

LiteracywithMissP's Literacy Calendar 2019-2020

Date	Event/Project	About	Website	Twitter
June				
07/06/19	Once Upon A Dream 2019	Poetry Competition For 6-11 Year-Olds. Your pupils are invited to write a poem inspired by their dreams. Whether it's a real-life aspiration, a wonderful world created inside their mind or even influenced by a nightmare or fear, Once Upon A Dream is a fantastic way for pupils to express themselves! Let pupils' imaginations run riot and unleash their creativity, because with Once Upon A Dream, anything is possible...	https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/once-upon-a-dream/	@YoungWritersCW
07/06/19	Poetry Patrol	Poetry Patrol is here to inspire your pupils aged 5-7 to get writing! Pupils can write an acrostic, a riddle or a sense poem using the fun, free activities from the Acrostic Croc, Riddlin' Rabbit or Sensory Skunk, which will ignite your pupils' imaginations so they're ready to write fantastic poetry!	https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/poetry-patrol/	@YoungWritersCW
07/06/19	Poetry Wonderland	Poetry Wonderland is here to inspire your pupils aged 6-11 to get writing! Let pupils explore poem themes in a fun and exciting way before writing their own original poem. Our optional lesson plan gets pupils out of their seats and lets creativity soar...	https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/poetry-wonderland/	@YoungWritersCW
07/06/19	My First Riddle 2019	Introduce your reception class to poetry with My First Riddle... This fun competition encourages younger pupils to use their senses and imagination to create their own original riddle. Your class can write riddles on any theme, from the current class topic to people, places or animals.	https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/mfr2019/	@YoungWritersCW
15/06/19-22/06/19	Independent Bookshop Week 2019	IBW is part of the Books Are My Bag campaign and run by the Booksellers Association , and seeks to celebrate independent bookshops in the UK and Ireland. We do this with events, celebrations, reading groups, storytelling, author signings, literary lunches and face painting! Your local bookshop will have their own way of celebrating, and we encourage you to visit to celebrate with them.	https://indiebookshopweek.org.uk/	@booksaremybag
30/06/19	The Gruffalo Competition – National Literacy Trust	The winning pupil will win a signed copy of the <i>The Gruffalo</i> and a Gruffalo hamper. The winning school will win £250 worth of Pan Macmillan books whilst each of the 20 runners up will win a signed copy of <i>The Gruffalo</i> . The Gruffalo himself will present the winner with his prize! This competition is open to and completely free for all UK schools. Entries are invited from pupils aged 5 to 11 (Key Stage 1 and 2).	https://literacytrust.org.uk/competitions/gruffalo-competition/	@Literacy_Trust
July/August				
July/August	Summer Reading Challenge	Taking part in the Challenge is simple – when your summer holidays start, you can sign up for free at your local library. You'll receive your very own Space Chase mission folder to get you started. Read six library books (or more!) over the holidays to collect special stickers to add to your folder. Collect all the stickers to find the aliens, save the missing books and complete the Challenge.	https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/news/general/about-space-chase	@readingagency

30/08/19	Young Filmmaker Competition	Cinemagic is looking for imaginative and original films made by young people to be screened as part of CINEMAGIC YOUNG FILMMAKER 2019. The films can be about anything at all! Fact or fiction, comedy or drama, news programme or documentary.	http://www.cinemagic.org.uk/submissions/young-filmmaker-competition	@Cinemagic
September				
01/09/19	LitFilmFest (entries open & can be submitted monthly until April 2020).	Winners will get to see their work on the BFI IMAX's cinema screen as part of an initiative to improve literacy using filmmaking. Free English projects released for competition each year. Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2 classroom resources for primary school teachers. Based on the national curriculum, projects bring literacy & computing skills together.	https://litfilmfest.com/submit/	@LitFilmFest
02/09/19	Jacqueline Wilson Creative Writing Prize	One lucky winner will have their story published in a Jacqueline Wilson book! They'll also receive a school visit from Jacqueline, a Microsoft Surface, £100's worth of WH Smith Vouchers, a year's subscription to First News, AND a book bundle for their school library.	https://www.jacquelinewilson.co.uk/creative-writing/	@PuffinBooks @FansofJWilson
8/09/19	International Literacy Day	International Literacy Day, celebrated annually on 8 September, is an opportunity for Governments, civil society and stakeholders to highlight improvements in world literacy rates, and reflect on the world's remaining literacy challenges. The issue of literacy is a key component of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development .	https://www.un.org/en/events/literacyday/index.shtml	@UNESCO
13/09/19	Roald Dahl Day	September is Roald Dahl's birth month and this year on the 13th, a wonderful mixture of events will be taking place. If Roald Dahl were alive today, he'd be 102 this year. That's a ripe old age, much older than Grandpa Joe, who was only ninety-six and a half. The entire month will be filled with different activities, taking place all over the world. One of the more interactive and entertaining events is the Dahlicious Dress-up Day. Children go to school dressed up in their favourite Roald Dahl character. It's a fun day and all in aid of Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity.	https://www.roalddahl.com/home/teachers	@roald_dahl @RoaldDahlDay
Sept 2019	Never Such Innocence competition	For the 2019/20 academic year, the Never Such Innocence competition will be bigger than ever! We are delighted to open a new speechwriting category, and to broaden the age range to 9-18. The Never Such Innocence competition invites young people to write a poem, speech, or song, or create a piece of art responding to war or conflict.	https://www.neversuchinnocence.com/2019-20-competition	@NeverSuch
Sept 2019	Banned Books Week	Banned Books Week (September 22-28, 2019) is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Typically held during the last week of September, it spotlights current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools.	www.bannedbooksweek.org.uk	#BannedBooksWeekUK
Open now – contact your local rotary for dates	Rotary Youth Speaks: Young Writer Competition	This competition offers participants chance to express themselves and get creative with the written word. After being given a theme, participants can choose to write fiction or non-fiction, a story or a poem. It's a chance to be imaginative. Download the 2019/20 competition Information Pack and contact your local Rotary club for an entry form.	https://www.rotarygbi.org/projects/young-people/competitions/	@RotaryGBI

October				
Oct 2019	Black History Month	Black History Month is the Official UK guide to the events and people who make every October worth celebrating each year.	https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/	@BhmUK
04/10/19-10/10/19	Cheltenham Literature Festival	For book lovers everywhere, The Times and The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival is the only place to be each autumn. The Festival returns from 4 – 13 October 2019, welcoming the world's greatest writers and thinkers to Cheltenham.	https://www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/	@CheltLitFest
3/10/19	National Poetry Day	National Poetry Day is a UK-wide celebration of poetry taking place every October. Each year there's a different theme and in 2019 the theme is Truth. National Poetry Day generates an explosion of activity nationwide, thousands of amazing events across the UK – in schools, libraries, bookshops and hospitals, on buses, trains and boats – all celebrating poetry's power to bring people together. 2019 is the 25th anniversary of this day.	www.nationalpoetryday.co.uk	@PoetryDayUK
7/10/19-12/10/19	Libraries Week (theme: libraries in a digital world)	Libraries Week is a celebration of the nation's much-loved libraries. In 2019 we are celebrating the role of libraries in the digital world. Libraries Week 2019 will celebrate and explore how libraries are engaging communities through technology, building digital skills and confidence, encouraging digital participation and inclusion, supporting health, wellbeing and education and supporting local business and enterprise.	http://www.librariesweek.org.uk	@librariesweek #LibrariesWeek
17/10/19-27/10/19	London Literature Festival	Southbank Centre's London Literature Festival returns for its thirteenth year this October, bringing together today's leading writers, thinkers and cultural observers for 11 days of talks, readings, poetry and performance. This year's edition will once again open with <i>Poetry International</i> , Southbank Centre's longest running festival, founded by Ted Hughes, former Poet Laureate, in 1967.	https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/w/hats-on/festivals-series/london-literature-festival	@southbankcentre
Oct 2019	Wicked Young Writer Awards (opens October 2019, deadline March 2020)	The "prestigious <i>Wicked Young Writer Awards</i> " (The Times) was established by the long-running musical <i>WICKED</i> to link the important messages of the production with a competition that would inspire young people to use creative writing to look at life a little differently. The Award recognises excellence in writing, encourages creativity, and helps develop writing talent in young people between 5-25 years old from all backgrounds and areas of the UK.	www.wickedyoungwriterawards.com	@WickedUK
November				
Nov 2019	The Blue Peter Book Award (shortlist announced, winner announced on World Book Day 2020)	Since 2000, the enormously popular and influential Blue Peter Book Awards have been recognising and celebrating the best authors, the most creative illustrators and the greatest reads for children. The Blue Peter Book Awards 2019 celebrates children's books published in the last year in two categories: the Best Story and the Best Book with Facts.	https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/awards-and-prizes/current-prizes/blue-peter-book-awards/	@BookTrust
Nov 2019	Costa Book Awards (shortlist in November, winner announced in Jan 2020)	The Costa Book Awards honours books written by authors based in the UK and Ireland. There are five categories: First Novel, Novel, Biography, Poetry and Children's Book, with one of the five winners chosen as Book of the Year. The 2018 winner was Bart van Es for his novel <i>The Cut Out Girl</i> (Fig Tree). The winner is announced every January.	www.costabookawards.com	@CostaBookAwards

December				
Early December	Letters to Santa deadline	Each year, Santa's elves at the Royal Mail can help you get a letter from Santa , if kids write to him by early December.	https://www.royalmail.com/letters-to-santa/	@RoyalMail
January				
Jan 2020	Scholastic Lollies (Laugh our Loud) Book Awards Winners announces	The Laugh Out Loud Book Awards (the Lollies) celebrates the best and funniest children's books in the UK and Ireland, voted for by children. Shortlisted entries for next year will be announced June 2020!	https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/lollies	@scholasticuk
January 2020	Pink Lady Apples Write It Young Food Writer (deadline April, winners announced in May)	The <i>Write It</i> competition is back for 2020, with your chance to be crowned <i>Young Food Writer of the Year</i> . The competition opens in January and closes at the end of April, with the winners announced in May.	www.pinkladyapples.co.uk/write-it	@Pinkladyappleuk
January 2020	BBC Radio 2's 500 Words (entries open, deadline March 2020)	'500 Words' is the UK's most successful short story-writing competition for children between the ages of 5 and 13. Deadline will be early March 2020.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rvk1	@BBCRadio2
January 2020	Write Mighty Fiction and Poetry Competition	Our competitions run all year round with deadlines on 1st January, 1st April, 1st July, 1st October. Winners will be released within 3 weeks of the deadline. 7-11: 1000 word limit for fiction, 15 line max. for poetry 12-15: 1500 word limit for fiction, 20 line max. for poetry Entry is FREE!	www.smallbutmightywriters.com	@Write_Mighty
31/01/20	Canterbury Tales Writing Competition 2019-2020 (Hopes and Dreams)	The Chaucer Heritage is hosting its third annual writing competition for schools inspired by the works of Geoffrey Chaucer, considered by many to be the father of the English Language and England's greatest medieval poet. The special theme of the competition this year is Hopes and Dreams. The competition is open to all school students. The three age groups are: Junior – 5-10 years old, Intermediate – 11-14 years old and Senior – 15-18 years old.	www.chaucer.org.uk/the-canterbury- tales-writing- competition-2019-20- hopes-and-dreams/	@CanterburyTales
February				
01/02/20 – 08/02/20	National Storytelling Week	Stories belong to everyone...what's your story? What will you be telling and where will you be telling it? Every year there are hundreds and hundreds of events during National Storytelling week. It's a celebration of storytelling for all!	https://www.sfs.org.uk/national-storytelling-week	@sfs_uk
7/02/20	Harry Potter Book Night	It's the night Bloomsbury are holding their annual Harry Potter Book Night, launching a host of literary events across the world, all centered on a theme. 2019's theme was: Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Sign up here to ensure you're one of the first to hear all the latest Harry Potter Book Night news.	https://harrypotter.bloomsbury.com/uk/harry-potter-book-night/	#HarryPotterBookNight
Feb Half Term 2020	Southbank Centre's Imagine Children's Festival	Southbank Centre's <i>Imagine Children's Festival</i> returns in 2020 with the best children's theatre, literature and music. Opportunities for schools to get involved each year.	www.southbankcentre.co.uk/about/get-involved/schools	#SCLImagineFest
14/02/20	International Book Giving Day	Pssst... give the gift of books on #BookGivingDay. Book fairy? Book ninja? Call it what you will, but, stealthily leaving books out in the wild for little people to find is what it's all about!	https://bookgivingday.com/	#bookgivingday

TBC Feb	Rotary Youth Speaks: A Debate	Challenge your public speaking abilities and perform, persuade and entertain the audience with your display of wit and knowledge of a topic. In teams of three participants present arguments and points of discussion, before taking questions from the judging panel who are, themselves, skilled orators. Participants can select a topic, which is important to them, giving them an opportunity to delve deep into research, formulate ideas and build confidence.	https://www.rotarygbi.org/projects/youth-people/competitions/	@RotaryGBI
March				
March 2020	Carnegie Children's Book Award (shortlist and school shadowing scheme)	Every spring, CILIP: The Chartered Institute of Library & Information Professionals invites reading groups in libraries, schools, homes... in fact, anywhere there are children and young people and books, to get involved with shadowing . Reading activity takes place from March to June ; from the moment that the shortlists are revealed to the final winners announcement. The shadowing process is supported online . Runs March – June 2020.	http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk	@CILIPCKG
March 2020	British Book Awards (shortlist in March, winner in May 2020)	Literary awards celebrating the commercial successes of publishers, authors and bookshops, administered by The Bookseller. Look out for the British Book Awards Children's Fiction Book of the Year 2019 Shortlist and the Children's Illustrated & Non-Fiction Book of the Year 2019 Shortlist.	https://www.thebookseller.com/british-book-awards	@thebookseller
5/03/20	World Book Day	A day to celebrate the joys of books and reading. Further details on the World Book Day website – www.worldbookday.com .	www.worldbookday.com	@WorldBookDayUK #WorldBookDay
16/03/20-22/03/20	World Shakespeare Week	Join our celebrations and check back regularly for new resources & events. Our most recent resources include a video of Michael Rosen exploring Shakespeare's language and a fabulous new literacy booklet 'Will's Word Warriors' containing inspiring grammar and vocabulary ideas. Our theme for 2020 will be Art & Design.	https://www.shakespeareweek.org.uk/	@ShakespeareWeek
20/03/20	World Storytelling Day	World Storytelling Day (WSD) is a project to promote oral storytelling by inspiring people all over the world to organize events each year the week after March Equinox. The goal is to have as many people tell and listen to stories at as many places and in as many languages as possible. Each year there is a theme.	http://www.globalstorytellingday.org	#WorldStorytellingDay
21/03/20	World Poetry Day	World Poetry Day is celebrated on 21 March, and was declared by UNESCO in 1999. Its purpose is to promote the reading, writing, publishing and teaching of poetry throughout the world.	http://www.un.org/en/events/poetryday/	@UNESCO
21/03/20-29/03/20	Oxford Literary Festival 2020	<i>Oxford Literary Festival</i> is held in April each year. Over 350 writers flock to the famous university city. Visitors can also book to join guided literary walks, lunches and dinner parties with prominent authors. Since 2008, a creative writing course has also formed part of the programme.	https://oxfordliteraryfestival.org/	@oxfordlifefest
23/03/20	World Book Night	World Book Night is a national celebration of reading and books that takes place on 23 April every year. Events up and down the country run by individuals and organisations celebrate the difference that reading makes to people's lives, and everyone from publishers to librarians, and local businesses to the general public can get involved.	https://worldbooknight.org/	@WorldBookNight

April				
TBC	The Man Booker Prize (shortlist announced)	The Man Booker International Prize reveals the shortlist of the six books in contention for the prize in April, which celebrates the finest works of translated fiction from around the world.	https://themanbookerprize.com	@ManBookerPrize
2/06/20	International Children's Book Day	International Children's Book Day is a yearly event sponsored by the International Board on Books for Young People, an international non-profit organization. Founded in 1967, the day is observed on or around Hans Christian Andersen's birthday, April 2.	http://www.ibby.org/index.php?id=269	@IBBYINT
18/04/20	Little Rebels Book Award shortlist announced	2020 Shortlist. The Little Rebels Children's Book Award is a prize for radical fiction aimed at children aged 0-12. This year's winner will be announced in July.	https://littlerebels.org	@littlerebsprize
29/04/20 – 05/05/20	National Children's Book Week	Children's Book Week is the annual celebration of books for young people and the joy of reading. Established in 1919, Children's Book Week is the longest-running national literacy initiative in the country. Every year, events are held nationwide at schools, libraries, bookstores, homes — wherever young readers and books connect!	http://everychildreader.net/cbw/	@EveryChildRead
May				
01/05/20	National Share a Story Month	National Share-A-Story Month (NSSM), which kicks off today, is an annual celebration of the power of storytelling and story sharing, providing a fantastic opportunity to fulfil the core aim of the FCBG of bringing children and stories together. Competition available.	http://www.fcbg.org.uk/national-share-a-story-month/	@FCBGNews
21/05/20 – 31/05/20	Hay Literary Festival 2020	It's a true celebration of books, storytelling and creativity. Award-winning novelists, travel writers, Pulitzer Prize winners, children's authors, broadcasters, performers, thinkers, pioneers, artists and innovators will appear at talks, debates, performances and readings over the nine day programme.	http://www.hayfestival.com/home	@hayfestival
May 2020	CLiPPA Awards (shortlist and school shadowing scheme)	Sign up to the shadowing scheme by May 2020. The scheme is all about getting children to read, write and perform poetry using the shortlisted works and the free teaching resources provided by CLPE. Schools then send in videos of children's performances from which 5 winning groups are selected to perform at the CLiPPA awards ceremony in July.	https://clpe.org.uk/poetryline/clippa	@clpe1
May 2020	Live Canon Poetry Competition	100 children will have their poems published in our 2019 anthology. There is also an award for the school that sends in the best set of poems. Poems are judged in 4 categories: School years 1-3, School years 4-6, School years 7-9 and School years 10-13.	http://www.livecanon.co.uk/childrenscompetition	@LiveCanon
June				
June 2020	Scholastic Lollies (Laugh our Loud) Book Awards shortlist announced	The Laugh Out Loud Book Awards (the Lollies) celebrates the best and funniest children's books in the UK and Ireland, voted for by children. Winners will be announced January 2021!	https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/lollies	@scholasticuk
26/06/20	National Writing Day	<i>National Writing Day</i> is an annual celebratory project designed to inspire people across the UK to get writing. Download teaching resource packs and learning resources created by National Writing Day partners, for use with Key Stages 1 through to 5. Find lesson plans, short writing prompts and writing competitions.	www.nationalwritingday.org.uk	@writeday

July				
Early July 2020	First News Journalist of the Year	STABILO and First News are looking for the next budding journalist to take to the stand and show their passion for writing! The lucky winner of STABILO's Young Journalist of the Year competition will win a fabulous bundle of STABILO stationery products worth £1,000 for their school AND will also get their column published in First News - amazing!	http://stabilofirstnews.co.uk	@First_News