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## WORDS OF WELCOME

The National Year of Reading, working with London 2012, is launching a nationwide photography project for schools and young people. Celebrating the power of the written word in our everyday lives, the National Year of Reading is looking for classes and individuals (ages 13-19) to send pictures of the words and signs that they best feel represent their local area and what it means to be British. The best images will feature on Get Set, the London 2012 education website, which will act as a huge 'welcome sign' to visitors ahead of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The top prize will be a school visit from an Olympic athlete. The closing date is 20.12.08. Find more information [here](#).

## DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT IN LIBRARIES FORTNIGHT

Libraries around the country are gearing up for the National Year of Reading's 'Do Something Different in Libraries' fortnight. From the 18th of October until the 1st of November libraries nationwide will be showcasing some of the exciting and sometimes unusual events that take place all year - from Alien Invasions and Dr Who days to yoga, Manga workshops, family football fun days, belly dancing and speed date.a book. Visit the [NYR website](#) soon for more information on activities near you.

## TOP HONOURS FOR NYR'S CONTRIBUTION TO READING

## Links

### Coming soon...

Help with Reading: the National Year of Reading's guide to volunteering projects that support readers.

### Monthly Theme

'Word of Mouth is October's theme. [Find out more](#).

### Submit Your Great Ideas

[Wikireadia](#) is looking for articles from reading professionals about Adult Learners.

### Free Stuff

Check out our [Free Stuff](#) for downloads, competitions and more.

### National Poetry Day

The 15th annual National Poetry Day on the 9th of October is all about adding a poetic flair to the workplace. Look out for more events at your local library, bookshop, theatres, clubs and shops or visit [www.nationalpoetryday.co.uk](http://www.nationalpoetryday.co.uk).

### Family Learning Festival

To mark ten years of the biggest annual celebration of family learning, Campaign for Learning's

The National Year of Reading has won the HarperCollins Award for Expanding the Retail Market at the Bookseller Awards in September. The NYR was judged the deserving winner because of its impact on reaching people who have never read or have had difficulty making reading part of their lives. The Orange Broadband Prize for Fiction, Richard and Judy Summer Read and Waterstone's were also among those shortlisted for the award.

## Win a VISIT FROM MICHAEL ROSEN for your school

To celebrate National Poetry Day on the 9th of October, the National Year of Reading is holding a competition in which a school can win a visit from the children's laureate Michael Rosen. To enter, pupils and teachers can download the 'Word are Ours' poem [here](#). Using this as inspiration, pupils can write a verse of around 20-30 words and email these to [competition@yearofreading.org.uk](mailto:competition@yearofreading.org.uk) before the closing date on the 12th of December. The competition opens on the National Year of Reading website on the 9th of October.

## SCHOOLS AUTUMN CHALLENGE

There is £2,000 worth of reading materials waiting to be won for the 2008 National Year of Reading Autumn Challenge to schools. To enter all primary and secondary schools need to do is develop sessions and activities which promote reading and write them up on Wikireadia. Find out more [here](#).

## NYR LESSONS TO GET SCHOOLS READING

The National Year of Reading and the National Schools Partnership have teamed up for 'Readme', a set of lesson plans and ideas for English teachers to encourage boys to read more in and outside of the classroom. For more information on this [click here](#).

## Share your contribution to reading on WIKIREADIA

Interesting and innovative reading projects that have made a difference to the lives of non-readers, hard to reach audiences or people with disabilities can be shared with others on Wikireadia. This resource is used by professionals, businesses, teachers searching inspiration and ideas they can use in their work for reading. To see more about Wikireadia or to submit an article [click here](#)

Family Learning Week will run into a month-long of events and activities. To find out more of events near you or how you can get involved [click here](#)

### National Bookstart Day 2008

Ahoy me 'arties - this year's Bookstart Day is all about pirates! There will be hundreds of special events in libraries and children's centres. Find out more about an activity near you [here](#).

### Children's Book Week

Rhythm and Rhyme is Booktrust's theme for Children's Book Week on 6-12 October. Join in and download a poster or view the exciting events [here](#). Resources are also available for schools and teachers.

### Readathon

Readathon helps children acquire the reading habit and raises money for children who are seriously ill. [Find out more on how to get involved.](#)

### Library membership form

[Download a library membership form here.](#)

**Want to spread the word on reading?** Forward this newsletter to your colleagues, friends and family.

## LOCAL AUTHORITY of the MONTH

Newcastle is the NYR's Local Authority of the Month for October because of their approach which builds on national messages, existing local services and new partnerships.

In Newcastle the NYR is being led by the Library Service which used the NYR theme for August of "Reading the Game" to build a comprehensive reading and sports package. By taking a pragmatic approach which combines national projects and local services Newcastle seized the opportunity provided by the national campaign to design a programme of activities which could be sustained after 2008.

In particular Newcastle Library Service has initiated relations with partners to help them reach new and under-achieving audiences. These partnerships have allowed them to signpost new users to existing services and projects, helping more people benefit from resources that are already in place.

Highlights of their work include:

- Involving children in reading via the Summer Reading Challenge and Premier League Reading Stars and offering special prizes by teaming up with Newcastle United Foundation and the local newspaper The Evening Chronicle
- Training children and young people as reading volunteers
- Reaching Looked After Children
  - Working with Looked After Children Team and Newcastle FC to run a Summer Reading Challenge event for looked after children at St. James' Park
  - Working with the Looked After Children Team and Newcastle Falcons Rugby Club to run a family day for foster families and publicise the Summer Reading Challenge
- Getting more families into the library with Wii Fit family classes and a football based "penalty shoot out" with author Tom Palmer
- Taking the library out to disabled children via the Alan Shearer Centre
- Working with a local psychiatric unit to reach young teens there aged 13-18

Read more about [Reading the Game in Newcastle via their wiki entry](#).

## LITERACY SUPPORT for early years and families

The National Literacy Trust has set up a new initiative, Early Reading Connects, to encourage a love of stories and words to early years, children and families. Early years organisations, settings and practitioners who join can also get easy-to-access resources. [Click here](#) for more information.

## Last chance to enter **TELLING TALES**

The search for the nation's most enthusiastic storyteller comes to an end in October. For more details on the final regional tours in Leicester and Liverpool click [< the of to National Reading Year October 17 until website submitted be still can Entries>here](#). See the fantastic prizes for the main winner and each of the regional winners [here](#).

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