

Publishers Current Awareness

9th May 2022

Provided by Donna Taylor – Shropshire SLS Manager

Education

Ofqual is exploring technology to transform the way GCSEs and A-levels are administered, allowing exam boards to study the use of remote assessment, digital delivery and “adaptive testing” software that tailors exam questions to student responses.

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2022/may/04/england-exams-regulator-ofqual-exploring-online-a-levels-gcses>

Ukrainian children arriving in the UK are to benefit from the creation of Ukraine School, a free online educational platform to help Ukrainian pupils overcome language barriers and continue their learning whilst settling into schools in the UK.

Ukraine School has been created by tech entrepreneur Brendan Morrissey and his team at eSchools

<https://www.sla.org.uk/article/hannah-groves/tech-entrepreneur-sets-up-online-ukraine-school-to-help-refugees-arriving-in-uk/2506>

Secretary of State letter to schools and local authorities about supporting Ukrainian children to integrate into English schools.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/secretary-of-state-letter-to-schools-and-local-authorities-about-supporting-ukrainian-children-to-integrate-into-english-schools>

EPI and Microsoft Roundtable on Technology in the Classroom. In April 2022, EPI, in partnership with Microsoft, brought together policymakers, school leaders and sector experts to discuss the role of technology in the classroom following the pandemic, and the potential opportunities and challenges for personalising students’ learning.

<https://epi.org.uk/publications-and-research/how-can-technology-support-pupils-and-educators-to-catch-up-keep-up-and-get-ahead/>

Pupils and schools in Yorkshire and the Humber faced greater home learning challenges and wellbeing and mental health needs during the pandemic. These are the findings of a new joint report published by the leading UK education specialist, White Rose Maths, and the National Foundation for Educational Research.

<https://www.nfer.ac.uk/news-events/press-releases/yorkshire-and-humber-schools-are-supporting-learning-recovery-following-covid-19-challenges/>

A head teacher has warned her secondary school will struggle to buy books and computers after being hit by a sharp rise in food and energy prices.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tees-61298771>

School Libraries

Platinum Jubilee book to arrive in primary schools from mid-May.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/platinum-jubilee-book-to-arrive-in-primary-schools-from-mid-may>

On the request of the Scottish and Welsh governments, schools in those countries will be asked instead to opt-in to receive copies. It has been described as having taken an Anglocentric line that did not give due regard to the history of the devolved countries of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/may/01/childrens-book-on-the-queens-jubilee-given-cold-shoulder-by-schools-in-wales-and-scotland>

How Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery have used their school's walls to encourage young children to read.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2022/may/how-to-encourage-young-children-to-read-at-your-school/>

Report on the IFLA School Libraries, Section 2022 Midyear Meeting.

<https://www.sla.org.uk/article/alison-tarrant/ifla-school-libraries-section-2022-midyear-meeting/2503>

Minutes of business meeting: IFLA School Libraries Section, 24 and 26 August 2019

<https://repository.ifla.org/handle/123456789/1139>

Literacy

BookTrust Writer in Residence Michael Rosen answers questions about encouraging strong reading habits in children.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2022/may/ask-prof-mike-encouraging-talking-reading-confidence-as-an-adult-and-reading-the-same-stories-over-and-over-again/>

Gill Jones, Ofsted Deputy Director, Schools and Early Education, on reading in secondary schools and supporting weaker readers.

<https://educationinspection.blog.gov.uk/2022/04/28/supporting-secondary-school-pupils-who-are-behind-with-reading/>

National Literacy Trust launch new programme to support girls in alternative provision education.

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/news/we-launch-new-programme-to-support-girls-in-alternative-provision-education/>

Health and Wellbeing

Empathy Lab News: <https://www.empathylab.uk/>

Launch of Family Pack and The Empathy Superpower Challenge

<https://www.empathylab.uk/super-power-challenges-ED22>

Early Years Webinar, 12 May at 5:30pm, speakers including Sue Palmer, June O'Sullivan MBE and Nadia Shireen.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/empathy-and-the-early-years-tickets-308276853367>

Art & Creativity

The Reading Agency is working with StoryFutures and 5 other STEM organisations including the BFI and Nexus Studios to create StoryTrails, an immersive storytelling experience where untold stories from the past are brought to life using augmented and virtual reality. The project is one of 10 commissions taking place as part of Unboxed, a UK-wide celebration of creativity taking place in 2022.

<https://readingagency.org.uk/news/media/storytrails-an-immersive-storytelling-experience-set-to-visit-15-libraries-across-the-country.html>

Children & Young People

The number of children in custody in England and Wales is expected to double by 2024, according to a report by Whitehall's public spending watchdog, which also highlights that black and minority ethnic children are increasingly over-represented in the youth justice system. The number of children aged 15-17 in young offender institutions (YOIs) will double from 343 in 2021 to 700 just four years later, raising concerns about capacity in the system.

<https://www.theguardian.com/law/2022/apr/28/number-children-in-custody-england-wales-national-audit-office-report>

Package of support for vulnerable families worth more than £1 billion will help every child gets the best possible start in life. Including 75 local authorities eligible for a share of £302 million to create new Family Hubs in their areas.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/infants-children-and-families-to-benefit-from-boost-in-support>

The Children's Commissioner has launched a 'Call to Action' for children. Through answering two short questions – what word do you think of regarding 'family,' and what does family mean to you? – this is a great opportunity to hear directly from children about what contemporary family life is like, and the role that family plays in their lives.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/2022/05/04/family-review-call-to-action-for-children/>

With regular headlines expressing concern about the damaging impact of the pandemic on children and babies' development, Abigail Wright, Educational Psychologist specialising in the early years and DECP committee member, urges a move towards a more measured approach, and a focus on what we can do to support our children and babies.

<https://www.bps.org.uk/blogs/guest/recovery-discovery-after-covid>

Digital Literacy

Girlguiding UK has expanded its partnership with Google in a bid to boost girls' interests in technology and engineering.

<https://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/article/girlguiding-uk-launches-programme-to-teach-girls-how-to-code>

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/girls-making-change/future-girl/>

Curriculum Visions have an online book about Ukraine with war pictures suitable for Primary children.

<https://www.curriculumvisions.com/creativeTopics/topic1013Ukraine/topic1013Ukraine.htm>
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People

Two rowan trees will be planted in the graveyard of Stratford's Holy Trinity church to commemorate Shakespeare's twin children, Judith and Hamnet. Maggie O'Farrell will then place a gift of rosemary at the foot of each tree.

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2022/may/01/shakespeares-tragic-twins-memorialised-in-the-bards-resting-place>

The Shakespeare critic and author, Emma Smith, on her new history of books and readers, and how it's made her think about the contents of our shelves.

"I was commiserating with my students when the Oxford libraries closed for the pandemic, because it was such a complete disruption to my world. [They] actually enjoyed the fact that library closure made more things available digitally. So yes – this has changed utterly. But students still enjoy owning books they can write in and annotate: it's borrowing library books they have fallen out of love with."

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/apr/30/emma-smith-books-do-extraordinary-work-but-we-can-overstate-their-importance>

Children's author Simon James Green: 'I just wanted to show LGBT+ kids that it's not all doom and gloom'

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/apr/29/simon-james-green-author-children-lgbt>

Neil Gaiman: 'Whatever I loved about Enid Blyton isn't there when I go back as an adult'
The author on his early love of the Narnia Chronicles, the allure of spontaneous combustion – and one of the great neglected children's authors of the 20th century.

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/apr/29/neil-gaiman-whatever-i-loved-about-enid-blyton-isnt-there-when-i-go-back-as-an-adult>

Super-Infinite by Katherine Rundell review – a deft portrait of John Donne.

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/apr/28/super-infinite-by-katherine-rundell-review-a-deft-portrait-of-john-donne>

Neill Cameron believes that there's a comic out there for everyone - from reluctant readers to bookworms. Here are ten of his top recommendations for some graphic novels and comics that all children can enjoy.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2022/may/ten-terrific-comics-and-graphic-novels-for-children/>

Author Nicola Davies discusses how stories can help children explore and deal with difficult issues.

<https://www.sla.org.uk/article/elizabeth-roberts/i-absolutely-believe-that-if-a-child-might-experience-it-then-it-is-the-business-of-childrens-literature-to-talk-about-it/2498>

Awards and Prizes

The Alliance of Radical Booksellers announce the 2022 Little Rebels Award shortlist.

<https://littlerebels.org/>

Events

Authors Aloud UK in partnership with Zephyr Books invite schools to join Ben Garrod, author, TV scientist and Professor of Evolutionary Biology and Science Engagement on National Endangered Species Day UK. Ben will be talking about his *Extinct – The Story of Life on Earth* series and celebrating publication of the final title in the series *Hainan Gibbon*.

This **FREE** schools event will take place on **Friday 20th May at 10 – 11am**

The event is suitable for Years 4,5,6,7,8

PLEASE NOTE: IF MORE THAN ONE CLASS WILL BE ATTENDING AND LOGGING ON SEPARATELY THEY WILL NEED TO REGISTER AS INDIVIDUAL CLASSES

Please register to attend here: <https://tinyurl.com/AAUKBenGarrod221>

Once you have registered, you will receive a confirmation email from Zoom with the link to join on the day. The event will be recorded and a link sent to classes who have registered for a period of time, to enable follow up work or for students to watch again.

Signed bookplated copies of the book will also be available for sale via H & H Spalding. The link for ordering is <https://spaldingbooks.square.site/>

Information about the Event

TV scientist Ben Garrod presents the biggest extinction events ever, told from the point of view of evolution's superstars, the most incredible animals ever to swim, stalk, slither or walk our planet. Whether you are 9 or 90, his unique exploration of the most destructive, yet most creative force in nature makes top level science fun.

Information about the Author:

Ben Garrod is Professor of Evolutionary Biology and Science Engagement at the University of East Anglia. He broadcasts regularly on TV and radio, most recently the BBC Mammoth Hunters documentary with Sir David Attenborough, and is trustee and ambassador of a number of key conservation organisations. His previous books also include: *So You Think You Know About... Dinosaurs?* and *The Chimpanzee and Me*, also published by Zephyr. Follow Ben on twitter @Ben_garrod on Twitter and Instagram and bengarrodd.co.uk

Information about the Book:

Can we make the Hainan gibbon a super survivor? It's one of our closest living relatives and among the most endangered animals on our planet. Can we change our role in the story of life, from being super-careless to being super-savers and do what we can to help our most interesting, incredible and important species from going extinct? The future depends on us.

Here are the superstars of the story of life, from the super-weird to the superferocious.

Usually a species has 10 million years or so of evolving, eating, chasing, playing, maybe doing homework, or even going to the moon before it goes extinct. The eight book series focus on animals we have lost in mass extinctions caused by asteroids or mega-volcanoes, clashing continents and climate change. The past is brought to full colour life

by palaeoartist Gabriel Ugueto. The books also include - Ask an Expert contributions from leading scientists, a glossary and pronunciation guide

Any queries, please contact events@authorsalouduk.co.uk

Shropshire SLS

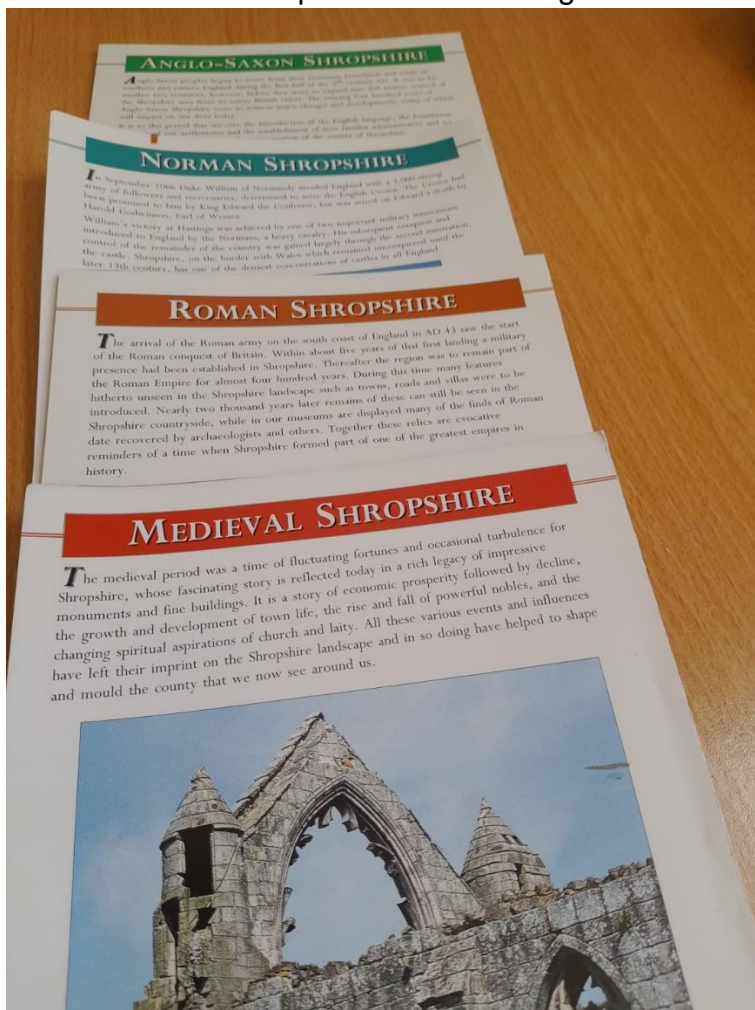
You are still welcome to send us your Summer Term requests and other enquiries via email sls@shropshire.gov.uk using our website [How to request resources | Shropshire Council](#) or phone 01743 255030.

If you have any events or information you would like to promote to other schools please contact us and we will include your submission.

Our 2022 opening hours are listed below and we are still requesting that you book your visit in advance. The showroom will close at 5pm on Thursday if you have not booked your visit.

- Monday 9am – 5pm
- Tuesday 9am – 5pm
- Wednesday 9am – 5pm
- Thursday 9am – 6pm
- Friday 9am – 4pm

The SLS have been provided with a large amount of Historical Leaflets – see below



We are making these leaflets available to you FREE of charge. If you can use them please contact us to arrange a collection.

Children's publishers are currently printing dual language and Ukrainian language books.

The SLS has a small amount of Ukrainian dual language titles in stock and has ordered more stock in anticipation of high demand. If you require any titles please contact us for more details.

Please see below a list of useful websites.

<https://obr.education/en/free-educational-resources-for-ukrainian-children/>

https://ldbs.co.uk/re_trashed/ukraine/ this website has links to other useful websites.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChzPezzBTkm8bu2lrr5y0UA>

<https://www.schooleducationgateway.eu/en/pub/latest/news/online-ed-resources-ua.htm>

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/about-us/ukraine-war-support-and-resources/>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/new-starter-eal-inclusion-teaching-resources/dual-language-inclusion-teaching-resources/ukrainian-dual-language-new-starter-eal-inclusion>

Thank you for your support from Donna, Flora, Judith, Robin and Zoe.

