan Poskitt will talk about Philip's *Mortal Engines* series and the maths behind it – an interactive and lively event is guaranteed!

*Please note: this event is 90 minutes long.*

### Biography

Since Kjartan Poskitt got his engineering degree, he has written and presented maths and science for TV, played lots of pub pianos very loudly and been Widow Twankey. He's written around fifty books including the *Murderous Maths* series, four *Rosie and Jim* annuals and five stage musicals. So far he's done no engineering. Philip Reeve is an author and illustrator and has provided cartoons for around forty children's books, including the bestselling *Horrible Histories*, *Murderous Maths* and *Dead Famous* series. Philip has been writing stories since he was five, but *Mortal Engines* was the first to be published. It was shortlisted for several awards and was the Gold Award winner at the Nestle Smarties Book Prize 2002 and won the Blue Peter Book of the Year at the 2003 Awards. Philip Reeve has also written a series for younger readers, *Buster Bayliss*.

### Tips for Teachers

- Kjartan Poskitt's *Murderous Maths* books give ideas to supplement maths teaching and are often used to encourage disinterested children. As well as explanations of topics ranging from probability to trigonometry, they feature all sorts of tricks and activities including number squares and making flexagons. Full details of what they contain and other teachers resources can be found at [www.murderousmaths.co.uk/teacher](http://www.murderousmaths.co.uk/teacher).
- Philip Reeve's *Mortal Engines*, *Predator's Gold* and *Infernal Devices* are highly imaginative, featuring an alternative world in which cities are powered by engines and move around the country. Ask your pupils to create an alternative version of the city, town or community in which they live.

### Bookshelf

*Urgum The Axeman* £8.99, *Murderous Maths Series* £3.99 & £4.99, *The Gobsmacking Galaxy* £4.99  
In order: *Mortal Engines* £5.99, *Predator's Gold* £5.99, *Infernal Devices* £5.99

**Website** [www.kjartan.co.uk](http://www.kjartan.co.uk) [www.scholastic.co.uk](http://www.scholastic.co.uk)

P6 – S1

Tuesday 22 August, 11.30am, RBS Children's Theatre

## Why I love Scottish History! With Catherine MacPhail



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Using *Traitor's Gate* and *Spider and the Bodysnatchers* (both published by Barrington Stoke) Catherine MacPhail will talk about the weird and wonderful characters and events that have shaped Scottish history. From Kings and Queens to heroes and villains, from explorers to writers. She will also talk about how to integrate facts into a fictional story, hopefully with everyone taking part in a spontaneous workshop during the event to illustrate this.

### Biography

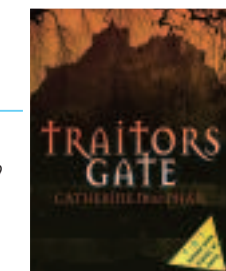
Catherine MacPhail has always loved history, and thanks to Barrington Stoke she has been able to go back to reading, investigating and finding out more facts; the gory, the gruesome and the strange. Her writing has always been set in the present day but she is now beginning to think she'd like to write something set more in the past.

### Tips for Teachers

- Using *Traitor's Gate* and *Spider and the Bodysnatchers* as a springboard, ask pupils to set a story in the past. If they had the chance to change something, would they? And if they did, what would the repercussions be? If someone managed to save Kennedy, what kind of president would he have become? If Mary, Queen of Scots managed to escape, depose Elizabeth, and become Queen of a United Kingdom, what would have happened next? Catherine MacPhail has done this in classes and it's been great fun. On one occasion a boy went back to the French Revolution, was arrested as a suspected aristocrat and ended up on the guillotine. The class left him with the blade hovering above his neck. A 'nothing can save him' moment; a cliffhanger. Pupils then came up with brilliant ways of saving him and bringing him back to his own time.

### Bookshelf

*Traitor's Gate* £5.99, *Sticks and Stones* £4.99, *Picking on Percy* £4.99



## Hazel Marshall



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Hazel Marshall will look at some of the subjects covered in the Troublesome Angels trilogy – angels, maps, flying machines, alchemy, inventions and travel. She'll explain how she got the idea for the series, why she's fascinated by Marco Polo and the medieval world, why she decided to mix real life characters from history with fictional ones and also about some of the fun things she discovered and the exciting places she visited while researching her books.

She's also happy to answer lots of questions – about writing, about the time of Marco Polo or just about anything (almost!) – please come prepared to ask.

### Biography

The Troublesome Angels series are Hazel Marshall's first books and she has great fun researching them by travelling to some of the exotic places that Blanco and Eva visit. She is inspired by history and travelling, as they both lead to new ways of looking at the world.

### Tips for Teachers

- The life and times of Marco Polo: it was a time of invention and exploration. How do you think it felt to be the first to see a new place or to invent something that other people couldn't even imagine?
- Blanco and Eva travel to a different place in each book. Look at maps of all the places that they go to and then compare them to some of the maps from Marco Polo's times – a lot of the places have different names – can you work out where he is talking about?
- Inventions: think of some of the things that people didn't have then that are common now – clocks, electricity, flying machines. What would it have been like to use something for the first time? What would you invent?
- Pirates were prevalent in the Middle Ages and beyond – what do you know about pirates?
- Angels: do you believe in angels? What do you think an angel would look like? How big are they? Throughout history people have had different ideas about angels. If you could have (maybe you do!) a guardian angel, what would it be like?
- Writing stories from a new point of view: Hazel uses a mix of real life characters with fictional characters. Is this a good way to bring history alive? Write a story based around a real historical character.

### Bookshelf

*Troublesome Angels and Flying Machines* £4.99, *Troublesome Angels and the Red Island Pirates* £4.99, *Troublesome Angels Race to the Rescue* (published Oct 2006)

**Website** [www.hazelmarschall.co.uk](http://www.hazelmarschall.co.uk)



## Capture and Escape with Elizabeth Laird



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Young people living life on the edge is a recurring theme in Elizabeth Laird's books. In this session, she explores capture and escape in three very different settings. The hero of *Secrets of the Fearless*, set during the Napoleonic wars, is captured by a press gang and forcibly sent to sea. *The Garbage King* is a story of street children in Addis Ababa, one of whom, Mamo, is caught by a slaver and sold to a farmer. *A Little Piece of Ground* is set in Palestine. Karim longs to play football, but is prevented by the curfew imposed by the occupying Israeli forces. Trapped in a wrecked car, he must survive there until his chance comes to escape.

### Biography

Elizabeth Laird has lived and worked in many different countries, including Ethiopia, Malaysia, Iraq and Lebanon. Some (but not all) of her books are set in the Middle East and Africa. Her books have won many awards, and have been translated into more than fifteen languages.

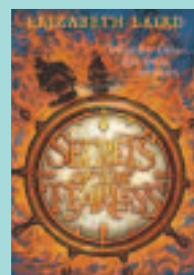
### Tips for Teachers

- Palestine is always in the news. At a time when feelings are running high along a Muslim/Western divide, *A Little Piece of Ground* will hopefully give some insight into the passionate feelings the Israeli occupation arouses among Muslims worldwide.
- *The Garbage King* is particularly relevant given the current concentration on world poverty, and the great demonstrations in Edinburgh last year. Understanding what it's like to be destitute in one of the poorest countries of the world should give some perspective on one of the great debates of the day.
- *Secrets of the Fearless* takes a close-up look at a period of history that's been much in the news over the last year thanks to the anniversary of Trafalgar. This is often seen as an English story, but Scots were, as always, over-represented in the army and navy, and played a huge part in the defence of Britain at that time.

### Bookshelf

*A Little Piece of Ground* £4.99, *The Garbage King* £4.99, *Secrets of the Fearless* £5.99

**Website** [www.elizabethlaird.co.uk](http://www.elizabethlaird.co.uk)



## Amnesty International



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

This 90 minute interactive workshop will explore asylum and why people become refugees. After exploring some key words, facts, geography and statistics about asylum we will look at the story of a family that has to flee from repression as the noose of persecution tightens. Pupils will be asked to decide who is to go or stay, plan the escape and decide what they will need to take with them. At the frontier they must pass through Immigration, arguing their case and providing evidence to back up their story, and fill out an asylum application form.

### Tips for Teachers

- **Excellent resources and statistics on refugees are available from:**

Refugee Council ([www.refugeecouncil.org.uk](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk))  
UNHCR ([www.unhcr.org.uk](http://www.unhcr.org.uk))  
Edinburgh Student Action for Refugees

- **Good reads:**

*We Left Because We Had To* (Jill Rutter, Refugee Council)  
*Kiss the Dust* (Elizabeth Laird)  
*One Day We Had To Run* (Sybila Weekes, Evans Bros/UNHCR/SCF)  
*What do we mean by Human Rights: Freedom of Movement* (Catherine Bradley)

### Bookshelf

There is a list of Amnesty books on [www.amnesty.org.uk/education](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/education)

**Website** [www.amnesty.org.uk](http://www.amnesty.org.uk)

## Susan Price: Odin's Voice

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Susan Price will talk about the writing of her latest novel, *Odin's Voice*.

*Odin's Voice* is a fast-paced futuristic sci-fi adventure where the wealthy are genetically designed and slavery is socially acceptable.

### Biography

Susan Price has been writing for thirty four years, having made an early start. She has written for ages ranging from nursery to adult, and has won the Carnegie Medal for *Ghost Drum* and The Guardian Children's Fiction Prize for *The Sterkarm Handshake*. She is also an experienced public speaker.

### Tips for Teachers

- *Odin's Voice* is set in a future where slavery is considered normal – it raises many questions about the morality of slavery.
- The book might also suggest imaginative writing about the future: what will it be like to live in a world where our every movement can be tracked, and where we are constantly watched by CCTV? What would a colony on Mars be like?
- Children might like to research the 'terraforming' of Mars and the building of the 'Space Elevator'.

### Bookshelf

*The Sterkarm Handshake* £5.99, *A Sterkarm Kiss* £6.99, *Odin's Voice* £12.99 (hardback) and £5.99 (paperback, published Sept 2006)

**Website** [www.susanprice.org.uk](http://www.susanprice.org.uk)





S2 – 4

Wednesday 23 August, 10.30am, Studio Theatre

## For myself, I do not regret this journey with Geraldine McCaughrean



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Geraldine McCaughrean tackles the fragrant but thorny subjects of Love and Romance when she talks about and reads from *The White Darkness*, a teenage novel set in Antarctica, and *Cyrano*, a prose version of Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac* – possibly the most romantic play in the world.

This event takes place only weeks before publication of Geraldine McCaughrean's *Peter Pan in Scarlet*, the first authorised sequel to J M Barrie's classic. Sworn to secrecy, she will attempt to say nothing at all about her own excursion to Neverland. (But with luck, she may fail.)

### Biography

The first time Geraldine McCaughrean won the Whitbread Children's Prize she thought 'Fluke!'. Second time, 'Phew! an excuse to carry on writing!'. Third time, 'Ah well, there's life in the old dog yet'. Betweenwhiles she had somehow mysteriously published 130 books. Living proof that you don't have to be clever to be an author, just a bit driven and very, very lucky!

### Tips for Teachers

- *The White Darkness* looks at the peer group pressure on girls in their early teens to feel badly about their virginity. It is also about the uses of the imagination as a refuge and a delight. First and foremost though, it's a thriller.
- It would really help for the audience to know about Captain Scott and his doomed journey to the South Pole, in particular, Captain Oates walking out of the tent to his death.
- The link with *Cyrano* is heroic self-sacrifice. This wasn't specifically written as a young person's book. However an enterprising drama teacher could tackle the balcony scene afterwards, or a French teacher attempt a scene from the play in its original French. Primarily, the book's a plea on behalf of Romance. Both books revel in language.

### Bookshelf

*The White Darkness* £10.99, *Cyrano* £8.99, *Not the End of the World* £5.99

**Websites** [www.geraldinemccaughrean.co.uk](http://www.geraldinemccaughrean.co.uk)



S1 – 3

Wednesday 23 August, 11.30am, RBS Children's Theatre

## Don't Panic!... with Patrick Cave



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

A wide-ranging event facing up to some issues of the future, the question of personal bravery and the necessity of keeping your cool (when all about you... etc). Patrick Cave's two most recent futuristic novels, *Sharp North* ('A taut thriller' Observer) and *Blown Away* ('Hip, compulsive and sophisticated' Sunday Times), will hover temptingly in the background throughout. Bring individual, vacuum-packed bags of enthusiasm and plenty of questions.

### Biography

Having drifted and stumbled in an unplanned way from one thing to another over the course of his adult life, Patrick Cave moved almost seamlessly from teaching to writing full-time in the late 1990s. Only a short spell followed before he was actually published, but it is amazing what debts can accrue in a very short spell.

### Tips for Teachers

- During the event, a newspaper from the future will be circulated to participants. There is obviously much potential here for classroom work, adding new articles, discussing which events are selected as 'news' and what effect that has on us, the changing face of news reporting (rolling news, soundbites, instant transmission of disasters eg. the 'twin towers') and so forth.
- A real-life editing exercise based on the reading from the event will be available to teachers to take away. This editing exercise might spawn other activities such as classroom editing of pupils' own work (or work from other sources) following a jointly-agreed set of objectives/guidelines. Look at the way that editing may change the shape or feel of a piece of writing. Try to achieve different effects for different hypothetical audiences. Hold editing meetings in class – photocopied guidelines will be available on the day.
- The power of an individual to ignore the wider picture and make personal decisions with integrity, thus sending out ripples that can change the world, will be considered eg. Rosa Parks. Get classes to research or identify other examples that might inspire them.

### Bookshelf

*Sharp North* £6.99, *Blown Away* £12.99 (hardback) and £6.99 (paperback, published Aug 2006), *Number 99* £4.99

**Websites** [www.patrickcave.org.uk](http://www.patrickcave.org.uk)



S1 – 4

Wednesday 23 August, 1.30pm, RBS Children's Theatre

## Paul Magrs: Exchange



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Paul Magrs will talk about the writing process with particular reference to his latest novel, *Exchange*, as well as his work in general.

*Exchange* is a novel about reading and hunting for books in second hand bookshops. Simon and his grandmother bond over their collections of old paperbacks after he is orphaned and has to move in with his grandparents. It's a story about young people and old people, about growing up and self-discovery.

### Biography

Paul Magrs grew up in the north east of England. He writes novels for children, teenagers and adults. He has also written four *Doctor Who* novels. He teaches a writing course at Manchester Metropolitan University.

### Tips for Teachers

- *Exchange* could be used to develop some work on pupils' own reading habits outside the classroom. It's a novel about the value of self-directed reading; about stumbling across things yourself and not just reading what you're told to. It's about inter-generational reading and conversation, too. It is also about people learning to write the story of their own lives, and the value of that.

**Bookshelf** *Strange Boy* £4.99, *Hands Up!* £5.99, *Exchange* £9.99



P2 – 4

Wednesday 23 August, 1.30pm, RBS Main Theatre

## Julia Donaldson



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Julia Donaldson will perform from a range of her titles such as *Charlie Cook's Favourite Book*, *Princess Mirror-Belle* and *The Giants and the Joneses*.

### Biography

Much loved author of *The Gruffalo*, Julia Donaldson began her career as a songwriter and published her first title when a publisher asked to turn one of her songs into a book. Not only has she written many picture books, she has also written song books, plays and older fiction. When Julia Donaldson is not writing she is often performing at book festivals and in theatres.

### Tips for Teachers

- *Charlie Cook's Favourite Book* is a book within a book within a book. Children could attempt to make their own version, writing a book within a book and also use this idea as a game.
- *Princess Mirror-Belle* is about an imaginary friend who appears in the mirror. Children could design their own imaginary friends. This could also be used as a drama exercise using the idea of mirroring a partner's actions.
- There are downloadable activities available for *The Giants and the Joneses* and *Dinosaur's Diary* on Julia Donaldson's website.

**Bookshelf** *Charlie Cook's Favourite Book* £10.99, *Princess Mirror-Belle* and *The Flying Horse* £3.99, *PlayTime!* £4.99, *Crazy Mayonnaise Mum* £3.99, *The Gruffalo Song and Other Songs* £7.99

**Website** [www.gruffalo.com](http://www.gruffalo.com) [www.juliadonaldson.co.uk](http://www.juliadonaldson.co.uk)



S2 – 4

Wednesday 23 August, 2.00pm, Studio Theatre

## Bernard Ashley



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Bernard Ashley's events are always fast-paced, humorous and dramatic, and guarantee to captivate young audiences. Bernard will talk about what makes him tick and how he researches and writes – with some resonances for students' own writing.

### Biography

Bernard Ashley lives in South East London and is a former head teacher. He has been shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal on three occasions and has also written for TV.

### Tips for Teachers

- It would be helpful if students read one or two of Bernard Ashley's teenage novels before the event. The best way of using a book in the classroom is to encourage its reading!

**Bookshelf** *Little Soldier* £4.99, *Ten Days to Zero* £4.99, *Down to the Wire* £5.99



P5 – 7

Thursday 24 August, 10.00am, RBS Children's Theatre

## Steve Cole: Putting Stories Together



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Whether writing his own original children's fiction or penning new novels for the likes of *Doctor Who*, Steve Cole spends most of his time working with words. In this lively, interactive session – with special reference to his *One Weird Day* at Freekham High quartet of books – the author/editor will show you how to come up with interesting characters, how to dream up exciting plots, how to liven up speech and descriptions and all the trade secrets that will help you put your own sterling stories together!

### Biography

Steve Cole used to edit and commission books – now he is a prolific writer himself for children of all ages, specialising in quirky, original and accessible fiction. Recent projects include the Freekham High series, the ongoing Astrosaurs series for younger children and the Young Adult thriller *Thieves Like Us*.

### Tips for Teachers

- Each Freekham High mystery unfolds over the course of a single school day. Consider the effects of a narrative's 'real time' duration: how much do the characters develop, how quickly does conflict arise etc.
- Surreal events are par for the course in Freekham High, yet the characters respond realistically. Use imaginative role-play to place mundane characters in extreme situations, exploring the possible consequences of such juxtaposition.
- Narrative thrives on conflict; encourage pupils to script an argument between two characters, either real or imaginary, focussing on lively dialogue.
- Sam, the main character, is always in trouble with teachers; exercise pupils' imaginations by setting them the task of constructing the most elaborate and outrageous of excuses for the simplest of misdemeanours.



### Bookshelf

*One Weird Day* at Freekham High: *Thumb* £4.99, *Sock* £4.99, *Pigeon* £4.99

**Website** [www.bloomsbury.com/stephencole](http://www.bloomsbury.com/stephencole)

P4 – 5

Thursday 24 August, 10.30am, Studio Theatre

## Joan Lingard



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Joan Lingard will read from, and talk about, two novels both set in rural Scotland, one in the Highlands, the other in the Borders: *Hands Off Our School*, illustrated by Mairi Hedderwick, recently re-issued, and *Tilly and the Wild Goats*. She will also refer to *The Egg Thieves*, *River Eyes* and *Tom and the Tree House*, all of which also have Scottish settings.

### Biography

Joan Lingard is one of the world's pre-eminent writers for children and was awarded an MBE for services to children's literature in 1998. Amongst the many issues tackled in her writing – frequently against a strong historical and also international background – are the themes of prejudice and discrimination, tolerance and reconciliation, displacement and resettling, and relationships, especially within families.

### Tips for Teachers

- Communities acting together: fighting to save their school from closure in *Hands Off Our School* and to save their wild goats from eviction in *Tilly and the Wild Goats*.
- The protection of wildlife: *Tilly and the Wild Goats* and *The Egg Thieves*.

### Bookshelf

*Hands Off Our School* £4.99, *Tilly and the Wild Goats* £3.99, *Tom and the Tree House* £3.99, *The Egg Thieves* £3.99, *River Eyes* £3.99

### Website

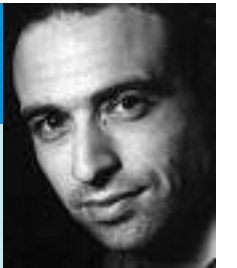
[www.joanlingard.co.uk](http://www.joanlingard.co.uk)  
[www.slainte.org.uk/scotwrit/authors/lingard.htm](http://www.slainte.org.uk/scotwrit/authors/lingard.htm)  
[www.puffin.co.uk](http://www.puffin.co.uk)



P4 – 6

Thursday 24 August, 11.00am, RBS Workshop Tent

## Imagining Things with Kenneth Steven



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

This event will comprise, first and foremost, readings from the collection *Imagining Things*. Kenneth Steven will talk about various poems, where and how he writes, and explain a bit of the process involved in 'polishing' poems. There will be plenty of opportunities for discussion and questions. It would be useful if pupils had been introduced to the book beforehand. *Please note: bookings for this workshop are limited to 25 pupils plus teachers.*

### Biography

Kenneth Steven has been writing for some fifteen years and has over twenty books in print. He lives in Highland Perthshire – it is the landscape and people of Highland Scotland that most inspire his writing. *Imagining Things* was written entirely in his cabin in Aberfeldy.

### Tips for Teachers

- *Imagining Things* was always intended to act as a launch pad for pupils' own writing, especially poetry. There are so many different examples of styles in the book, from concrete poems to rhyming pieces, from poems that play with made-up language to alliterative exercises. The different forms are there to be studied, but there are lots of other ways in which to look at the natural world. Going outside to find the inspiration for writing about nature and observing things in a new way is the best place to start.

### Bookshelf

*Imagining Things* £4.99, *The Sea Mice and the Stars* £10.99, *The Song of the Trees* £9.99

**Website** [www.books-of-imagination.com](http://www.books-of-imagination.com)



P3 – 4

Thursday 24 August, 11.30am, RBS Children's Theatre

## Let your imagination travel with Jamila Gavin



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Jamila Gavin will talk about the new and third title in her Grandpa Chatterji books. In *Grandpa Chatterji's Third Eye* Neetu and Sanjay can hardly wait for their Grandpa to visit from India. Grandpa Chatterji always brings adventure, fun and lovely food with him. And just what is Grandpa Chatterji's third eye? Jamila Gavin will talk about how her books celebrate cultural diversity and how she felt as a child moving from India to England. She will explain how she is inspired by different countries, travel and history. Get ready for a fascinating and fun talk from one of Britain's leading children's authors. There will be plenty of time for questions at the end.

### Biography

Jamila Gavin was born in India in the foothills of the Himalayas. Her father was Indian and her mother English. Her books have been shortlisted for the Guardian Fiction Award, the Smarties Prize and many others. *Coram Boy*, her epic tale of eighteenth century England won the Whitbread Children's Book Award and was adapted for the stage last Christmas by the National Theatre.

### Tips for Teachers

- Jamila Gavin finds new countries and places inspiring. Have your pupils been anywhere which inspired them? Maybe they tried new food, or saw a new animal, or bought some new kind of clothes. Write a few paragraphs about the sounds, smells and sights of that place.
- Jamila Gavin travelled to Britain from India when she was a child on board a huge ship. Have your pupils ever made a remarkable journey that sticks in their mind? Imagine if they were from India, what differences or new things do you think they would notice when they first came to Britain?
- Imagine your pupils are old enough to be grandparents. What would they tell their grandchildren about their childhood?

### Bookshelf

*Grandpa Chatterji's Third Eye* £4.99, *The Blood Stone* £5.99, *The Wheel of Surya* £4.99

**Website** [www.jamilagavin.co.uk](http://www.jamilagavin.co.uk)





P3 – 5

Thursday 24 August, 1.30pm, RBS Children's Theatre

## Far Flung Adventures with Paul Stewart & Chris Riddell



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell will talk about the Far Flung Adventure series which comprises *Fergus Crane*, *Corby Flood* and *Hugo Pepper*. It would be good if pupils had read or started to read *Fergus Crane*. Paul and Chris will talk about how and when they met; how they write together and how they come up with ideas for books. They will talk about adventures and holidays and how they used some of their experiences to write these books – Paul's travels in Greece and Asia, Chris's family holidays and childhood in South Africa. They will also talk about food and culture and how foreign places are different to the UK. Chris will draw throughout.

### Biography

Paul Stewart is the author of many books for children including *The Midnight Hand* and *The Wakening*. Chris Riddell is an accomplished graphic artist who has illustrated many books for children and has won the UNESCO Award for *Something Else*, and the Kate Greenaway Medal in 2002 for *Pirate Diary*. He is also the acclaimed political cartoonist for the Guardian and the Observer. Together they have co-written the successful Edge Chronicles series and also *Fergus Crane*, which won a Nestlé Smarties Gold Medal Award 2004 and *Corby Flood*, which won the Nestlé Smarties Silver medal in 2005.

### Tips for Teachers

- Discuss holidays and places around the world – base a short story on them, the more fantastical the better.
- The Far Flung Adventures feature lots of amazing inventions designed to help you in your daily life – try to come up with a design – draw a picture and write about what your invention does and how it might help people.

### Bookshelf

*Fergus Crane* £4.99, *Corby Flood* £4.99, *Hugo Pepper* £8.99

**Website** <http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/childrens/edgechronicles/home.htm>



P4 – 6

Thursday 24 August, 1.30pm, RBS Workshop Tent

## Imagining Things with Kenneth Steven

Full details on page 17

P7 – S3

Friday 25 August, 10.00am, RBS Children's Theatre

## Eleanor Updale and Montmorency



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Eleanor Updale will talk about her new book, *Montmorency's Revenge*, the fourth in the award-winning Montmorency series. The books are set in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and she will talk about how she researches the background to the adventures, which weave exciting fictional stories around real events and developments in the worlds of medicine, science and art. There will be plenty of time for questions.

It will be a great advantage to have read the books or listened to them on tape.

### Biography

Eleanor Updale is an historian, working at the University of London. In her time she has also been a TV and Radio producer for the BBC. Her books reflect her interests in the fields of medical ethics and museums.

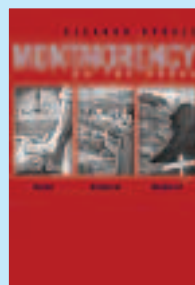
### Tips for Teachers

- Although Eleanor Updale's books are obvious candidates to be used in classroom studies of the Victorian era (in Scotland, England, and abroad), teachers and pupils should enjoy them primarily as exciting stories with great characters.
- All the books raise dilemmas about scientific and medical endeavour, many of them still relevant today. *Montmorency and the Assassins* and *Montmorency's Revenge* also deal with international terrorism. There is plenty of scope for using these historical books as a way into examining current issues.
- Eleanor Updale receives many emails from teachers who say they greatly enjoy reading the books aloud.
- The first two books in the series, *Montmorency* and *Montmorency on the Rocks* are available on BBC audio, brilliantly read by Stephen Fry.

### Bookshelf

*Montmorency* £5.99, *Montmorency and the Assassins* £5.99, *Montmorency's Revenge* £12.99

**Website** [www.eleanorupdale.co.uk](http://www.eleanorupdale.co.uk)



S1 – 2

Friday 25 August, 10.00am – 11.30am, RBS Workshop Tent

## Travelling bookbinding with Rachel Hazell

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Come and create a Suitcase Book! After exploring some basic binding techniques we will think about how you plan and prepare for a holiday or journey, and what you will need when you get there. Then we will look at ways of documenting and communicating these travel experiences and making containers to hold them in.

Please note: bookings for this workshop are limited to 25 pupils plus teachers.

### Biography

Hazell Designs Books is a travelling bindery. Rachel Hazell teaches and makes books all round the world, even on icebergs in Antarctica!

### Tips for Teachers

- Look at books as objects and discuss the history of their production and development. Are they becoming obsolete in this age of blogs and texts?

### Bookshelf

*A Book of One's Own* (by Paul Johnson), *Making Books that Fly, Fold, Wrap, Hide, Pop Up, Twist and Turn* (by Gwen Diehn), *Making Journals by Hand* (by Jason Thompson)

### Website

[www.hazelldesignsbooks.co.uk](http://www.hazelldesignsbooks.co.uk)

P7 – S2

Friday 25 August, 10.30am, Studio Theatre

## Cracking Characters! With Theresa Breslin



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Theresa Breslin will talk about characters from several of her books, *Divided City*, *The Dream Master*, *Saskia's Journey*, *Remembrance* and *Whispers in the Graveyard*. She will tell how her characters arrived (sometimes completely uninvited) on the page as she was writing, what they decided to do once they were there, and how she managed to exert some control over them – or not!

Bring a question about a character from one of Theresa Breslin's books. A full list is available on her website.

### Biography

Theresa Breslin is the author of over thirty children's books ranging from first readers to young adults. These include the funny, fast paced time-slip Dream Master series, *Saskia's Journey*, *Remembrance* and *Divided City*. She was awarded the Carnegie Medal for *Whispers in the Graveyard*, a remarkable story about a dyslexic boy.

### Tips for Teachers

- Pick a character from any of Theresa Breslin's books, eg. Joe or Graham from *Divided City*. Make a list of what you like or don't like about this person.
- Contrast two characters. They don't need to be from the same book, eg. Francis from *Remembrance* and Cy from *The Dream Master*. Try to work out what makes them different from each other and why they behave the way they do.
- Theresa Breslin is currently involved in a number of school and community based major projects exploring the themes in *Divided City*. These include drama workshops, poetry, personal testimonies, illustration, stories written by young people, and development material for teachers. *Divided City* won the Catalyst Award and has been shortlisted for two other awards. More information can be found at [www.theresabreslin.com](http://www.theresabreslin.com)

### Bookshelf

*Divided City* £10.99, *The Dream Master series* £4.99, *Remembrance* £5.99

**Website** [www.theresabreslin.com](http://www.theresabreslin.com)



## Plundering the Past with Julie Hearn



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Discover how villains and victims from history haunt Julie Hearn's novels and shape their plots. Meet Matthew Hopkins, Witch-Finder General; Charles Byrne the doomed giant and the 19th century 'supermodel' with a fatal addiction. From the intricacies of graverobbing to the sinister side of the Victorian art world – who said research was boring? This will be a crazy roller-coaster ride through time, illustrated with some startling portraits. Pupils will keep up better if they've read at least one of Julie Hearn's books (preferably the first one, *Follow Me Down*). She hopes you'll have lots of questions to ask when she finally runs out of steam!

### Biography

Julie Hearn used to be a tabloid journalist but much prefers writing novels because she's less likely to be sued for making things up. Her first novel, *Follow Me Down*, was nominated for the Carnegie Medal and her second, *The Merrybegot*, was shortlisted for The Guardian Children's Book of the Year Award.

### Tips for Teachers

- *Follow Me Down*: focussing on chapters 4, 8 and 17 discuss the kind of language used to describe the 'monsters' at Bartholomew Fair. How does Tom see them? Is he prejudiced? How far are the 'monsters' themselves acting out stereotypical roles in order to survive? Analyse the handbill promoting The Changeling Child, then consider Tom's response to it on pages 133 – 134.
- *The Merrybegot*: 'In a remote west-country village all is not as it seems...' Look at the narrative structure of this novel. Which voice seems the most convincing and why? What is the advantage of each type of narration? You could look at the role played by piskies and fairies and how far a clash between Puritanism and the old belief systems contributes to the growing hysteria about witches. The Witch-Finder General and young Charles II are real historical characters. What might the point be of throwing them in, with fictitious beings, and does knowing they actually existed affect your response to the book in any way?

**Bookshelf** *Follow Me Down* £4.99, *The Merrybegot* £5.99, *Ivy* £5.99

**Website** [www.julie-hearn.com](http://www.julie-hearn.com)



## Catherine Forde



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Catherine Forde will talk about her new novel, *Firestarter*, as well as her other award-winning books for teenagers. *Firestarter* is a tense new thriller about a very straightforward boy meeting a very strange boy who has an unhealthy and disturbing obsession with fire. This novel crackles with tension and asks the big question: can someone be born evil?

Catherine Forde will also talk about her passion for writing and what inspires her to write, leaving plenty of time for questions at the end.

### Biography

Catherine Forde was discovered on the slush pile. Her debut novel, *Fat Boy Swim*, was a huge success and was nominated for seven awards including the Blue Peter Book Award and the Booktrust Teenage Prize. She has become known as a leading voice in teenage literature with a remarkable talent for capturing the way young people speak and behave.

### Tips for Teachers

- Choose one of Catherine Forde's books and discuss how she successfully writes dialogue. What language does she use? Do local accents or dialect make the conversations sound more realistic?
- The books often explore themes facing teenagers today: boredom, bullying, drugs, family arguments. How much do you connect with these issues? What do you see as the biggest issues in teenage life today?
- Music is a key inspiration. Does any piece of music inspire you? Write a story outline or character sketch based around your favourite song.
- Pick a key point of tension or drama in one of the books and put yourself in the main character's shoes at that moment. Staying in character write a letter explaining how you feel about the events going on around you. Remember to use accent, dialect, slang and sentence structure to make the letter sound natural and in-keeping with the character.

### Bookshelf

*Firestarter* £4.99, *The Drowning Pond* £4.99, *Skarrs* £4.99

**Website** [www.catherineforde.co.uk](http://www.catherineforde.co.uk)



## Anne Fine



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Anne Fine's books for older readers like *The Tulip Touch*, *The Granny Project*, *Goggle-Eyes* and *Step by Wicked Step* tackle hugely important social matters in both an inventive and accessible – often even amusing – way. Anne Fine will show how even a young person's story may have considerable political resonance. She will also talk about her most recent book, the thrilling *The Road of Bones*, which shows how totalitarian systems can all too easily creep into power, then make decisions to protect themselves.

### Biography

Anne Fine is one of Britain's most distinguished writers for children of all ages. She has won both the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Award twice over, and from 2001-3 was the Children's Laureate. Her work has been translated into over thirty languages. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and has been awarded the OBE for services to children's literature.

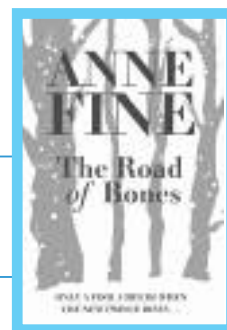
### Tips for Teachers

- Anne Fine has written twelve books for secondary school age readers. Though it will not be necessary to have studied any book in particular, the more of her work your pupils have read, the more they will enjoy hearing her talk and the greater part they will be able to play in the question and answer section of the session.
- Most of the books are also published in educational editions (eg. Longmans, Collins) which include detailed suggestions for work in class.
- There are also play versions of some of the novels.
- Details of all the books can be found on her website.

### Bookshelf

*Flour Babies* £5.99, *Up On Cloud Nine* £4.99, *The Book of the Banshee* £4.99

**Website** [www.annefine.co.uk](http://www.annefine.co.uk)



## Myths and Monsters with James Mayhew



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Traditional tales and myths inspire much of James Mayhew's work, including his Katie books which feature paintings depicting famous myths and legends. Come and hear some of these tales and watch him as he creates an accompanying illustration. Then have a go at illustrating a traditional story yourself!

*Please note: bookings for this workshop are limited to 25 pupils plus teachers*

### Biography

James Mayhew studied illustration graduating with first class honours. He visits many schools, libraries and bookshops and enjoys involving children in activities such as mural painting and a variety of art and literature based projects. He also teaches degree students at Anglia Polytechnic University. His first book for children was *Katie's Picture Show* which began a series of art books for younger children. He received the New York Times award for one of the ten best illustrated books of the year for *The Boy and the Cloth of Dreams* written by Jenny Koralek and has illustrated a number of programmes for the Kirov Opera, St Petersburg. In 1998 he was commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera, New York, to design a series of t-shirts for the Kirov's season there.

### Tips for Teachers

- No specific preparation is necessary, although it's always helpful if the children have at least seen a couple of the books.
- Follow up work: using postcards is a great way to encourage creative writing – perhaps visit a gallery to support this. Choose a painting, imagine what it would feel like in that picture. Are there any people? Are they friendly? Is it hot or cold? Do you like it there? What could you do while you are there?

### Bookshelf

The Katie series £5.99, *Boy* £5.99

**Website** [www.wattspub.co.uk](http://www.wattspub.co.uk)





P7 – S2

Monday 28 August, 10.30am, Studio Theatre

## GP Taylor's Magical Tour of Myths and Miracles



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

An energetic performer, GP Taylor will look at some of the more fascinating aspects of the 18th century. Through an interactive performance pupils will be encouraged to develop their interest in stories and writing. The event will explore smuggling, magical hands, mythical beasts and all things interesting. GP Taylor will give insights into how to create a dramatic plot and colourful characters, all in an atmosphere of fun and laughter!

All pupils need to prepare for this event is to find a strange or fascinating word that can be played with.

### Biography

GP Taylor lives in the shadows of a medieval castle and the rugged North Yorkshire Moors overlooking the cold Oceanus Germanicus. He has spent most of his life in search of the eternal truths and finally believes he has found the reason why he inhabits a tiny space on this planet. If anyone is so bold as to ever want to contact him he can be emailed at [shadowmancer@btopenworld.com](mailto:shadowmancer@btopenworld.com).

GP Taylor apologises that as he was born in 1762, he has a pathological dislike for telephones and can only write with a quill pen. He is a friend of Charlemagne and during the Boer War worked as a stage hand at the London Palladium.

### Tips for Teachers

- GP Taylor's books are used by the Scottish examination board as a set text in their character studies. They can be used as a springboard to discuss characterisation, dramatic effect and scene depiction.
- GP Taylor's books can also be used as discussion points for history, especially in the realms of social and living conditions.
- Shadowmancer* can be used to discuss cultural differences as the hero of the book is a black African boy.

### Bookshelf

*Shadowmancer* £5.99, *The Curse of Salamander Street* (published Sept 2006), *Tersias* £9.99



P1 – 2

Monday 28 August, 10.30am, RBS Imagination Lab

## Stories in Action with Pam Wardell

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Using music, props, simple costume, voices and sound effects, children will create the characters and the drama of a favourite story or picture book.

In this event the dramas have an undersea theme with stories by Ruth Galloway, *Smiley Shark* and *Fidgety Fish*. No previous knowledge or experience of the books is required – just a natural delight in taking part!

### Biography

Pam Wardell is a veteran drama specialist who has been using a wealth of stories and picture books for young readers as the starting point for some really creative drama. She particularly enjoys working with children at the early stages because their imaginations are so original and vivid and they love becoming their favourite characters.

### Tips for Teachers

- Pam Wardell has found that if the books she uses to demonstrate an approach are made available in the class library after a drama session, individual children will enjoy reading the pictures or text for themselves. They often repeat the dramatic language of the story with real expression and often want to share the story again and again with their friends.
- Under the banner of Sounds Creative, Pam Wardell provides tailor-made drama workshops for primary teachers to hire.

### Bookshelf

*Smiley Shark* and *Fidgety Fish* (both by Ruth Galloway), *The North Wind and the Sun* (by Brian Wildsmith), *The Gigantic Turnip* (by Aleksei Tolstoy & Niamh Sharkey)

### Website

[www.barringtonstoke.co.uk/teachers/newsletter05c.html](http://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk/teachers/newsletter05c.html)  
email address: [pamwardell@onetel.com](mailto:pamwardell@onetel.com)

P5 – 7

Monday 28 August, 11.30am, RBS Children's Theatre

## Michelle Paver



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Michelle Paver will talk about her childhood passion for wolves and the Stone Age, telling how she met a bear. She will talk about her research too, including swimming with killer whales and observing polar bears. There will be plenty of time for questions.

### Biography

Michelle Paver was born in central Africa but came to England as a child. After gaining a degree in Biochemistry from Oxford University, she became a partner in a city law firm, but eventually gave that up to write full-time. The *Chronicles of Ancient Darkness* series arises from her lifelong passions for animals, anthropology and the distant past.

### Tips for Teachers

- It really helps the success of the event if pupils have read at least the first few chapters of *Wolf Brother* beforehand – it gives them a feel for the series and what the books are about.
- Subjects that the series looks at include animals, anthropology, archaeology, animal behaviour, survival skills, ancient cultures and the Stone Age. The books can be used in the classroom to talk about any of these things.
- Some of the story is written from the wolf's point of view. A classroom exercise could be trying to write stories from the point of view of somebody else.

### Bookshelf

*Wolf Brother* £5.99, *Spirit Walker* £9.99 hardback (paperback published June 2006), *Soul Eater* £9.99 (published Sept 2006)

Website [www.torak.info](http://www.torak.info)



P3

Monday 28 August, 1.00pm, RBS Imagination Lab

## Stories in Action with Pam Wardell

In this afternoon session two familiar tales – *The Gigantic Turnip* and *The North Wind and the Sun* – will be the starting points for dramas created by P3s. Full details on page 22

P6 – S1

Monday 28 August, 1.30pm, RBS Children's Theatre

## John Boyne



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

John Boyne will talk about the writing of his book, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* and read an extract from it. It would be helpful if teachers could speak to the class in advance about the subject matter of the book (the Holocaust). It would also be advantageous if pupils have already read some of the book so that they can ask questions.

### Biography

John Boyne was born in Dublin in 1971 and is the author of five novels, *The Thief of Time*, *The Congress of Rough Riders*, *Crippen*, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* and *Next of Kin*. His work has been translated into thirteen languages. He won the Curtis Brown Prize and was shortlisted for the Hennessy Literary Award, the Sunday Independent/Hughes & Hughes Irish Novel of the Year Award for *Crippen* and the Ottakar's Children's Book Prize for *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*.

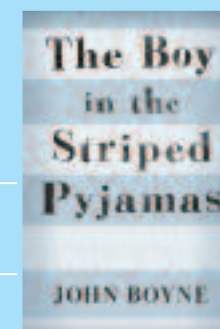
### Tips for Teachers

- Pupils will get the most from the book if they are already familiar with the Holocaust and the fact that there were children their own age in concentration camps. It's preferable if teachers have read sections of the book to them in advance and discussed these themes with them.

### Bookshelf

*Crippen* £6.99, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* £10.99, *Next of Kin* £6.99

Website [www.johnboyne.com](http://www.johnboyne.com)





P1 – 3

Monday 28 August, 1.00pm, RBS Workshop Tent

## Myths and Monsters with James Mayhew

Full details on page 21

P5 – 7

Monday 28 August, 1.30pm, RBS Main Theatre

## Michael Morpurgo

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Michael Morpurgo's reputation as a brilliant, challenging and inspirational speaker deservedly precedes him. A master storyteller who makes his books come to life through his talks, he is guaranteed to engage every one of your pupils in an experience they will not easily forget.

Please make sure your pupils have read two of the following books beforehand: *Kensuke's Kingdom*, *The Lost Wolf*, *Private Peaceful*, *The Butterfly Lion*, *Cool!*, *Toro Toro!*, *War Horse*, *Farm Boy*, *Billy the Kid*, *The Amazing Adventures of Adolphus Tips*, *Arthur*, *High King of Britain*.

### Biography

Sixty-two years young, three children, six grandchildren, 105 books. A storyteller more than a writer, Michael Morpurgo loves the sound of words, loves the music they make.

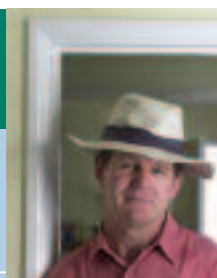
### Tips for Teachers

- Please don't use the books at all for comprehension. Simply read them aloud to your class, or let your pupils read the books themselves at their own speed. Books on tape are excellent too.

### Bookshelf

*The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips* £5.99, *Private Peaceful* £5.99, *Kensuke's Kingdom* £4.99

**Website** [www.michaelmorpurgo.org](http://www.michaelmorpurgo.org)



S1 – 3

Monday 28 August, 2.00pm, Studio Theatre

## Nicola Morgan

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Guaranteed to keep you awake, award-winning Nicola Morgan's talks are always fascinating, sometimes shocking, never ordinary. She will talk about the ideas behind her teenage novels (*Mondays are Red*, *Fleshmarket*, *Sleepwalking* and *The Passionflower Massacre*) and also show you some amazing truths about the teenage brain, as revealed in her popular non-fiction book, *Blame My Brain*. A sneak preview of her next book, *The Highwayman's Footsteps*, will also be on offer. Come prepared to open your minds and really get thinking. No other preparation necessary, though you will find Nicola's website useful.

### Biography

Nicola Morgan has written best-selling and much-praised books for all ages, winning the Scottish Arts Council Children's Book of the Year with *Sleepwalking*. She became an expert on the teenage brain when *Blame My Brain* was published to critical and popular acclaim and is regularly called on to speak in public, including on TV and radio.

### Tips for Teachers

- Teachers should be aware of the content of *Fleshmarket*. The talk is gruesome and moving – Nicola Morgan will be as sensitive as possible but cannot avoid unpleasant truths about life and death in the 19th century.
- There is no need to do classwork on the books beforehand, however, reading the first chapter of *Sleepwalking* and discussing it would be helpful (but not necessary).
- Nicola Morgan will be doing an experiment involving synaesthesia (see *Mondays are Red*). Do encourage pupils to participate and enjoy themselves!
- Follow-up after the event:**  
*Mondays are Red*: ask pupils to write short descriptions of items (eg. cloud, sea, rose, cotton-wool) and award a point each time they use an adjective/adverb/noun/verb that no-one else used. Or ask them to write a descriptive piece without adjectives.  
*Fleshmarket*: was Dr Knox right to buy the bodies from Burke and Hare? Can you find out about some modern instances where scientists or the medical profession have gone further than many people would like?  
*Sleepwalking*: would you rather be an Outsider or a Citizen? Why?  
*The Passionflower Massacre*: was Peter mad or bad? Does what happens to you as a child excuse what you do as an adult?

### Bookshelf

*The Passionflower Massacre* £5.99, *Blame My Brain* £8.99, *The Leaving Home Survival Guide* £8.99

**Website** [www.nicolamorgan.co.uk](http://www.nicolamorgan.co.uk)




# RBS schools gala day 29 august

## a whole day dedicated to primary schools



During our special Gala Day the Book Festival is open to schools only! This means even more events and activities to delight and enthral your pupils all day long.

All Gala Day events are highlighted with this symbol  and can be booked in the usual way.

On this special day your pupils can:

- Choose from 12 fantastic events (detailed individually on pages 26 – 31)
- Browse and choose from over 3000 titles in the RBS Children's Bookshop
- Get books signed by authors after the events they have attended

- Visit Dr. Recommenda Book's Reading Surgery in the RBS Children's Bookshop: pick up your prescription for some great new reads with Edinburgh City Libraries Youth Services

- Soak up the atmosphere of a whole fun-packed day created especially for them!

### Eating & drinking

- Your pupils can bring all the food and drink they need for their day out. There will be a covered area for eating packed lunches in case of rain (or extreme heat!)
- Bottled water and snacks will be on sale.

 **RBS**  
The Royal Bank of Scotland

Turn over for Gala Day events...



P5 – 7

Tuesday 29 August, 10.00am, RBS Children's Theatre



## Justin Richards



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

How do writers make books exciting and thrilling? What keeps children – and adults – reading? How spooky and scary do we like our stories to be?

Justin Richards will talk about his book *The Death Collector* as he tries to answer some of these questions. He will also discuss how the books about the new Doctor Who series came to be written as well as other writing projects – past, present and future. There will be time to ask questions as well as suggest your own answers.

### Biography

Justin Richards is the author of over twenty novels, as well as non-fiction books. He has written audio scripts, for television and a stage play, edited anthologies of short stories, been a technical writer, and founded and edited a media journal.

### Tips for Teachers

- *The Death Collector* and many of Justin's other novels are set in a world that is very like the real world but with just a few differences. It may be Victorian London, but it is a Victorian London that is more as we imagine it might have been than how it actually was. Why is this? What are the differences? And how does the setting – the location and the fact that the book is set in another time – make it easy for the reader to believe the events that take place?
- Right from the beginning of *The Death Collector*, the reader gets an idea of the sort of story they are starting to read. How is this achieved? What expectations does the author raise in the reader's minds and how does he satisfy those expectations as well as play on them and exploit them to keep the story fresh and surprising?



### Bookshelf

*The Death Collector* £9.99, *The Paranormal Puppet Show* £6.99, *Doctor Who – The Resurrection Casket* £4.99

### Website

[www.invisible-detective.com/books.htm](http://www.invisible-detective.com/books.htm)

P6 – 7

Tuesday 29 August, 10.00am, RBS Main Theatre



## Set in Scotland with Joan Lingard



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Joan Lingard will talk about her novels with Scottish settings and how the places themselves inspire her to write. She will use *Glad Rags* as an example of how to build up a novel from scratch, developing characters and background.

Edinburgh: *The Sign of the Black Dagger*, *Odd Girl Out* and *Glad Rags*.

Argyll: *Natasha's Will*

### Biography

Joan Lingard is one of the world's pre-eminent writers for children and was awarded an MBE for services to children's literature in 1998. Amongst the many issues tackled in her writing – frequently against a strong historical and also international background – are the themes of prejudice and discrimination, tolerance and reconciliation, displacement and resettling, and relationships, especially within families.

### Tips for Teachers

- Family relationships and fortunes: *The Sign of the Black Dagger*, *Natasha's Will* and *Glad Rags*, sequel to *Rags and Riches*, twelve stories told in turn by brother and sister, Sam and Seb.
- Debt: today and in 1796, when the precincts of Holyrood Abbey were a debtor's sanctuary; and the subsequent upheaval in the families: *The Sign of the Black Dagger*.
- Being different, the odd one out: *Odd Girl Out*
- Displacement through war or revolution: *Natasha's Will*, set in 1917 Russia and present-day Argyll. It is also a literary treasure hunt, with clues leading to the discovery of a missing will.
- *Tell the Moon to Come Out*: Spanish civil war.



### Bookshelf

*The Sign of the Black Dagger* £5.99, *Tell the Moon to Come Out* £5.99, *Natasha's Will* £5.99, *Odd Girl Out* £5.99, *Glad Rags* £5.99

### Website

[www.joanlingard.co.uk](http://www.joanlingard.co.uk)  
[www.slainte.org.uk/scotwrit/authors/lingard.htm](http://www.slainte.org.uk/scotwrit/authors/lingard.htm)  
[www.puffin.co.uk](http://www.puffin.co.uk)

P1 – 4

Tuesday 29 August, 10.30am, RBS Workshop Tent



## Create a Story with Vivian French & Chris Fisher



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Make up a fun story with the wonderful Vivian French! After being inspired by your magnificent ideas, Chris Fisher will then bring it to life before your eyes with his fabulous illustrations. Vivian and Chris will do all the hard work (phew!) so all you will need to bring is your imaginations!

Please note: bookings for this workshop are limited to 25 pupils plus teachers.

### Biography

Vivian French has been an actor, a storyteller, and, since 1990 a writer of children's books (nearly 200 so far). She writes both fiction and non-fiction, and occasional poetry. She is also an acclaimed editorial consultant and anthologist, and is among the most borrowed authors in UK libraries.

### Bookshelf

*Buck and his Truck* £3.99 (ages 5 – 7), *Singing to The Sun* £3.99 (ages 7 – 10)

### Website

[www.jubileebooks.co.uk](http://www.jubileebooks.co.uk)

P4 – 7

Tuesday 29 August, 10.30am, Studio Theatre



## Mysteries of Ancient Rome with Caroline Lawrence



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

A funny, lively, illustrated talk. Dressed as a Roman matron, Caroline Lawrence will talk a bit about herself, how she started writing, why she chose the Roman period for her books. Best of all, she shares how she gets ideas from playing with real and replica Roman artefacts, including the notorious sponge-stick. There will be time for questions at the end. No advance preparation is necessary, though pupils might want to think of questions to ask.

### Biography

Caroline Lawrence is a Californian who is passionate about ancient Rome. An ex-Latin teacher, she uses her knowledge to write adventure mystery stories set in the first century AD. Her hobbies are film, jazz and travelling for 'research'.

### Tips for Teachers

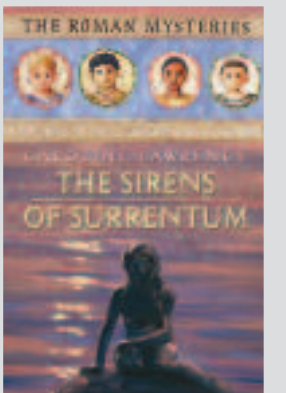
- There are ten pages of funsheets, quizzes and resources for teachers: [www.romanmysteries.com/characters/resource1.htm](http://www.romanmysteries.com/characters/resource1.htm)
- Find five Roman Mystery short stories of varying length and complexity: [www.romanmysteries.com/characters/missingcoin.htm](http://www.romanmysteries.com/characters/missingcoin.htm)

### Bookshelf

*The Thieves of Ostia* £5.99, *The Secrets of Vesuvius* £5.99, *The Sirens of Surrentum* (hardback) £8.99

### Website

[www.romanmysteries.com](http://www.romanmysteries.com)



P1 – 3

Tuesday 29 August, 11.00am, Peppers Theatre



## Heather Dyer



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Heather Dyer will introduce her books, show illustrations, read aloud, and talk about the inspiration for the setting and the characters. She will also talk a bit about what made her first start writing, and how a book gets published. No specific preparation is necessary but it makes the event more meaningful if children have started reading one of her books beforehand, and have prepared some questions they might like to ask.

#### Biography

Heather Dyer was born in Scotland and now lives in Wales and writes short novels for five to eleven year olds. Her highly acclaimed books start out with an ordinary person who soon meets someone quite unconventional – someone like Hilary in *The Girl with the Broken Wing*, who can fly, or Eliza Flot in *The Fish in Room 11*, who is a mermaid with stringy hair and a chipped front tooth. Heather's ambition is to write books which children enjoy so much they are inspired to read more.

#### Tips for Teachers

- Children seem to get more out of a visit when they have already started reading one of the books in class, and have had time to prepare some questions they might like to ask. Anything goes!
- After reading *The Fish in Room 11*, one class wrote a diary entry for a day in Mr Harris's life, which was a useful lesson in looking at things from the villain's point of view. The same could be done with minor characters. Reading *The Girl with the Broken Wing* could lead to an exploration of the idea of a guardian angel, perhaps even some role play.



#### Bookshelf

*The Girl with the Broken Wing* £6.99, *The Fish in Room 11* £4.99

**Website** [www.doublecluck.com](http://www.doublecluck.com)

P5 – 7

Tuesday 29 August, 11.30am, RBS Children's Theatre



## Flights of Invention with John Fardell



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

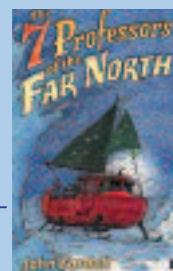
This fun event will be as much about the scribbly processes behind writing and illustrating books as about the finished product. Children will participate in aircraft-inventing and story-generating activities linked to John Fardell's new book, *The Flight of the Silver Turtle*. John will answer questions on any aspect of his work, and he'll be bringing along notebooks, rough drafts, research material and models. He hopes children will discover how good work comes out of an exciting creative process, rather than through trying to get everything right first time.

#### Biography

Before starting to write children's books, John Fardell mostly earned his living as a freelance cartoonist, illustrator and occasional designer of puppet theatre shows. His comic strips and cartoons have appeared in a wide variety of publications including *Viz*, *The List*, *the Independent* and *the Herald*.

#### Tips for Teachers

- Preparation: this will be largely about generating exciting ideas from scratch, so no specific preparation work is required. It would be helpful, but not necessary, if children have read one or both of John Fardell's books. They might like to think in advance of questions to ask, though other questions might be sparked by the event itself.
- Classroom follow-up/preparation ideas: A project on aviation (the history of flight, different types of aircraft, planes of the future and so on) might be fun.
- For more moral-philosophical themes to spark classroom discussions, there is a critique of the pursuit of perfection running through *The Seven Professors of the Far North*, explicit in the sections about Professor Murdo's work, and implicit in the way the children get through with makeshift solutions, and with help from flawed and damaged characters.
- In *The Flight of the Silver Turtle*, there are general themes about secrecy and the control of science and technology for military use.



#### Bookshelf

*The Seven Professors of the Far North* £5.99, *The Flight of the Silver Turtle* £5.99

P1 – 3

Tuesday 29 August, 12.00 noon, Studio Theatre



## Maisie with Aileen Paterson



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

As well as telling some stories, Aileen Paterson will talk about what inspired her to start writing and illustrating. Find out how she gets ideas for each book and hear all about her new book which is set in Edinburgh's Botanic Garden. What will Maisie get up to next?

#### Biography

Aileen Paterson was born in Fife and studied design at Edinburgh College of Art. She has been a teacher, potter and craftworker. She has six children and six grandchildren, which helps with ideas for her books. She loves illustrating the books, which she began creating twenty three years ago.

#### Tips for Teachers

- All the Maisie books have real settings – houses, shops, buildings. Children could try writing an adventure set near their home.
- All of Aileen Paterson's books (eg. *Maisie Digs up the Past*, *Maisie in the Rainforest*) are researched and can be used in the classroom.
- Ask the children to describe the different characters in the Maisie books – their looks and personality.
- Create a new Maisie adventure.
- Think about Scottish words – food and so on.



#### Bookshelf

*Maisie Bites the Big Apple* £4.99, *Maisie Digs up the Past* £4.50, *What Maisie Did Next* £5.95 (hardback)

**Website** [www.glowwormbooks.co.uk](http://www.glowwormbooks.co.uk)

P4 – 6

Tuesday 29 August, 12.30pm, Peppers Theatre



## Louise Arnold



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Louise Arnold will talk through the process of writing *The Invisible Friend*, and its sequel *Ghost School*. She will begin with a tale of Boo the Ghost, a short story she wrote when nine years old, and tell how this evolved through daydreams, note books, castle visits and a competition into a fully grown manuscript sixteen years later.

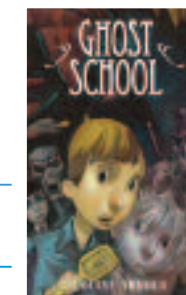
She will also discuss where she gets her ideas from, why she relies heavily on her digital camera when she's writing, the benefits of criticism, and the steps involved in creating a book. There will be plenty of time for questions.

#### Biography

*The Invisible Friend* is Louise Arnold's first book for children and was the winner of the BBC News creative writing competition in 2003. Before becoming a children's writer, Louise completed a degree in drama (specialising in stand-up comedy!).

#### Tips for Teachers

- Write a diary from the point of view of any of the characters mentioned in the book – take into account the personality and behaviour of the character and think how this might affect their writing – eg. would they write long, detailed accounts or short lists of events? What would be important to them? Would they write how they feel or just about what had happened?
- Invent a new ghost. Explain what its role would be, what it would look like, where it might live and how it would behave.
- Tom Golden never really confides in his parents or his teachers about the problems with being bullied, or about seeing ghosts. Why do you think this is? Do you think you would act differently in his situation? Do you think he should have acted differently?



#### Bookshelf

*The Invisible Friend* £5.99, *Ghost School* £5.99 (published June 2006)

**Website** [www.greyarthur.com](http://www.greyarthur.com)

P1 – 4

Tuesday 29 August, 1.00pm, RBS Workshop Tent



## Create a Story with Vivian French & Chris Fisher

Full details on page 27





## Every Picture Tells A Story with James Mayhew



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Imagine you could climb through a picture frame and have adventures inside paintings. That's what Katie does, although she always gets in a muddle. James Mayhew will talk about where this idea and many others came from, how memories and imagination grow into finished books, how he paints (and why he tears up more illustrations than he ever finishes) and how he loves discovering all sorts of strange and interesting things about famous artists.

#### Biography

James Mayhew studied illustration, graduating with first class honours. He visits many schools, libraries and bookshops and enjoys involving children in activities such as mural painting and a variety of art and literature based projects. He also teaches degree students at Anglia Polytechnic University. His first book for children was *Katie's Picture Show* which began a series of art books for younger children. He received the New York Times award for one of the ten best illustrated books of the year for *The Boy and the Cloth of Dreams* written by Jenny Koralek and has illustrated a number of programmes for the Kirov Opera, St Petersburg. In 1998 he was commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera, New York, to design a series of t-shirts for the Kirov's season there.

#### Tips for Teachers

- No specific preparation is necessary, although it's always helpful if the children have at least seen a couple of the books.
- Follow up work: using postcards is a great way to encourage creative writing – perhaps visit a gallery to support this. Choose a painting, imagine what it would feel like in that picture. Are there any people? Are they friendly? Is it hot or cold? Do you like it there? What could you do while you are there?



#### Bookshelf

The Katie series £5.99, *Boy* £5.99

**Website** [www.wattspub.co.uk](http://www.wattspub.co.uk)



## Itchy Coo presents Bampots and Heroes (myths and madness in Scots)

### EVENT SYNOPSIS

Welcome tae Itchy Coo's *Bampots and Heroes*. Are you a bampot? Or are you a hero? Come and meet Hercules, Zeus, Eurythseus with special guest appearances from Mr and Mrs Eejit. Join the Itchy Coo actors as they recite, chant, lowp, birl and pure belt oot poems, gags and songs based on characters from the popular Scots book *Hercules: Bampots and Heroes*. And be first to hear the new Scots translation of Roald Dahl's *The Twits*. Prepare yourselves one and all for *The Eejits*.

#### Biography

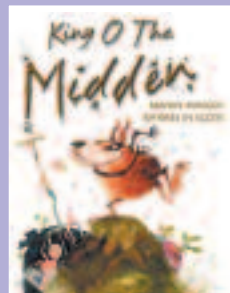
*Hercules: Bampots and Heroes* is written by Matthew Fitt. He has also written *The Eejits* which is the first translation into Scots of Roald Dahl's *The Twits*. Together with B&W Publishing, James Robertson and Matthew Fitt run the successful Scots Language imprint, Itchy Coo. Itchy Coo is a Scottish Arts Council project which, since 2002, has published twenty four high-quality books for children in Scots.

#### Tips for Teachers

- Ask pupils to point to their heid, mooth, lugs, taes and oxters.
- Ask them to birl roond, to lowp into the air and to gie theirsels a guid shoogle.
- Ask them who's crabbit, who's bonnie, who's always greetin and who's mingin.
- Ask them if they know any more Scots words.
- Ask them to add one or more of these words to town words like Aber-or Inver- or -burgh or -toun to create their own Scots towns like Abercrabbit, Inverbonnie, Oxtsburgh or Shoogletoun. Pupils should go on to illustrate their fictional Scots toun.

#### Bookshelf

*King o the Midden* £6.99, *A Wee Book o Fairy Tales in Scots* £6.99, *Eck the Bee* £6.99



## SF Said & the Varjak Paw books



### EVENT SYNOPSIS

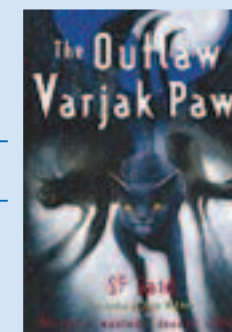
SF Said will talk about his books, *Varjak Paw* and *The Outlaw Varjak Paw*. He will talk about how he came to write them, the research he did into cats, and what he's doing next. The event will be quite interactive, as he likes to ask the audience about their own experiences, memories and stories, but no specific preparation is required.

#### Biography

SF Said's first novel, *Varjak Paw*, won the Smarties Prize for Children's Literature as well as children's book awards in Gateshead and Stockton – all voted for by readers. It is equally popular with boys and girls, across a wide range of ages. The sequel, *The Outlaw Varjak Paw*, was published in 2005; the paperback comes out in September 2006.

#### Tips for Teachers

- The books are very good for reading aloud; teachers say it works extremely well in class and engages boys and girls alike – the combination of cats and martial arts seems to appeal across genders, and a wide range of ages.
- School projects have been done on many aspects of the books: cats, cities, martial arts, identity and tradition, storytelling, myth. The second book also deals with many questions about law, justice, fairness and so on – plenty to get children engaged!



**Bookshelf** *Varjak Paw* £5.99, *The Outlaw Varjak Paw* £10.99

**Website** [www.varjakpaw.com](http://www.varjakpaw.com)

### Useful Information

#### British Sign Language Interpreted events

If you would benefit from a BSL interpreter at events please let us know. We can often arrange a signer for the event of your choice. Please call Karen Mountney on 0131 718 5666 or email [karen@edbookfest.co.uk](mailto:karen@edbookfest.co.uk).

#### Bringing pupils with special needs

If your pupils have special needs you may need more information about author events and what a visit to the Book Festival involves. We would be delighted to talk in more detail with you. Please call Karen Mountney on 0131 718 5666 or email [karen@edbookfest.co.uk](mailto:karen@edbookfest.co.uk).

#### Book signings

Wherever possible our events are followed by a book signing. Authors are very happy to sign their own books or pupils' notebooks. Please do not ask them to sign someone else's books, scraps of paper or publishers' catalogues.

#### Mailing List

If you would like to receive information about other Edinburgh International Book Festival events and activities please send your name, address, postcode and email address to: Mailing List, Edinburgh International Book Festival, 5a Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, EH2 4DR or email [admin@edbookfest.co.uk](mailto:admin@edbookfest.co.uk)

#### Online resources

Download our schools programme at [www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk)

#### Useful websites:

[www.achuka.co.uk](http://www.achuka.co.uk)  
[www.bibliomania.com](http://www.bibliomania.com)  
[www.booktrusted.co.uk](http://www.booktrusted.co.uk)  
[www.braw.org.uk](http://www.braw.org.uk)  
[www.childrenslaureate.org](http://www.childrenslaureate.org)  
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[www.fcbg.org.uk](http://www.fcbg.org.uk)  
[www.jubileebooks.co.uk](http://www.jubileebooks.co.uk)  
[http://kotn.ntu.ac.uk](http://http://kotn.ntu.ac.uk)  
[www.myhomelibrary.org](http://www.myhomelibrary.org)  
[www.readingmatters.co.uk](http://www.readingmatters.co.uk)  
[www.readtogether.co.uk](http://www.readtogether.co.uk)  
[www.scottishbooktrust.com](http://www.scottishbooktrust.com)  
[www.spl.org.uk/youngpeople](http://www.spl.org.uk/youngpeople)  
[www.storiesfromtheweb.org](http://www.storiesfromtheweb.org)  
[www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)



The Times Educational Supplement Scotland is delighted to be associated once again with the Edinburgh International Book Festival Schools Programme.

It's stating the obvious to observe that a newspaper specialising in education wants to see the nation's pupils – and teachers! – reading enthusiastically. The Schools Programme does inestimable work towards that end and its innovative approaches, as shown in its Gala Day and outreach programme, are as strongly evident this year as ever.

**Neil Munro, Editor TES Scotland**

# Edinburgh International Book Festival 2006

## Event Booking Form

OFFICIAL USE:

Date received:

System Reference:

Bookings are dealt with on a first come first served basis. Demand for tickets is high. Whilst we will always do our utmost to accommodate your first choice, please indicate alternatives wherever possible. If, unfortunately, none of your event choices is available we will contact you to discuss other possible alternatives.

Please complete and return the Event Booking Form to:

Box E, Edinburgh International Book Festival,  
5a Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4DR

Please DO NOT include payment.

☐

I would like to be added to the mailing list for the full programme of events for 2006

PLEASE COMPLETE ONE BOOKING FORM FOR EACH EVENT  
AND BUS FUND APPLICATION. PLEASE LIST TWO ALTERNATIVE EVENTS AS  
SECOND AND THIRD CHOICES (use as many photocopies as required)

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Class (e.g. P3): \_\_\_\_\_

Tel (term): \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (holidays): \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to apply for the Bus Fund ☐ (application deadline 19 May)

I have been quoted a travel cost of £  (for one trip)

Ticket Prices: **Pupils and adults £2.00 each (one adult FREE with every 10 pupils) Teachers’ Events £5.00**

CHOICE	EVENT TITLE	DAY	DATE	TIME	NO. OF PUPILS	NO. OF ADULTS	TOTAL COST
First Choice							
Alternative 1							
Alternative 2							
Teachers’ Events <i>See page 2</i>							

# Edinburgh International Book Festival 2006

## Book Buying Form

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Date received:

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Box B, Edinburgh International Book Festival,  
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School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase Order No: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel (term): \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (holidays): \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE INCLUDE A PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER

Book orders cannot be processed without a purchase order.

NB. Minimum order 5 books per title

For more information contact Booksales Manager, James Shaw on 0131 718 5666

BOOK TITLE AND AUTHOR	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL COST
		SUBTOTAL	
		25% DISCOUNT	
		TOTAL	



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