

READING ROUND UP

FOR SCHOOLS AND SETTINGS



WELCOME TO LLP'S READING ROUND UP

This round up brings together national and local opportunities to support reading for pleasure across the Liverpool City Region.

Whether you're looking for classroom ideas, free resources, online events or family friendly activities to share with your school community, you'll find practical, accessible support to help build a positive reading culture throughout the Year of Reading.

We'll continue to share new opportunities, events and resources as they become available, so schools and settings can dip in whenever it suits.

You can also check out our [Year of Reading padlet](#) which we'll be updating regularly with local and national resources and events.

GO ALL IN FOR THE YEAR OF READING



2026 is the National Year of Reading, a nationwide campaign from the Department for Education and National Literacy Trust aimed at inspiring children, families and communities to read for pleasure. The theme of the year is 'Go All In', encouraging everyone to follow their personal interests and passions. Whatever you are into, there's a book to match it!

The NLT and partner organisations are organising a range of activities to support schools in developing a culture of reading for pleasure. Locally, there will be lots of reading as LCR based organisations get involved too!

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GETTING INVOLVED

Throughout the Year of Reading, there will be a national offer for schools and early years settings made available through the National Literacy Trust. This will include online events for classes, CPD and downloadable resources.

[GO ALL IN WEBSITE](#)

You can choose to either follow a guided pathway through the resources and events or dip in and out of webinars and events as it best suits.



There will be an introductory launch webinar on 15th January at 4pm to explain how schools can get involved with the year. Keynote speaker Professor Teresa Cremin will explore why reading for pleasure matters more than ever at a national level, and how the National Year of Reading represents a unique opportunity to build stronger reading cultures in schools, settings and communities.

[BOOK YOUR SPACE HERE!](#)



NLT TOOLKIT AND PARTICIPATION AWARD

The NLT has put together a starter toolkit for schools and Early Years settings. This includes an activity calendar, Powerpoint to be used in staff briefing, reflection guides, research digest and additional guidance: [ACCESS TOOLKIT](#)



The Schools Participation Award celebrates the creative ways schools bring the National Year of Reading 2026 to life.

Register through the NLT's learning platform to access criteria, guidance, templates and quick ways to log your school's activity: [REGISTER](#)

ONLINE EVENTS FROM THE NLT

PRIMARY WEBINAR: 19TH JAN AT 4PM



EARLY YEARS WEBINAR: 20TH JAN AT 9.30AM



SECONDARY WEBINAR: 3RD FEB AT 3.45PM



AUTHOR AND STORYTELLING EVENTS



During National Storytelling Week on wb 2 February, the NLT will release pre-recorded videos for EYFS as well as hosting livestreams for KS1, KS2 and KS3. [SIGN UP FOR ACCESS](#)

COMING SOON FROM LLP

CPD VIDEO BANK: COMING SOON!

Liverpool Learning Partnership has developed a video bank of short, bitesize CPD sessions relating to reading for pleasure, storytelling and children's / YA literature. These can be used by individual teachers for personal development or shared in staff meetings.

LLP member schools will soon be able to access this as part of their subscription. We will email member schools when they are available with the link and password to access videos.

Non-member schools can purchase access to the bank for £150+VAT by emailing admin@liverpoollearningpartnership.com



Topics covered will include:

- Reading for Pleasure
- Creating a Culture of Reading Aloud
- Creating a Culture of Storytelling
- Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Literature
- Genres and formats (including comics/poetry)

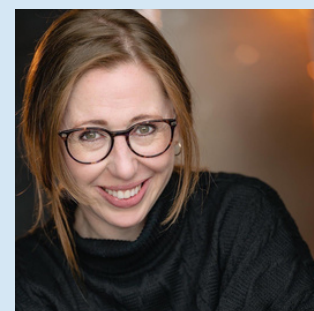
LIVESTREAM EVENTS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK: WB 9TH FEB

In addition to our usually Xpress sessions for Children's Mental Health Week, we will also be offering a poetry workshop with local spoken word artist Danielle McLauren (AKA The Half Pint Poet) on the theme of 'This Is My Place.'

Danielle will perform a specially written piece for the session and then lead children in exercises to support them in writing their own poems on the theme of belonging.

CMHW sessions are ICB funded for all Liverpool schools.



LIVERPOOL CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL OF READING WB 23RD FEB

Our popular reading festival is back! Watch this space for details of our online events as we will be releasing booking information soon!

Sessions will include: spoken word poetry, nature illustration, manga art, funny and beastly stories and much more!



BOOKING DETAILS FOR THESE EVENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE SOON!
Also, watch out for further livestreams throughout the year featuring books and authors!

USEFUL FREE RESOURCES

FREE RESOURCES IN YEAR OF READING: AUTHORFY

Authorfy is FREE for the National Year of Reading 2026!

Browse the largest library of author videos in the world, get unlimited access to thousands of book extracts, resources and writing challenges. Suitable for use in classrooms, school libraries, assemblies or for sharing with families to use at home!



📺 13,000+ hours' worth of author videos - FREE!

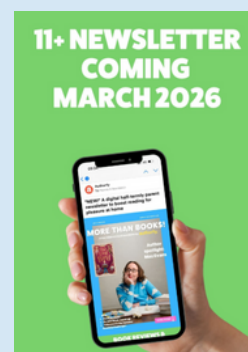
📖 Thousands of resources & activity packs - FREE!

📄 Hundreds of downloadable book extracts - FREE!

✍️ Printable author letters, writing challenge videos, authors & illustrators sharing their reading habits & book recommendations - ALL FREE!

ACCESS AUTHORFY

Authorfy has also teamed up with UK publishers and the Open University's Reading for Pleasure team to create a regular newsletter that is perfect for sharing with staff, parents/carers and the wider school community to celebrate the wonderful range of children's and Young Adult books available. [READ BOOKDROP](#)



CALIBRE AUDIO: FREE AUDIOBOOKS FOR PUPILS WITH SEND



Calibre Audio is a national charity which provides free audiobooks to children and young adults under 25 years with SEND. Their free audiobook service is designed to make reading more accessible to and enjoyable for children who have SEN or disabilities that mean they may find reading printed text challenging. In addition to offering these children free access to their extensive collection of audiobooks, they also offer a **free school account** so that teachers can see the resources on offer and choose the most appropriate ways of using them to support their students.

Find out more at [CALIBRE LEARNING](#).

USEFUL FREE RESOURCES

BOOK CLUBS IN SCHOOLS



Book Clubs in Schools offers a range of resources to help you run book clubs with pupils in primary or secondary schools. During the national Year of Reading access to their book club resources are **free of charge to state schools**.

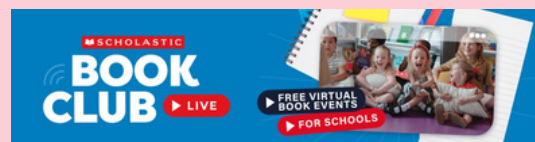
Through the Book Clubs in Schools programme, you can:

- Access structured weekly resources and training for book club leaders.
- Choose from a curated list of over 60 award-winning, diverse books.
- Encourage informal book talk that feels 'not like school.'

Find out more and sign up at [BOOK CLUBS IN SCHOOLS](https://www.bookclubsinschools.co.uk)

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB LIVE

Join Scholastic for their programme of free virtual events for schools during the Year of Reading. Featuring writing workshops, draw-alongs and more, there are regular events running for all ages throughout the school term.



Find out more: [SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB LIVE](https://www.scholastic.co.uk/bookclublive)

BOOKTRUST VIRTUAL AUTHOR EVENTS



Schools can register to join BookTrust's free Virtual Author Workshops, allowing your children to ask authors questions and find out more about the books they love. There is a range of events starting with a virtual author workshop with Maisie Chan for Y5-7 at 11am on Wednesday 28 January 2026.

Find out more at: [BOOKTRUST REPRESENTS EVENTS](https://www.booktrust.org.uk/virtual-author-workshops)

LIVERPOOL YEAR OF READING

ABOUT LIVERPOOL LITERACY CYCLE

Liverpool Literacy Cycle is a network of organisations and individuals focused on supporting literacy skills acquisition in the Liverpool City Region. Each year the organisation focuses on a different facet of literacy, cycling between Reading, Writing and Oracy.

#LivLitCycle
#LiverpoolReads
#LiverpoolWrites
#LiverpoolSpeaks

2026 is a distinctive moment for the Liverpool City Region, as the Liverpool Year of Reading aligns with the National Year of Reading. This shared focus brings together local and national efforts to support reading for pleasure, recognising the work already happening in schools, libraries and communities, and creating space to strengthen access to reading for children, young people and families across the region.

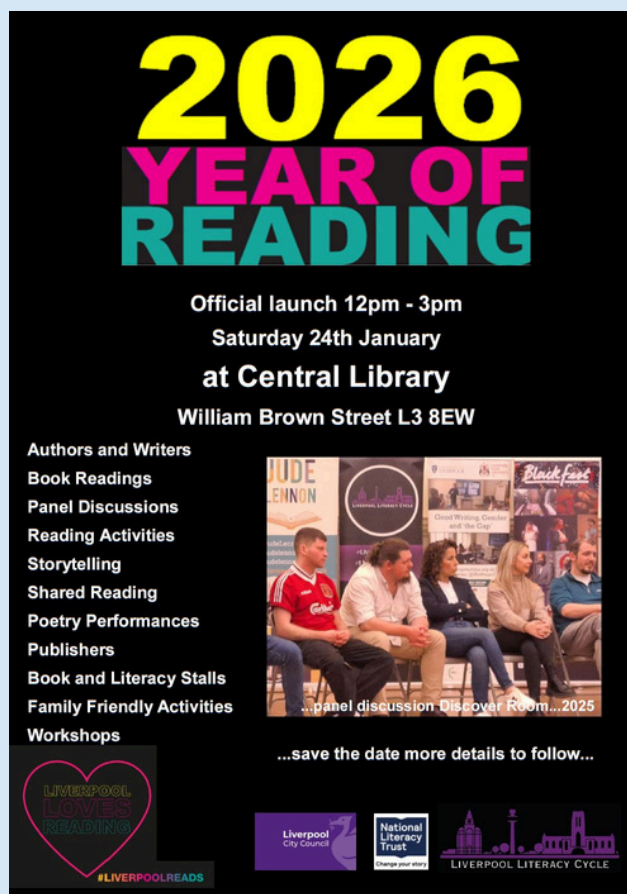
Follow the work of the Literacy Cycle by joining their Facebook Group: [LITERACY CYCLE](#)

YEAR OF READING LAUNCH

The Liverpool Year of Reading officially launches on **Saturday 24 January**, with a free, open event at Liverpool Central Library from 12pm–3pm. The afternoon will include readings, discussion, storytelling and practical activities, marking the start of a year focused on reading across the City Region.

The event is family friendly and open to all, with contributions from writers, publishers and local organisations involved in supporting reading across the City Region.

Please share this date and information with your staff, parents/carers and wider community. You can download a copy of the poster image to display in school or use on your website/class apps: [IMAGE](#)



**2026
YEAR OF
READING**

Official launch 12pm - 3pm
Saturday 24th January
at Central Library
William Brown Street L3 8EW

Authors and Writers
Book Readings
Panel Discussions
Reading Activities
Storytelling
Shared Reading
Poetry Performances
Publishers
Book and Literacy Stalls
Family Friendly Activities
Workshops

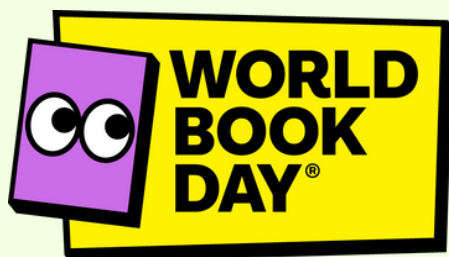
...panel discussion Discover Room...2025

...save the date more details to follow...

Liverpool City Council
National Literacy Trust
LIVERPOOL LITERACY CYCLE

WORLD BOOK DAY

WORLD BOOK DAY '26



Thursday 5th March is World Book Day 2026!

This is an opportunity for schools, settings and other organisations to celebrate the importance of reading for pleasure with children, families and the wider community.

You can access a range of resources from the official [World Book Day website](#) to help you organise a school celebration.

Some organisations are holding free online events that you can join on the day. We've featured some below and have also created a [padlet](#) which we'll regularly update with other opportunities.



World Book Day Quiz: The Great Big Footy & Booky Quiz 2026

Inspire and energise a reading for pleasure culture in your school this World Book Day with our free quiz featuring pro-footballers and authors.

National Literacy Trust | Mar 5

THE GREAT BIG FOOTY AND BOOKY QUIZ: NLT **5th March 9.30-10.15am**

Primary and Secondary classes are invited to join the National Literacy Trust for their annual World Book Day Premier League Takeover quiz.

The 45-minute quiz will feature two rounds of questions (one football-themed, one reading-themed) pitched by your footballing heroes and NLT's writer pals.



BBC Live Lesson 2026

BBC Bitesize is hosting a new Live Lesson on World Book Day 2026! This fun half hour programme for 7-11-year-olds will bring primary schools together in a live UK-wide...

 World Book Day /

BBC BITESIZE LIVE LESSON **5th March 11am**

Join BBC Bitesize for a fun and interactive Live Lesson, specially designed for primary schools, on World Book Day 2026.

This curriculum-linked programme for **7-11 year-olds** will celebrate the joy of reading for pleasure, encouraging pupils to discover books they love. It can be accessed [online](#) or on iPlayer.



Pobble World Book Day 2026

Join Pobble for a special World Book Day live lesson that celebrates the magic of stories and the joy of writing.

 World Book Day /

POBBLE 365 LIVE LESSON **5th March 1.15pm**

Join Pobble's expert writing coaches for a fun, story-filled live lesson for KS2 that brings the magic of books to life. Students will explore an exciting Pobble 365 prompt, share ideas, and write their own imaginative stories inspired by their favourite characters and authors.