



Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls

Literacy Festival - Monday 23rd June – Friday 27th June

Dear Parent or Carer,

Our Literacy Festival is almost here!

Our annual Literacy Festival is one of the most exciting and highly anticipated weeks in our school calendar, in which our whole school community takes part in a wonderful celebration of the world of books.

This year we have some spectacular events for students to take part in and enjoy, including competitions, a scavenger hunt, book-themed crafts, and a lunchtime film screening of Agatha Christie's *A Haunting in Venice*. We also have the following amazing events taking place that we would particularly like to make you aware of:

Meet the Authors!

Kiran Millwood Hargrave – Tuesday 24th June

Elle McNicoll – Thursday 26th June

We are delighted to tell you that we have two fabulous authors joining us this year. Our first author is Kiran Millwood Hargrave, poet, playwright and award-winning novelist. Her books include *The Girl of Ink and Stars*, which won the British Book Awards Children's Book of the Year and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2017, and *The Way Past Winter*, which was Blackwell's Children's book of the year 2018. Her debut YA novel *The Deathless Girls* was published in 2019. It was shortlisted for the YA Book Prize and long listed for the CILIP Carnegie Medal. Her first book for adults, *The Mercies*, debuted as The Times number 1 bestseller, and at number 5 in the Sunday Times Bestseller Charts.

Our second guest author is Elle McNicoll, award winning novelist and screenwriter. Elle's first children's novel, *A Kind of Spark*, was an instant hit and won the Waterstones Children's Book Prize in 2021. A Neurodivergent writer with a passion for improving inclusivity within the publishing industry, her subsequent novels include *Show Us Who You Are*, *Like A Charm* and young adult novel *Some Like It Cold*, all of which feature neurodiverse main characters. *A Kind of Spark* has been adapted for television with two series on BBC iPlayer, and has won Royal Television Awards and an Emmy.

Signed Books

Students can purchase a book and have it signed by the author as a wonderful memento of the visit. Our Waterstones pop-up bookshop will be here for both book signings, with **prices from £7.99**. Purchases must be made with **cash only**.

Students may also bring in copies of their own books to be signed if they wish.



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The 'Sutton Girls Great Big Book Bake Off' is back! Monday 23rd June

We are inviting our budding bakers to bring in their book-themed cakes once again and compete to be our 'Star Baker' of 2025!

The winning cake will be decided by staff vote, and then they will be sliced and sold at break time for 50p per slice / cupcake. The money raised will be donated to the charity 'Read for Good' which provides storytellers and books to children who are in hospital.

To take part, students must sign up in the library, and on Monday 23rd June, bring in their cakes before registration to The Hub. A **full ingredients list must be provided** for allergy sufferers in order to participate. The winner will receive a £20 book voucher and our highly coveted 'Star Baker' badge. Character points and certificates will be awarded to everybody who takes part.

Scholastic Book Fair Monday 23rd June, Tuesday 24th June and Thursday 27th June

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be here with a wonderful variety of books for students to browse and buy, with prices starting from as little as £3.99. For every book purchased our library will also receive 25% to spend on books!

Please see the attached highlights booklet, for a taster of some of the fabulous books that will be available: [Scholastic Book Fair Highlights](#)

Please look out on our social media pages for photos of the events as they take place. The Literacy Festival is a fabulous week, and we hope our students will enjoy the activities on offer.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Jowett
Librarian