





LORETO ABBEY DALKEY LIBRARY

Festival Weeks

National Poetry Day - October 2022

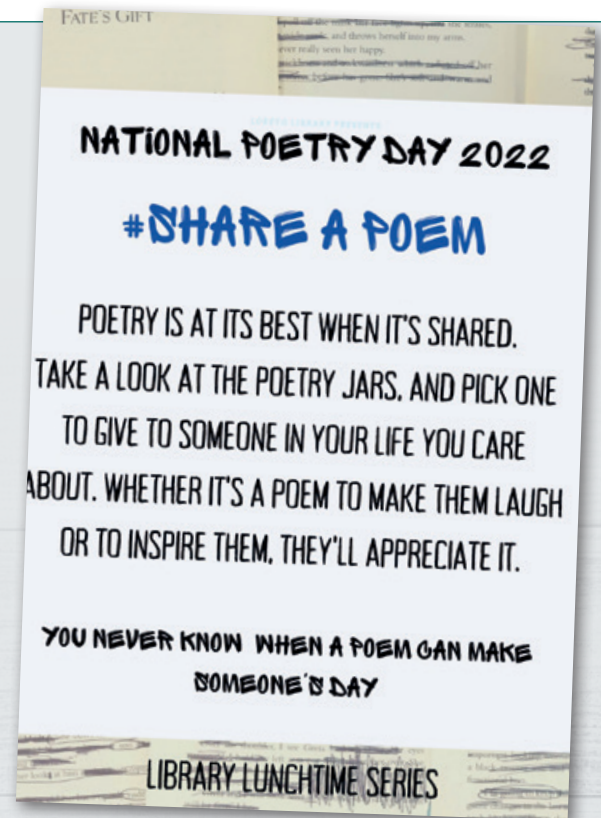
National Poetry Day is one of our favourite days of the year, and this year was our best yet. We wanted to highlight all the ways poetry can be enjoyed: through listening, reading, creating, and sharing.

To start the day off right, individual poems were handed out as students arrived in the morning. We chose a mix of poetry to inspire, to comfort, and to entertain. Featuring poets like Roger McGough, Carol Ann Duffy, and Maya Angelou, our Portable Poetry Pharmacy was a huge success. Throughout the day, poems were read and shared amongst the whole school community.

Since poetry is best when it is heard, Ms. Wade read *Moments* by Mary Oliver after the morning announcement. Oliver's poem reminds us to seize each day, and it was a nice way to begin the week.

A **Blackout Poetry** session was held in the library. Blackout Poetry is an easy, fun introduction into the craft. We had lots of great poems emerge. There was a good atmosphere as students exchanged poems, and read them out for each other to enjoy. We look forward to seeing more from our budding poets.

For those who wanted something a little different, a **Poetry Rainbow** was set up outside An Grianan; A poem for every colour and mood. We were delighted to see the overwhelmingly positive response to the day, and hope to build upon it next year.





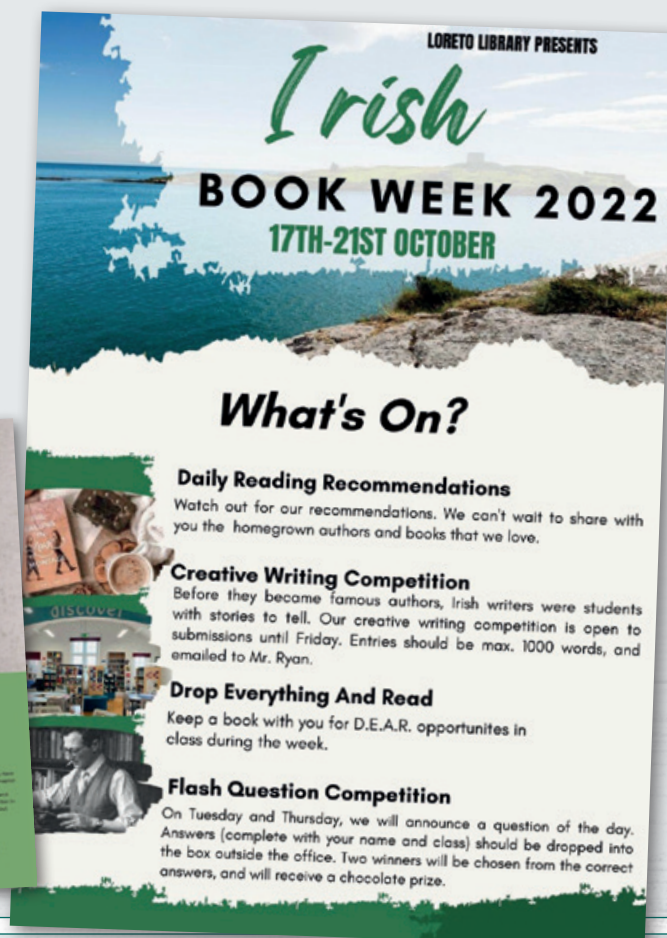
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Irish Book Week - October 2022

Our first Festival week this year was a fun, relaxed one. Each day a **Book Blast** was sent out highlighting either an Irish Author that we love (hello Dave Rudden, Ciara Smyth, and Emilie Pine) or books that combined Irish writing and the spooky spirit (*Her Kind* by Niamh Boyce and *Savage Her Reply* by Deirdre Sullivan both feature witches).

We had our **Question of the Day** competition, and a **Creative Writing** competition to celebrate all of our homegrown talent. The winners received a fabulous book token.

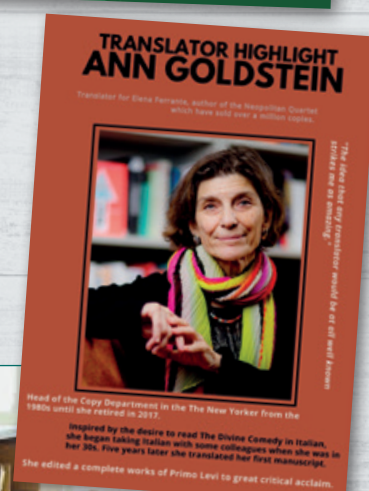
Drop Everything & Read was another literacy initiative that we undertook and students were encouraged to carry a book on them at all times. It is a useful way to integrate reading into everyday life.



World Book Week - March 2023

World Book Day aims to promote reading to young people worldwide and so we hosted a number of fun events throughout the week. Wishing to shine a spotlight on the power of books to cross borders and connect people of different cultures and countries, we focused our **Book Blasts** on translators and works in translation.

To help readers find books in translation that they might like, we created our own online quiz. Readers answered questions like "Where do you like to read?" and "What country would you like to visit?". Then our magic quiz suggested a book





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for them. From a Ukrainian man and his pet penguin, to the French mortician on a roadtrip with his grandmother, to a talking Japanese cat, there's a story to suit any reading taste.

Searching for books that match craftily written clues was the attraction of our every popular **Scavenger Hunt** which also took place that week.

Of course, World Book Week is for everyone and so for our competition, we asked the teachers to name their favourite book. Each day, the students were given four books and had to match the correct book to the teacher. It was fun to see all the attempts to guess what was a trickier than usual competition. We also learned more about what our teachers enjoy reading when they're not working hard!

Thank you to everyone who helped us with our Festival Weeks and made it possible for us to celebrate the joy of reading.

LORETO LIBRARY PRESENTS

WORLD BOOK WEEK 2023

TRANSLATORS ARE THE SHADOW HEROES OF LITERATURE, THE OFTEN FORGOTTEN INSTRUMENTS THAT MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR DIFFERENT CULTURES TO TALK TO ONE ANOTHER, WHO HAVE ENABLED US TO UNDERSTAND THAT WE ALL, FROM EVERY PART OF THE WORLD, LIVE IN ONE WORLD.
—PAUL AUSTER

THIS YEAR'S THEME
READ THE WORLD

This year, we want to focus on Stories in Translation. Books written in another language, from another culture, that we are lucky enough to be able to read in English. Reading books from around the world is a fantastic way to discover new stories and learn about other places.

The world is full of interesting people with different experiences to us. Why not give them a try? Like quirky stories with cats? Then Japanese fiction might be for you! Or maybe you prefer books about food and love? Then why not try French literature? Maybe you prefer books that deal with the dark side of history? African literature has plenty to choose from.

Whatever your tastes, why not broaden them by reading the world?

WHAT'S ON?
SCAVENGER HUNT

A fun way to get free chocolate and win fantastic prizes this World Book Week. Bring a friend, bring yourself, and bring it on.

THE LIBRARY
MONDAY 27TH
FEBRUARY
1.10PM

WITH SWEETS FOR EVERYONE!

BOOK HIGHLIGHT
THE REST OF THEIR LIVES

It's difficult to find love in a profession like Ambrose's – even his father despises what he does... And while Manelle, a home-help for the elderly in the same small French town, adores her days spent with her eccentric clients, she too often ends her evenings alone.

So when an unusual request from Manelle's favourite client – eighty-two-year-old retired chef-gourmand Samuel – brings the two of them together for an unlikely road-trip to Switzerland, along with Ambrose's cake-loving grandmother, it might just be time for the rest of their lives to begin...

ONLINE QUIZ

Quiz Book in Translation

QuizMAKER.COM/QUIZSPHER

D.E.A.R.

Don't forget to bring a book to school for Drop Everything And Read during classes.

MATCH THE TEACHER COMPETITION

How well do you know your English teacher? Match the teacher to one of their favourite books and be in with the chance to win a prize every day.

MATCH THE TEACHER
MONDAY

WORLD BOOK WEEK 2023

MR HUGHES

A) Steal Like An Artist by Austin Kleon
B) Surrender by Bono
C) Prisoners Of Geography by Tim Marshall
D) Mozart: The Reign of Love by Jan Swafford

WHICH BOOK IS THE ONE THEY LOVE?

STEAL LIKE AN ARTIST by AUSTIN KLEON
SURRENDER by BONO
PRISONERS OF GEOGRAPHY by TIM MARSHALL
MOZART: THE REIGN OF LOVE by JAN SWAFFORD

REPLY WITH YOUR ANSWER
to: rebekah.wade@loretoabbeydalkey.ie

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Christmas in the Library

Christmas is always a busy time of year, but this year it was even busier in the Library. We wanted to highlight the joy of giving books, and receiving them. To make it easy, we published the annual **Christmas Gift Guide**. Brimming with great book recommendations, there were literary ideas for all kinds of readers. As if that weren't enough, we also sent out daily suggestions as part of our **Twelve Books of Christmas**. In fact, we were so excited about books as presents, that we decided to have a **Christmas Eve Read Giveaway**. Four hints were sent out, and everyone who answered was put into a draw to win not only the book but also a few goodies to enjoy while reading.

On the last Monday before the break, we held a **Table Quiz**. There was much festive spirit as we challenged our teams, our **Books Described Badly** round was particularly fun! Our fantastic **Christmas Hamper** was raffled off too. Filled with books, notebooks, tote bags, and chocolate, we were quite jealous of the winner! And finally (yes, we really did outdo ourselves) our resident book elf Ms. Wade hand wrapped and decorated over 60 books, kindly donated by *The Gutter Bookshop* Dalkey, and hid them around the school for readers to find.

What do Christmas and
Books have in common?

Magic





The Library Workshops

TO BOLDLY GO

If you were to wander into the Library on any given Monday, you might find yourself comparing it to the Wild West. A place where anything can - and might - happen. You might stumble upon a theatre production, or encounter a new monster, or discover a **Book Art Gallery**. Maybe you will hear a spirited debate or a spine-tingling short story. What you will certainly find are a group of students enjoying one of Ms Wade's **Library Workshops**.

Over the last number of years, the workshops have created a safe and fun space for students to shake off the demands of academia and to instead explore literature on their own terms. To boldly go where they may have not gone before.

Our youngest adventurers, the First Years, travelled from tales of the past to strange new fantasy worlds of

their own design; from the safety of **Blackout Poetry** to fictional murder scenes. With lots of energy and enthusiasm, they threw themselves into learning about poetry, classic fiction, murder mysteries, and the wonder of world-building.

Perhaps our bravest explorers were our Second Years. For their **Monster Literature** workshop, they learned about the history of monsters like Dracula and Frankenstein and questioned what it means to be called a monster. That done, they created their own gloriously frightening monsters. Then came the real challenge: the stage. After a brief rehearsal, they stood up and performed scenes from the iconic Irish playwrights J.M. Synge and Oscar Wilde. Bringing to life *Deirdre of the Sorrows* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*, our students learned the joy (and terror) of live theatre.





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Meanwhile, our Transition Years were busy delving into the glamorous world of showbiz with their **Page to Screen** workshop. Looking at the relationship between the publishing and film industry, they took it upon themselves to devise their own screen adaptations for books they love. Of course, an integral part of any story is the narrator. But can the narrator always be trusted? That was the question at the heart of their **Unstable Narration** workshop. The TYs moved from the director's to the writer's seat as they created their own (unreliable) narration. And what great stories they told.

Sometimes, we forget that fairytales are not simply stories we tell children; they are full of danger and warnings to behave. Our Third Years did not let that deter them, and instead rewrote classic tales like *Snow White*, *Cinderella*, and *The Little Mermaid* with their own inventive twists. From an Instagram Influencer Snow to a hapless Evil Witch, this is one story collection you don't want to miss. Especially as our Third Years, after learning about the art of book covers, designed and created their own books. Each student left with a souvenir fairytale collection, written and illustrated by themselves.

Though our last group are well-seasoned, the Fifth Years still managed to discover new areas of literature to explore. In the **Art Of Storytelling**, they examined the elements necessary for a story - and then saw what happens when you write one without a plot, characters, or any sort of plan. A lot of fun was had reading them out.

For their last excursion, the Fifth Years left the comfort of Irish literature for the excitement of **Fiction in Translation**. With astute observations and critical thinking, they debated the merits of accurate translation versus readable translations, and questioned whether all translation is good translation or, indeed, if true translation is impossible.

We hope that the students enjoyed their workshops as much as Ms. Wade did, picked up some new interests and books to read, and that they even learned a thing or two. Education is about more than learning things by rote; it is about curiosity and discovery. To boldly, bravely, go where you have never gone before. And have fun doing it.





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Life in the Library

It's been a busy year in the Library. Thanks to the **Loreto Ladies Lunch**, we added four bookshelves to our space and filled them with new stories. We were able to expand our Senior Fiction and Junior Fiction sections, as well as showcasing our favourite authors in our authors.

The Library is a great place to cosy up with a book, or to work on a group project, or to do some solo study.

Our **Library Lunchtime Series** in the Autumn made good use of our lovely space. For **Book Club**, we relaxed in our reading nooks and chatted about our favourite books.

Our shelves were raided during our **Scavenger Hunt**, as students hunted for books that matched our clues. And our colourful roundtables were perfect for our **Table Quiz** teams to put their heads together. We had lots of fun putting together events this year, and hope our readers enjoyed them.

