

Update 25 April 2022 – Read Manchester and Manchester Libraries

Please find details below of book, author and CPD opportunities available to schools.

Manchester Libraries presents author Rachel Morrisroe and her new book *The Drama Llama*

Date: Thursday 28 April

Platform: Zoom Pro

Duration: 45 mins

Cost: Free, as part of Manchester Libraries' school offer

Suitable Ages: Ages 3 – 6. School years Nursery, Reception and year 1.

Capacity: Multiple

Contact: jodie.osborne@manchester.gov.uk to book

Times: 10-10.45 am

The Drama Llama by Rachel Morrisroe

Alex Allen, like lots of children, sometimes worried about things - like dancing badly or getting an answer wrong in class. But unlike lots of children, every time he worries a real-life llama appears! And the more Alex worries, the bigger Llama grows... which starts getting him into all sorts of trouble!

Join Rachel Morrisroe as she introduces you to the riotous adventures Alex Allan and his Drama Llama, as well as finding out all kinds of tips and tricks to make dramas llamas much less mischievous. You will also get the chance to draw your very own llama with a draw-along from illustrator Ella Okstad.

[The Drama Llama - Rachel Morrisroe](#)

Celebrate National Share a Story Month with World Book Day author Rashmi Sirdeshpande

Date: Wednesday 25th May

Venue: Online/Zoom

Duration: 45 mins

Cost: Free, as part of Manchester Libraries' school offer

Suitable Ages: Years 3-6

Capacity: Multiple

Contact: jodie.osborne@manchester.gov.uk to book

Session 1: 10am for Years 3 & 4

Session 2: 11am Years 4 & 5

Session 3: 1pm Years 5 & 6

Rashmi Sirdeshpande is a lawyer turned children's author who loves taking big ideas and making them accessible and exciting for young readers. She writes non-fiction picture books that ignite children's curiosity, as well as fictional stories that crackle with imagination. When she's not playing with words, you'll find her on her yoga mat twisting herself into all sort of shapes.

Website: rashmisirdeshpande.com/mybooks

#Take10ToRead with #ReadMCR

Reading can have a huge impact on children's wellbeing and ability to cope during challenging times. During lockdown, 3 in 5 (59.3%) children and young people told us that reading made them feel better, and half the children were encouraged to dream about the future. Through Read Manchester's Take 10 campaign (which has now gone national!), we are encouraging children and young people across the UK to take just 10 minutes a day to read, to help them feel more relaxed and positive.

Join us and spread the word about the positive impact of reading:

- [Sign up here](#) to our virtual event with Ant & Dec (see below)
- Support your children and pupils by downloading our free [Take 10 resources](#)
- Take 10 minutes to read something you enjoy in class after the event, or any time!
- Share your Take 10 moments using the hashtag **#ReadMCR #Take10ToRead** and tagging **@manclibraries @Literacy_Trust**
- In the run up to the event, why not take part in Ant & Dec's *Pass the Positivity* project, with a chance for children to see their entries displayed in a spectacular installation at the end of May and competitions to win books for your school. Find out more [here](#)

Take 10 with Ant & Dec!

Tuesday 10 May

10:00 – Ant and Dec launch the #Take10ToRead challenge!

10:10 – Grab your favourite book and read for ten minutes

10:20 - Finish

Join Ant & Dec for our latest #Take10ToRead challenge on 10 May! This Mental Health Awareness Week, superstar TV presenters and authors Ant McPartlin and Declan Donnelly will be launching our Take 10 moment with a virtual event, perfect for KS2 pupils. Ant & Dec will chat about how reading can help us feel more positive, and introduce us to their debut book *Propa Happy*, before leading pupils across the UK in our [Take 10](#) moment. So grab your favourite book, magazine, or comic and Take 10 minutes to read for your wellbeing!

Manchester Libraries go fine free!

From 1 April 2022 adults will no longer have to pay fines if they are late returning items they have borrowed from Manchester Libraries. This includes books, DVD's and CD's. Children and over 60's already do not pay fines. This decision is part of a bid to make libraries more accessible and encourage everyone to rediscover what's happening at their local Manchester Library. Please share this information with your school families.

Join the library for free by visiting this [website](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries) – www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries

Art of The Book Award 2022 – Portico Library

This competition is open to Pupil Referral Units and Schools with Special Educational Needs in Greater Manchester.

Students are invited to create a handmade book that contains a story - it can be written, drawn, or a combination of artwork and text. **Originality** and **creativity**, and evidence of **personal engagement** are key elements and entries can come from individuals or small groups. Everyone who enters wins a prize and all schools that enter win a copy of *100 Great Black Britons!*

Entry forms and all details about how to enter are on the website: <https://www.theportico.org.uk/portico-sadie-massey-awards>

Closing date for entries: Friday, 10th June 2022

Transition Read launch 27th April 2022.

Once again, Read Manchester will be offering a KS2 to KS3 Transition Read. For this, our third year, the book will be Onjali Q Rauf's *The Lion Above the Door*. All pupils will receive a free copy of her book and teaching resources will be designed around the book for both Y6 and Y7 teachers.

The launch event will take place on **Wednesday 27th April 4-5 pm**. You are invited to join the virtual launch event and hear from Onjali about her inspirational story around identity and representation. The launch will provide an overview of the transition read programme and is an opportunity to share best practice across schools.

To book a place on the launch, please email

MCRSchoolsAlliance@manchesterschoolsalliance.co.uk

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge theme for this year will be Gadgeteers! Manchester Libraries will be linking with The Science and Industry Museum in Manchester to launch this year's challenge. We will be in touch soon to let you have further details of our offer. For more information see [Summer Reading Challenge](#)

Save the date! National Literacy Trust GM Secondary School conference – Reading within the curriculum

This will take place on Thursday 30th June 2022 at Buile Hill Park Hall, Salford. Tickets £100 or £70 with Early Bird discount. Keynotes: Education Endowment Foundation and Jeffrey Boakye. Additional speakers and workshops to be confirmed soon. Booking live soon – email Kate Ward (kate.warde@literacytrust.org.uk) to register interest and be notified when booking is live.

Empathy Day

The sixth annual Empathy Day will be held on 9 June this year. Empathy Day aims to inspire children and young people to learn more about empathy, have transformational experiences through stories and put empathy into action. Manchester Libraries will be holding author visits in connection with Empathy Day – details to follow soon. For more information on the Empathy Day offer visit [Empathy Day 2022 | EmpathyLab](#).

