



14th October 2026

Stroud Book Festival 5th and 6th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

After the success of the last few years and the enjoyment that the children got from the sessions, I am excited to tell you that we have again booked virtual sessions at the Stroud Book Festival on 5th and 6th November 2026. These sessions are **incredibly beneficial** for the children and really encourage that love of books and reading, which we all know, is so crucial for all. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 are going to be watching a variety of digital workshops. Here is a little bit of information about the exciting sessions...



Year 1 are watching... **WONDERFUL ANIMAL TALES With Petr Horáček.** Award-winning author and illustrator Petr Horáček is a regular visitor to Stroud Book Festival, and this year he's back with another brilliant event full of animal magic.

This time Petr introduces us to the wonderful world of animals who star in his picture books, including Greedy Goat, Elephant, the Bears; and also Snail and Green Hippo from his newest ones, "A Surprise for Snail" and "Green Hippo". Expect an event full of fun, live drawing and plenty of stories as Petr reveals how he makes his books, and the animals that inspire him to write and illustrate them.



Year 2 are watching... **THE MAP OF ME With Nicola Davies.** Discover how maps help us to navigate our way round, help us navigate in time, and can also shape the way we see the future!

We're delighted to welcome award-winning author and Children's Laureate for Wales, Nicola Davies as she shares her new book "The Map of Me", a gentle story about moving, making connections and mapping a better world.

A little girl has moved a long way to a new city. She can't find the way to school or the trees in the park; and worst of all her beloved Granny and pet dog are far away on the other side of the world. But then maps come to her rescue!

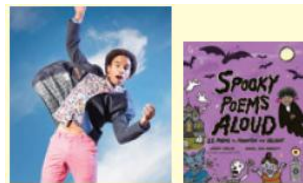


Year 3 are watching... Rob Biddulph

DRAW WITH ROB We're thrilled to welcome to Stroud Book Festival, the awesome Rob Biddulph, multi award-winning author and illustrator, and the creative force behind the viral #DrawWithRob phenomenon.

In this fabulous, fun-packed event, Rob will tell us about his latest books including "South", a heart-warming tale in which you'll soar to faraway lands with a migrating flock of geese; and "When I Grow Up I'd Like to Be" which explores all the many things you can be when you're older.

You'll learn about Rob's journey as a children's book creator and this fantastic event will also feature a live episode of Draw With Rob during which everyone will learn how to draw one of his amazing illustrations.



Year 4 and 5 are watching... Joseph Coelho

JUMP INTO THE WORLD OF POETRY With

Joseph Coelho Jump into the spell-binding world of spoken word poetry in this ghoulish and giggling event with award-winning children's author and former Children's Laureate, Joseph Coelho

In this interactive session, you'll be wowed by performances from Joseph as he brings you delightful rhymes from his latest poetry compendiums, including "Spooky Poems Aloud: 25 Poems to Frighten and Delight". You'll then get to put your own rhyming skills to the test and create your very own tongue twisters, learning how to recite poems loudly across the room, and also softly, in a friend's ear. You'll soon be writing poems that jump off the page and into your mouth!



Year 6 are watching... M G Leonard

ATTACK OF THE SEADOGS With M G

Leonard Join multi award-winning author M. G. Leonard for an interactive event perfect for adventure, enthusiasts, budding historians and time travellers alike. She'll take us back in time to the year 1587 with her new book "Attack of the Sea Dogs" which combines swashbuckling adventure with thrilling time travel.

With the Spanish Armada threatening, we'll follow Sim and his friends, Jeopardy and Nelson as they find themselves in very dangerous territory aboard Sir Francis Drake's ship, the Elizabeth Bonaventure. Trapped, the three friends must navigate explosive sea battles and a mysterious masked mercenary, before they can attempt to return to Tudor London and their original mission to search for Sim's father.

I am excited to say that nearer the time The Yellow Lighted bookshop will be offering books for sale linked to these sessions – more information will be provided nearer the time. The digital sessions will be taking place on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th November 2026.

To help us provide these exciting book-related opportunities for the children, we are asking for a **voluntary donation of £3 per child**. Please note that **if we do not receive sufficient donations, we will unfortunately be unable to go ahead with the events**.

To secure your child's/children's place, we kindly ask that **both consent and the donation be made via ParentPay by Friday, 23rd October 2026**.

We cannot wait to once again be part of this brilliant local event!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Knight (Writing and Reading lead)

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Little Way Catholic
Educational Trust

