

ILFD SCHOOLS



**INTERNATIONAL
LITERATURE
FESTIVAL DUBLIN
SCHOOLS PROGRAMME**

WELCOME!

We are back at Merrion Square Park and ready to welcome readers and writers of all ages to a literary village brimming with ideas!

At ILFD, students will conquer chaos, break curses, train their brains, and celebrate their inner voice along the way. They may even make the acquaintance of a unicorn!

Writers, illustrators, and storytellers from Ireland, the UK, Australia, the USA, and further afield will lead students in delightful discussions and wonderful workshops exploring history, science, mythology and so much more. Early booking is encouraged to make sure you don't miss out on an unforgettable experience at ILFD.

HOW TO BOOK: Visit ilfdublin.com to book online or email boxoffice@ilfdublin.com

WHERE TO FIND US: The festival site is located in Merrion Square Park, with the main access gate located on Merrion Square East.

HOW TO GET THERE: For school groups arriving by foot, the best access point is from Merrion Square East. School groups arriving by coach or bus are advised to be dropped off on Merrion Square South and access the site via the gate located on that street.



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



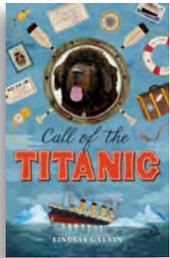
funding
literature

International Literature Festival Dublin School's Programme is brought to you by Dublin City Council, with kind support by the Arts Council.

FRI 19 MAY

10:00 - 11:00

SYNGE



LINDSAY GALVIN REDISCOVERS THE TITANIC



Author Lindsay Galvin will hold budding historians enthralled with insights from her detailed research into the *Titanic*. In a presentation that offers a fresh take on the historic tragedy, discover a new story laced with friendship and mythology...and even a legendary sea creature!

Sid is proud to be working on the famous ship, *Titanic*, while Clara is a stowaway on the much smaller boat, the *Carpathia* with a dog called Rigel. When disaster inevitably strikes, it'll take all of their courage and ingenuity to survive.

Lindsay Galvin was raised to love stories, music, and the magic of the sea. She is the author of *Darwin's Dragons* and *The Secret Deep*. She has a degree in English Language and Literature and teaches Science.

AGES 9 - 12
CLASS 4TH - 6TH
CURRICULUM PLC, SE (HIS)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

FRI 19 MAY

10:15 - 11:00

SPERANZA



PAUL LINNET'S SUPERHERO ADVENTURES



Author Paul Linnet wants to take you on an epic adventure through space and time with Supertato! Expect stories, drawing, live music, puppets, and plenty of silliness in this wild and wonderful interactive event.

Supertato is a superhero – and a potato!

He loves his adventures with his veggie and fruity friends, and when the chips are down, he's always there to save the day. In his latest escapade, our beloved supermarket superhero must battle the Evil Pea across time and space.

Paul Linnet grew up reading *Tintin* and playing video games before studying Graphic Design at Derby University. When he moved back to his hometown of Brighton, he met Sue Hendra, who grew up in Wimbledon writing stories and drawing pictures. Together, they made up a story about a fish with fingers and then a slug with a doughnut for a shell and they've been writing crazy stories ever since!

AGES 4 - 7
CLASS JUNIOR INFANTS - 1ST
CURRICULUM ART (MU, VA), SPH
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

FRI 19 MAY

10:30 - 11:15

LE FANU



JO HALL'S DANCING DIGITS



JoJo Gnome is going to teach Robbie the Robot how to count and dance – and they need your help! Join author Jo Hall and JoJo Gnome for a workshop session packed full of stories, games, counting, and dancing. You'll hear Jojo's counting story, *JoJo Gnome and the Maths Challenge* and join in as Robbie the Robot

learns how to count and dance – because Maths is the most fun you can have with a gnome and a robot! Jo will show you how she draws JoJo Gnome and you'll make your own counting book to bring back to school.

For many years, Jo Hall headed up BBC Scotland Learning's outreach arm, the Lab, teaching young people to make great digital content. She left the BBC in 2021 and now writes and produces Early Years story podcasts and workshops with JoJo Gnome. She also runs film and podcast workshops in schools, empowering young people to find their voices in a digital world.

AGES 5 - 7
CLASS SENIOR INFANTS - 1ST
CURRICULUM ART (VA), MA, SPH
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

FRI 19 MAY

11:30 - 12:30

SPERANZA



SARAH WEBB CHANGES THE WORLD



Children's books author Sarah Webb hosts an informative and creative workshop of discovery and inspiration based on all the ways amazing young Irish people are changing the world.

History is full of stories about Irish people changing the world - and amazing young Irish people are making history right now! You're never too young to make a difference in your community, in your country, even in the world. Come along to hear how beach-cleaner Flossie Donnelly, Paralympian Róisín ní Riain, and journalist Zainab Boladale (to name but a few) figured out how to make a change for the better.

Sarah Webb is an award-winning children's writer. Her books include *Blazing a Trail: Irish Women Who Changed the World*, illustrated by Lauren O'Neill, and *A Sailor Went to Sea, Sea, Sea*, illustrated by Steve McCarthy, both winners of Irish Book Awards. Sarah also runs creative writing clubs for young writers. She was awarded the CBI Award for Outstanding Contribution to Children's Books in Ireland.

AGES 8 - 11
CLASS 3RD - 5TH
CURRICULUM SE (GEO, HIS, SCI), SPH
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

MON 22 MAY

10:00 - 11:00

SYNGE



EFUA TRAORÉ BREAKS THE CURSE



Join author Efua Traoré to explore the connection between our world and the supernatural, as she shares stories from her Yoruba heritage and mythology!

Kuki knows that it's her destiny to die young - but she refuses to believe it! Mostly because right now, her biggest problem is the stress of moving house and trying her best to fit in at her new school. One evening, she discovers an abandoned beach house full of shadows and as the light fades, she meets a girl called Enilo. The two quickly become the best of friends but Kuki has no idea how closely her destiny will intertwine with her new friendship.

Efua Traoré is a Nigerian-German writer who draws on the stories of her Nigerian childhood in her work. *The House of Shells* is her second novel, coming after *Children of the Quicksands* in 2021. Efua is an Esan name from south-western Nigeria and means "light".

AGES 9 - 12
CLASS 4TH - 6TH
CURRICULUM PLC, SE (HIS)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

MON 22 MAY

10:15 - 11:15

SPERANZA



FRANCESCA SIMON'S VERY BAD VIKINGS



Author Francesca Simon wants to introduce you to the wonder and weirdness of Norse mythology with her friends Hack and Whack, the worst Vikings ever! With three hilarious new stories to share, you're bound to be rolling in aisles with laughter as Hack and Whack attempt to babysit a toddler - Fire Hazard - and meet a teenage king who turns out to be even worse than them.

Francesca Simon is the author responsible for the hugely popular Horrid Henry series. She was shortlisted for the Costa Book Prize for *The Monstrous Child*, which she turned into an opera for the Royal Opera House. She lives with her family in North London.

AGES 6 - 9
CLASS 1ST - 3RD
CURRICULUM SE (HIS), PLC
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

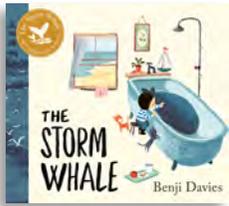
*10% DISCOUNT AUTOMATICALLY APPLIED TO CLASS BOOKINGS OF 20 OR MORE.

VISIT ILFDUBLIN.COM

MON 22 MAY

11:30 - 12:15

SYNGE



A WHALE OF A TALE

WITH BENJI DAVIES



Illustrator Benji Davies will keep budding naturalists enchanted with live drawing, music, tales of friendship, adventure, and baby whales! If you've ever wondered what it might be like to keep a baby whale in the bath, this is the event for you.

Noi's dad is a very busy fisherman and sometimes Noi's only company is their six cats. Rescuing a baby whale from the beach last summer was the biggest adventure of his life but now winter is coming and Noi is worried about his friend. As a big storm blows up, Noi decides to head out to sea.

Benji Davies is an illustrator, author, and animation director. His first book, *The Storm Whale*, won the inaugural Oscar's Book Prize and was named Dutch Picture Book of the Year, 2017. *Grandad's Island*, his second book, won the children's book category of the AOI World Illustration Awards, and was crowned Children's Book of the Year at the Sainsbury's Children's Book Awards. In 2020, *Tad*, a story about a tadpole making its way in the big, wide pond, won Oscar's Book Prize.

AGES 4 - 7
CLASS SENIOR INFANTS - 1ST
CURRICULUM SPH, ART, PLC
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

MON 22 MAY

11:45 - 12:45

SPERANZA



FACE YOUR NEMESWISS

WITH PAUL HOWARD



Author Paul Howard (creator of Ross O'Carroll-Kelly series) returns with his hilarious second book for kids — *Aldrin Adams and the Legend of Nemeswiss*.

Some months have passed since Aldrin Adams discovered his extraordinary superpower. When he eats cheese, just before he goes to sleep at night, he can enter into other people's dreams...and their nightmares. He's knows when to eat blue cheese, smoked cheese and good old Cheddar.

But shouldn't basically being a superhero be more adventurous than this? Join Aldrin as he navigates his new life, meets more people with powers like him and faces his nemesis again!

Paul Howard is an author, journalist and comedy writer. He has won a record four Irish Book Awards and had a Children's No. 1 Bestseller in Ireland in 2019 with the first of the Gordon's Game series, written with co-author former rugby international Gordon D'Arcy.

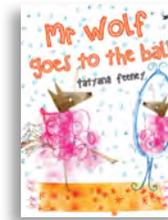
AGES 7 - 10
CLASS 2ND - 4TH
CURRICULUM PLC, SPH
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

TUE 23 MAY

10:00 - 11:00

SYNGE



BE THE BELLE OF THE BALL

WITH TATYANA FEENEY



Young readers will have a ball with illustrator Tatyana Feeney's workshop all about trusting your heart and being yourself.

Mr Wolf is going to the ball but none of his clothes seem quite right for the occasion. A beautiful dress in a shop window catches his eye and he knows it would be perfect!

The other animals don't seem to agree, but Mr Wolf knows that the best friends are the ones who support you in what makes you happy. With stories about Mr Wolf and all his friends, as well as lots of drawing fun.!

Tatyana Feeney spent her childhood in North Carolina, reading and drawing. She loved the latter so much that she gave up her dream of being a fire girl and studied Art History and Illustration. Tatyana now lives in Trim with her family and is the author and illustrator of *Small Bunny's Blue Blanket*, *Little Owl's Orange Scarf*, *Little Frog's Tadpole Trouble*, and *Small Elephant's Bathtime*.

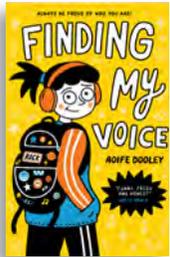
AGES 4 - 7
CLASS SENIOR INFANTS - 1ST
CURRICULUM SPH, ART, PLC
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

TUE 23 MAY

10:15 - 11:15

SPERANZA



FIND YOUR VOICE

WITH AOIFE DOOLEY



Comic creator and illustrator Aoife Dooley knows just how hard it is to find your voice when practically everyone around you is telling you to be quiet. Her *Frankie* graphic novel series is inspired by her own experience of being autistic and learning to understand herself.

Frankie and her best friend Sam are both different, and now they're starting secondary school. The new rules are tough, especially the ones about talking – or not talking! Frankie talks to cope and she's not sure how she'll manage with all this silence. Until the Battle of the Bands competition comes along, and with it, the chance to find her own unique voice.

Aoife Dooley is an award-winning illustrator, author, and comedian, as well as a graphic designer and public speaker. In 2018, at the age of 27, Aoife was diagnosed as Autistic. Since then, she has chosen to share her experiences with audiences across the country, creating conversations about Autism and how her diagnosis has helped her begin to truly understand herself. *Finding My Voice* is the sequel to the acclaimed *Frankie's World* from 2020.

AGES 8 - 11
CLASS 4TH - 6TH
CURRICULUM SPH, ART, PLC
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

TUE 23 MAY

11:30 - 12:30

SYNGE



TRAIN YOUR BRAIN

WITH NIAMH DOYLE

Author Niamh Doyle knows the importance of minding your mind and maintaining good mental health, especially in the post-Covid environment. Learn how to combine mindsets, mindfulness, and all the magic of neuroscience in a workshop that aims to support students in exploring why mental health matters.

Moods and feelings are all part of being human – but that doesn't make them easy to understand! Why do we sometimes feel anxious or cross or afraid, when we want to feel happy or curious, and can we do anything about it?

Mighty Mindsets is Niamh Doyle's first book and is informed by years of teaching experience in both mainstream and special education schools. As an author and educational practitioner, Niamh has an abiding interest in wellbeing and in how we can all improve our daily lives with a little awareness of how our minds work.

AGES 6 - 9
CLASS 1ST - 4TH
CURRICULUM SPH, SE (SCI)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

TUE 23 MAY

11:45 - 12:45

SPERANZA



SHANE HEGARTY SCREAMS FOR ICE CREAM



Flavour enthusiasts and ice-cream aficionados, join author Shane Hegarty for tips on writing the most side-splitting stories you can imagine, and a brainstorming session on impossible ice-cream flavours!

Limpet and his mum run an ice-cream shop where the flavours run wild: tomato and parsnip ice-cream, anyone?? With his mum on holiday for the weekend, Limpet and his dad are in charge...which means things are bound to go wrong. In his second hilarious adventure, he's up against a mysterious thief and it's up to him to save the day – and the ice-cream!

Shane Hegarty used to work as a journalist (he was the editor of *The Irish Times*) and in radio and music. As a children's author, he's written the bestselling *Darkmouth* series, which was nominated for the Waterstones Prize, and is being developed into an animated film. He lives near Dublin with his wife and his toughest critics – his four children!

AGES 7 - 10
CLASS 2ND - 4TH
CURRICULUM PLC, SPH
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

*10% DISCOUNT AUTOMATICALLY APPLIED TO CLASS BOOKINGS OF 20 OR MORE.

VISIT ILFDUBLIN.COM

WED 24 MAY

10:00 - 11:00

SYNGE



JUST KEEP SWIMMING

WITH KATIE O'DONOGHUE



Author Katie O'Donoghue shares neat nature facts and stories about facing your fears and being brave.

Almost everyone knows what it's like to feel a bit scared – and that's how Little Otter feels when she tries to learn to swim on her own. But with help from her friends the duckling, the kingfisher, and the toad, she figures it out!

Katie O'Donoghue is a child and young people's therapist from Co. Kerry with a background in Fine Art and Design. She holds a Master's Degree in Art Psychotherapy and a PhD in Health Psychology. She is also the author of *The Little Squirrel Who Worried*.

AGES 5 - 8
CLASS SENIOR INFANTS - 2ND
CURRICULUM SPH, ART (VA), PLC, SE (GEO, SCI)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

WED 24 MAY

11:30 - 12:30

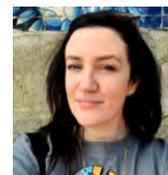
SYNGE



LEONA FORDE & KAREN HARTE CONQUER THE CHAOS



Author Leona Forde and illustrator Karen Harte share their hilarious new story as we think about the planet and what we can do to save it from chaos and calamity.



Budding climate activists will love this chance to discuss the disastrous antics of Milly McCarthy and her classmates as they try their best to earn a Green Flag for their school. The location is Fota Wildlife Park in Cork – and the word is “CATASTROPHE” as everything from

a mass butterfly breakout to a giraffe drama ensues. Get ready for stories, laughs, and a draw-along with Karen!

Leona Forde is an English and History teacher from Co. Cork. Milly's antics mark her debut novel; a sequel, *Milly McCarthy and the Irish Dancing Disaster* is already in the works!

Karen Harte is an illustrator, comic creator & visual designer from Dublin. Play in the form of visual storytelling and finding joy in the everyday are at the heart of what she does.

AGES 8 - 11
CLASS 3RD - 5TH
CURRICULUM PLC, SPH, SE (GEO, SCI), ART (VA)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

WED 24 MAY

12:00 - 13:00

SPERANZA



KPMG CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND AWARDS 2023

Book-loving broadcaster Rick O'Shea will reveal the winners of this year's KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards in an in-person and live broadcast ceremony as part of ILFD.

This year's shortlist spans a range of reading ages and each title will compete for the coveted KPMG Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year, as well as five other awards celebrating fiction, illustration, and the Junior Juries Award which is decided by young readers in schools across the country. A total prize fund of €16,000 will be awarded to this year's winners!

The KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards are supported by the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland National Lottery Funding.

Presented in partnership with Children's Books Ireland, with kind support by KPMG.



THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN PERSON AND ONLINE.

TICKETS FREE, BOOKING REQUIRED

THU 25 MAY

10:00 - 11:00

LE FANU



CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

WITH SARAH COYLE



Gwen's birthday cake has disappeared, but who could possibly be behind this dastardly deed? Are robots behind it? Has it been eaten by dinosaurs? Or squished by unicorns? You get to decide!

With a little help from author Sarah Coyle, you'll choose the direction the story takes – and who knows where we'll end up!

Sarah Coyle is a children's author, and her books include *The Biggest Story*, illustrated by Dan Taylor and *Once You're Asleep*, illustrated by Carolina Rabei. If she had to pick a story, she'd choose to be in a Music/Forest/Peanut Butter on Toast adventure, because those are her favourite things!

AGES 4 - 7
CLASS SENIOR INFANTS - 1ST
CURRICULUM SPH, ART (VA)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

THU 25 MAY

11:00 - 12:00

SYNGE



FINDING BLACK-BEARD'S TREASURE

WITH ISZI LAWRENCE



Comedian, podcaster & history presenter Iszi Lawrence takes you on a swash-buckling adventure through history to meet the real pirates of the Caribbean.

It's 1718. Pirates sail the oceans and brutal slave masters control the plantations. Eleven-year-old Abigail Buckler lives

with her father in the Caribbean where the rules of civilised society are restrictive, to say the least. But when pirates attack, Abigail's life changes forever.

Packed with historical detail about the Atlantic slave trade, *Blackbeard's Treasure* explores the ravages of empire and the human cost of providing luxuries like sugar, cotton and tobacco to Europe.

Iszi Lawrence is a comedian, podcaster, history presenter & author of historical adventures *The Unstoppable Letty Pegg* & *Billie Swift Takes Flight*. She is the co-host of BBC Radio 4's *Making History* and hosts a number of podcasts including the British Museum Membercast.

AGES 9 - 12
CLASS 4TH - 6TH
CURRICULUM SE (GEO, HIS), PLC, SPH
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

THU 25 MAY

11:30 - 12:30

LE FANU



LIGHT IN THE DARK

WITH LUCY KELLY DESMOND



This presentation with author and illustrator Lucy Kelly-Desmond is a wonderful opportunity for young readers to learn more about the stars that guide us and the stories that tell us who we are.

In *The Horse, The Stars, and the Road*, Sonny doesn't think he has anything interesting to bring to school – until his uncle takes him on an unforgettable trip in a horse-drawn caravan. Come along on a journey that will take you deep into the stories of Irish Traveller traditions and culture.

Lucy-Kelly Desmond studies Textile Design at the Centre for Creative Arts and Media in Galway before a course in illustrating books for children in the Chelsea School of Art. A chance encounter with one of Ireland's last tinsmiths at the Ballinasloe Horse Fair inspired her to write about Sonny and his uncle's caravan.

AGES 6 - 9
CLASS 1ST - 3RD
CURRICULUM SPH, ART (VA), SE (HIS)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

*10% DISCOUNT AUTOMATICALLY APPLIED TO CLASS BOOKINGS OF 20 OR MORE.

VISIT ILFDUBLIN.COM

FRI 26 MAY

10:00 - 10:45

SYNGE



IN THE QUEUE FOR THE LOO

WITH HARMEN VAN STRAATEN & LAURA WATKINSON



Draw along with illustrator Harmen Van Straaten & his translator Laura Watkinson and help solve the mystery of who's in the loo!



Poor Bear is in a bit of a spot – he's desperate to use the loo but there's already someone in there! Pretty soon he's joined by Pig, Elephant, Tiger, Penguin, Monkey, and Giraffe...and you guessed it, they all need the loo too.

Harman Van Straatten is an award-winning (BIB Golden Apple, IBBY Award) author and illustrator from the Netherlands. Laura Watkinson is an award-winning translator and founder of the Dutch chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

Part of New Dutch Writing, supported by the Dutch Foundation for Literature

Nederlands letterenfonds
dutch foundation
for literature

AGES 4 - 7
CLASS JUNIOR INFANTS - 1ST
CURRICULUM PLC, SE (SCI), ART (VA)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH/DUTCH

TICKETS €4*

FRI 26 MAY

10:15 - 11:15

SPERANZA



UNICORNS 101

WITH SIBÉAL POUNDER



Get ready to unlearn everything you thought you knew about unicorns with unicorn expert and pro storyteller Sibéal Pounder. With lots of writing tips and ideas up her sleeve for young authors, join us as we nip through a portal into the UNiverse and learn how to create magical stories of your own.

If you think unicorns are magical, then you're not wrong – but they also look just like you and me! Fully-fledged unicorn Neon Gallup is loving her magical adventures in the UNiverse. But her powers have been discovered by the worst person imaginable – Priscilla, the neighbourhood unicorn hunter! Only chaos and mayhem lie ahead.

Sibéal Pounder has two hugely popular series for younger readers (7+) under her writing belt; *Witch Wars* (which was shortlisted for the Sainsbury's Children's Book Award and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize) and *Bad Mermaids*. *Neon's Secret UNiverse* is her next big adventure!

AGES 7 - 10
CLASS 2ND - 4TH
CURRICULUM PLC, SE (HIS)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

FRI 26 MAY

11:45 - 12:45

SPERANZA



30 YEARS OF HORRIBLE HISTORIES

WITH MARTIN BROWN



Join illustrator Martin Brown to celebrate 30 horrible years of the world's bestselling children's history series. Expect savage stories, gruesome games, foul facts and deadly drawings. Find out the best worst bits of history from brand new book *Horrible Histories: The Worst in the World* and pick up some wicked drawing tips as

Martin guides you through a world of history and how he creates cracking cartoons to bring the facts fully and foully to life.

Martin Brown is the cartoonist illustrator of the hugely successful *Horrible Histories* series. He trained to be an art teacher in his home town of Melbourne before ending up in London where his lifetime dream of becoming a cartoonist was realised. After working on magazines and greetings cards, he was asked to team up with another writer on a new project due to be called *Horrible Histories*.

Thirty years, sixty titles, and twenty million copies sold later, Terry Deary and Martin's books have become a phenomenon, expanding into the award winning BBC TV programme, exhibitions, games, and stage shows.

AGES 8 - 11
CLASS 3RD - 6TH
CURRICULUM PLC, SE (HIS), ART (VA)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

TICKETS €4*

ILFD

SCHOOLS



**INTERNATIONAL
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