**Update 4Dec2023 Read Manchester & Manchester Libraries**

**Manchester Libraries presents author MAISIE CHAN for a New Year read!**

**Date:** Wednesday 17 January 2024

**Platform:**Zoom Pro

**Duration:**45 minutes

**Session times:**

KS1 10-10:45am

KS2 11-11:45am

KS1 1:30-2:15pm

**Suitable for:**6 years + for KS1 & 8 years + for KS2

**Booking:**  To book a session contact Jodie,  jodie.osborne@manchester.gov.uk

**Cost:** Free, as part of Manchester Libraries’ school offer

**\*This is a multi school session online**

**Tiger Warrior Event** Suitable for ages 6+ (KS1)

Learn about Chinese myths and the Chinese zodiac with Maisie Chan. Maisie’s series *Tiger Warrior* sees schoolboy Jack caught up in an ancient battle between good and evil with the magical power of the Chinese Zodiac to help him. Use your own imagination and artistic skills to bring mythical beasts to life, before getting a sneak peak of Maisie’s latest *Tiger Warrior* book!  Please have paper and pencils ready!

**Draw Like Danny Chung** Suitable for ages 8+ (KS2)

Come and listen to award-winning children’s author Maisie Chan, whose novel ‘Danny Chung Does Not Do Math's’ features a boy who loves to draw more than anything else. When Danny’s grandma arrives from China and moves into his bedroom, Danny’s world turns upside down. Please have paper and pencils ready!

**Manchester Libraries presents ROBIN SIMPSON for National Storytelling Week**

**Date:**Wednesday 30 January 2024

**Platform:**Zoom Pro

**Duration:**45 minutes

**Session times:**

KS2 10-10:45am

KS2 11-11:45am

KS2 1:30-2:15pm

**Suitable for:**KS2

**Booking:**  To book a session contact Jodie,  jodie.osborne@manchester.gov.uk

**Cost:** Free, as part of Manchester Libraries’ school offer

**\*This is a multi school session online**

Spectacular Stories, quirky quizzes and friendly fun! Join Robin Simpson for an epic storytelling adventure… Zoom into a mythical Greek journey through a magnificent maze but be careful, while the route may be full of friendly fun and quirky quizzes, you might just find yourselves up against the mighty Minotaur or even worse, stepping in his poop!

**Manchester Libraries presents Story Steps with SOPHIA HATFIELD for National Storytelling Week**

**Date:**Thursday 1st February 2024

**Venue:**Central Library Performance Space

**Duration:**60 minutes

**Session times:**09:45am, 11:00am & 1:30pm (1 class per session)

**Suitable for:**KS1

**Booking:**  To book a session contact Jodie,  jodie.osborne@manchester.gov.uk

**Cost:** Free, as part of Manchester Libraries’ school offer

Story Steps Workshops are storytelling sessions for Key Stage 1, created by storyteller and theatre artist Sophia Hatfield. Each workshop uses stories, live music & drama to help children build confidence and creativity.

The Hare and the Tortoise have very different ways of doing things. Whilst Harriet the Hare is often rushing from place to place, she often forgets to think things through. Meanwhile, Tim the Tortoise likes to relax and take his time. When the two friends embark on a race, they learn a valuable lesson about friendship.

**National Literacy Trust presents author Steven Camden for National Storytelling Week event on 1 February**

Join author and poet Steven Camden to learn all about world-building, an essential component of story creation and storytelling that will help pupils develop their understanding of place, character and narrative. In this interactive event, pupils will have the opportunity to create a brand-new, fictional world live with Steven. Together with pupils from across the UK, your class will have the chance to imagine a magical street where a collaborative story begins and will challenge pupils to ask who could be behind each front door.

[https://literacytrust.org.uk/events/national-storytelling-week-with-steven-camden/](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fliteracytrust.org.uk%2Fevents%2Fnational-storytelling-week-with-steven-camden%2F&data=05%7C01%7Ccheryl.pridgeon%40manchester.gov.uk%7C57125432e61843e5760608dbf0e7f412%7Cb0ce7d5e81cd47fb94f7276c626b7b09%7C0%7C0%7C638368651284878998%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6Dnyyi1IFCafQpu2DGnf2ZGo0PjlH%2FMHyoUrmxYyYi0%3D&reserved=0)

**Manchester Libraries presents BECKY GODDARD HILL for Children’s Mental Health Week**

**Date:**Monday 5th February 2024

**Venue:**Central Library Performance Space

**Duration:**60 minutes

**Session times:**

9:45-10:45am, KS2 ages 7-11

11:00am-12:00pm KS1 aged 5-7

1:30-2:30pm KS2 ages 7-11

**Suitable for:**KS1 & KS2

**Booking:**  To book a session contact Jodie,  jodie.osborne@manchester.gov.uk

**Cost:** Free, as part of Manchester Libraries’ school offer

**\*This is a multi-school session**

**KS1**- Children’s therapist and emotional wellbeing author, Becky Goddard-Hill will lead an interactive session about her new book 'How I Feel' to help children feel happier, calmer, kinder and braver.  Sometimes it can be hard for children to know exactly how they feel. Talking about feelings makes them easier to understand and helps them choose how to react to them.

**KS2** -Children’s therapist and emotional wellbeing author, Becky Goddard-Hill will lead an interactive session about her book ‘365 Days of Calm’ for children, based on inspirational quotes for when children are feeling worried, positive affirmations to bring calmness and relaxation.

**Manchester Libraries hosts BOOK CLUB FOR SUPER-SPIES from Angel Exit Theatre**

**Date:**Monday 12th February

**Venue:**Central Library Performance Space

**Duration:**60 minutes

**Session times:**11am & 1:30pm

**Suitable for:**ages5-10

**Booking:**  To book a session contact Jodie,  jodie.osborne@manchester.gov.uk

**Cost:** Free, as part of Manchester Libraries’ school offer

 **\*This is a multi school session**

Book Club for Super-Spies is set in a library and commences with a “book club” with branch leader of the super-spies Mirabel Merryweather in disguise as a librarian delivering a rhyme time session; this is a ruse for a meeting of the Super-Spy organisation where Mirabel will meet new recruits (the audience) and train another new spy, the rather hapless Claude Pringle.  The audience discover their mission is to solve “The Case of the Lost Happy Endings”.

Book Club for Super-Spies is very interactive and audiences are invited to help solve each clue as they are revealed in the books, join in with the training, take the Super-Spy secret oath and sing the Super-Spies anthem.

Classes are encouraged to work together to solve the mystery. The show is joyous and rambunctious with slapstick humour to entertain all.

**Manchester Libraries presents author RICHARD O’ NEILL for International Mother Language Day**

**Date:** Wednesday 14 February 2024

**Platform:**Zoom Pro

**Duration:**45 minutes

**Session times:**

KS1 at 11am

KS2 at 1:30pm

**Suitable for:**KS1 & KS2

**Booking:**  To book a session contact Jodie,  jodie.osborne@manchester.gov.uk

**Cost:** Free, as part of Manchester Libraries’ school offer

**\*This is a multi-school session**

Richard O'Neill is a master storyteller who works across the key stages.  Richard loves to share his unique stories, old and new.  Richard is very proud of his Romani and Northern roots and recites to include everyone in his stories.

**Opportunities from partners**

**The Portico Sadie Massey Awards**

Established in 2015, the Portico Sadie Massey Awards (PSMAwards) aims to encourage a life-long love of reading and writing.  The awards are run by The Portico Library as part of their offer for children and young people aged 7 - 18.  They work with Manchester’s most respected ambassadors of children’s and young adult’s writing, with a particular emphasis on northern writers exploring stories based in the North of England.  There are three different competitions currently open:

* Book review competition of any book - fact, fiction, poetry or graphic novel
* Short story competition with a focus on the north of England
* Art of the Book Award - open to Pupil Referral Units and SEN schools

Find out more here: [Portico Sadie Massey Awards — The Portico Library](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theportico.org.uk%2Fportico-sadie-massey-awards&data=05%7C01%7Ccheryl.pridgeon%40manchester.gov.uk%7C2bd3650fb1954d2191c208dbe4497577%7Cb0ce7d5e81cd47fb94f7276c626b7b09%7C0%7C0%7C638354776446113717%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=aiEckUSwPvL69f0WCj%2B6Mjvrn%2B6jE1jSDetgd12EEXI%3D&reserved=0)

*‘Without reading and writing, Theo would be lost in the world. I’m really grateful that this award exists*’

*Comment from parent on their son winning the Key Stage 4 book review competition 2023*

**The Lowry’s Creative Writing Challenge**

The Lowry’s Creative Writing Challenge, an annual competition for children aged 7-11 from across Greater Manchester returns.

Aimed at amplifying the voices of children from across Greater Manchester and celebrating children’s creativity and imagination Creative Writing Challenge categories include poetry, short story, and stage text. In each category, there will be runners-up, a 1st place winner & 2nd place winner, plus a special Founders Prize. All shortlisted children will receive feedback from the professional judging panel – to be announced soon!

The challenge will culminate in a special celebration event at The Lowry, Salford in 2024. The first Creative Writing Challenge celebration event was presented by Manchester-based actor, writer, and director Carla Henry, with performances by poet Tony Walsh.

The Lowry’s aim is for the challenge to be accessible to as many children as possible and will accept entries in a variety of formats including written format, voice recordings or video.

The Creative Writing Challenge is a 5-year project. Related to the competition a targeted support scheme is available to primary schools in Salford and Greater Manchester. For any schools interested in accessing this or booking your own Creative Writing Workshop at The Lowry register your interest by emailing getcreative@thelowry.com. The Lowry has also developed free downloadable lesson plans for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 which can be accessed here visit thelowry.com/creativewritingchallenge

The deadline for entries is Friday 26th April 2024