



UPDATES AND NEWS



13th May 2026

The Liverpool Learning Partnership briefing shares details of upcoming opportunities that schools in Liverpool and the LCR can access. These feature details of our work as well as communications from local partners and national organisations.

This Week's Highlights

- CPD on using books to explore Diversity (free to LLP member schools, available to all at a small cost)
- Online author sessions with Oliver Sykes for KS2+, Jack Meggitt-Phillips for KS2+ (free to LLP member schools, available to all at a small cost)
- Refugee Week events: author session with Erika Meza for Y2-3 (free to LLP member schools, available to all at a small cost)
- Refugee Week events: CPD on using books to explore themes of sanctuary (free to LLP member schools, available to all at a small cost)
- Music workshops at Liverpool Central Library (all Liverpool primary schools)
- Webinar on using picturebooks to talk about bereavement (all primary schools)
- National Saturday Club for 13-16 year olds
- Grand-Depart Poster Competition for 16+
- LEGCT Prize Bursaries for Students in Y13 (all Liverpool schools)

Reading and Literacy CPD

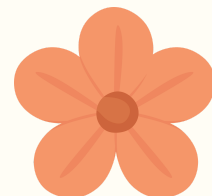
Diversity and Inclusion through Children's Books

 Wednesday 20th May, 3.45-4.45: TEAMS

This session will explore how diverse current children's literature is, how to identify diverse inclusive books and provide frameworks for thinking critically about the representation of characters and groups depicted in books. This session explores diversity and inclusion in terms of race, disability, neurodiversity, LGBTQ+, class etc.



BOOK A SPACE: [Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Literature – Liverpool Learning Partnership](#)



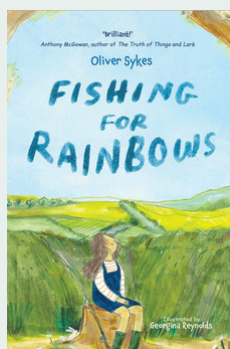
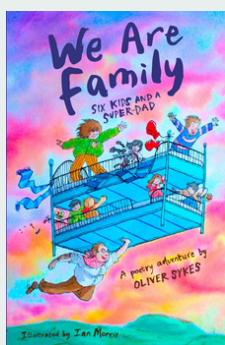
Online Author Events

Author Event with Oliver Sykes MBE BCAa for KS2

Friday 22nd May at 9.30am



Drawing on his own childhood experiences, Oliver's work explores family, empathy and belonging, helping young people see their own lives reflected in stories and poetry. This engaging session introduces pupils to writing that is honest, accessible and emotionally powerful, while celebrating the role stories can play in understanding ourselves and others.



Oliver is a multi-award-winning children's author and poet, recognised in 2025 with an MBE for Services to Access to the Arts for Underprivileged Young People, making this a motivating and meaningful experience for pupils and teachers alike.

BOOK A SPACE: Oliver Sykes Event

Author Event with Jack Meggitt-Phillips for KS2+

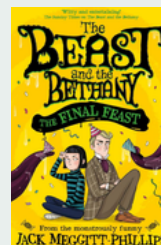
Wednesday 10th June at 9.30am



Liverpool Learning Partnership invites KS2+ classes to join a Liverpool Children's Festival of Reading online session with Jack Meggitt-Phillips, creator of the deliciously dark, laugh-out-loud *The Beast and the Bethany*.

This hugely popular series blends macabre humour in the style of Roald Dahl with warmth, mischief and just the right amount of wickedness. Perfect for pupils who enjoy stories with sharp edges, unexpected heroes and a gleefully bad beast.

With a major film deal announced and millions of fans worldwide, this session is ideal for engaging reluctant readers and showing how dark comedy, exaggeration and empathy can come together to create unforgettable stories.

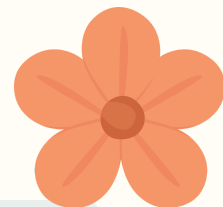


BOOK A SPACE: Jack Meggitt-Phillips Event

These sessions are **FREE** to LLP member schools. Non-members who are interested in attending can email admin@liverpoollearningpartnership.com for information of our pay as you go training, events and resource offer.



Online Events and CPD: Refugee Week



Author Event with Erika Meza: Y1-3

 **19th June 2026, 9.30am- LIVESTREAMED**



Led by Erika Meza, this warm, creative online session invites children to explore sanctuary and refuge through story and illustration. Based on her striking picture book *To The Other Side*, Erika Meza will share a live reading, followed by a guided draw-along designed to spark empathy, imagination and thoughtful creative response.

Taking place during Refugee Week (15-21 June 2026, theme Courage), the session offers a gentle, age-appropriate way to reflect on what it means to find safety, to welcome others, and to be brave in small everyday ways.



BOOK A SPACE: Erika Meza Event

This session is **FREE** to LLP member schools. Non-members who are interested in attending can email admin@liverpoollearningpartnership.com for information of our pay as you go training, events and resource offer. If you're not sure if your school is a member, please get in touch too!

CPD: Using Books to Build Empathy for Marginalised Communities

 **Wednesday 17th June, 3.45-4.45: TEAMS**

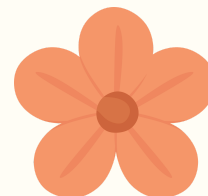
This session will focus on how we can use books to help children and teenagers to build empathy and learn about the lives of others, particularly in terms of refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants.

BOOK A SPACE: Using Books to Build Empathy for Marginalised Communities

This training session is free to LLP member schools and available at a cost of £30+VAT for non-member schools. This includes the session and access to a support web bank.



Liverpool Central Library Workshops



Music Workshop at Liverpool Central Library with Duo Cantelina

As part of Music Month and the Summer Reading Challenge, Liverpool Central Library is welcoming classical vocal and guitar duo Duo Cantelina for a special concert and school workshops on Thursday 21 May.

The event begins at 12pm in The Atrium at Liverpool Central Library and will feature live performances by mezzo-soprano Sophie Clarke and classical guitarist Ravi Nathwani. The concert will be followed by music-based workshops for schools, with library staff also introducing this year's Summer Reading Challenge.

Workshops will take place at 1pm and 2pm and are free, with places available on a first-come, first-served basis.

To book a place or find out more, schools should contact Sandra Richards:
Sandra.Richards@liverpool.gov.uk



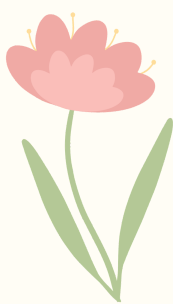
PHSE: Bereavement Education

Webinar: Using Picture Books to Learn About Bereavement

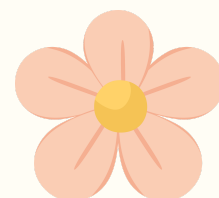
From September 2026, bereavement education will become a required part of the primary RSE/PSHE curriculum. Children are expected to learn that change and loss, including bereavement, can bring a range of feelings; that grief is a natural response; and that everyone experiences grief differently (DfE, 2025).

School staff are invited to join Professor Anna Lise Gordon from St Mary's University for a free webinar on Tuesday 16 June, 4–5pm:
Love and Loss: Children using picture books to learn about bereavement.

For more information: [Bereavement Flyer](#)



Opportunities to share with Secondary Age Pupils



National Saturday Club at National Museums Liverpool

Spaces are available to join the Society&Change Saturday Club at Museum of Liverpool. The Club is free and open to 13–16-year-olds of all abilities.

Exploring history, heritage, identity, and futures through museum collections, creative workshops, and wellbeing activities. The programme supports young people to critically engage with historical narratives while developing confidence, voice, and creative skills.

Led by the Community Engagement team, curators, and specialist guests, participants will delve into themes such as emotional connections to objects, cultural memory, food and identity, enslavement, plantation life, abolition, and historical figures.

As well as weekly Saturday classes you will have the chance to go on trips and visits, take part in Masterclasses with industry, and exhibit your work in the @natsatclub Summer Show!

Find out more: [National Museums Liverpool - National Saturday Club](#)

Club dates:

Running until 11th July 2026

Saturdays, 11:00 – 14:00



Grand Départ 2027 ASO Poster Design Competition (16+)

Students aged 16+ on art, design and creative FE or HE courses are invited to enter the official Grand Départ 2027 poster competition, linked to the Tour de France.

Deadline: Friday 26 June, 5pm

For more information, please see:

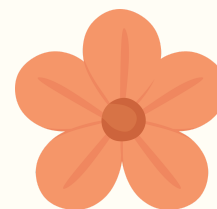
[Grand Départ Competition](#) and

[Application Form](#) or contact

PosterCompetition@LeTourGB.com



Funding for Secondary Schools and Pupils



LEGCT Bursaries for Y13 Students

Liverpool Education Grants Charitable Trust holds some historic funds which are available to give prize bursaries to some pupils who are **leaving schools in Liverpool to study at university**. In 2026 they have a bursary fund of £2000 which will be awarded to up ten students, with a minimum of £50 and a maximum of £250 awarded to an individual.

The bursaries can be given either to pupils who will be studying history, music, or modern languages at university or to pupils who during their time at secondary school have engaged successfully in activities such as community service, supporting other pupils, and public debating and speaking.

Headteachers in Liverpool schools are invited to nominate one or more pupils who meet these criteria. The nomination should give the pupil's name and should say at which university the pupil hopes to study. The headteacher should provide information which explains briefly why the nomination is being made. In deciding which bursaries to award the assessors will take notice of evidence of academic commitment for the awards linked to subjects to be studied, or any similarly appropriate information which can be provided for the community activity awards. Financial hardship may be mentioned but is not essential.

Nominations should be sent by email to jenny@liverpoollearningpartnership.com to arrive no later than 12pm on 12th June.