



Blackfordby Newsletter



'By their fruits shall you know them.' Matthew 12:33

From Ms Benson – Headteacher

As we move through this short but wonderfully busy half term, we want to take a moment to say a heartfelt thank you to Mrs Lynch, who finishes her time with us today. She has brought such warmth, kindness and dedication to our school, and she will be greatly missed by children, staff and families alike. We wish her every happiness for the future.

Although we still have four weeks left until we break up on Friday 27th March, it has already been a very full and lively term, and we are so proud of how brilliantly the children have settled into the new year. There is lots still to look forward to, and we know the children will continue to shine as we head towards the Easter break.

Parents' Evening – 3rd & 4th March

We still have a few appointments available for Parents' Evening on Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th March.

If you haven't booked yours yet, please contact the office and we'll be happy to help.

Easter Service – Tuesday 24th March

We warmly invite all families to join us at St Margaret's Church at 2:30pm on Tuesday 24th March for our Easter Service.

The children are very excited to share their songs, readings and reflections with you — it promises to be a special afternoon together.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

We are really looking forward to celebrating World Book Day next Thursday!

Children are welcome to come dressed as their favourite book character, and we can't wait to see how imaginative everyone can be — staff included!

If your child has PE on Thursday and their costume isn't suitable, please send their PE kit so they can change.

We will begin the day with a whole-school assembly before enjoying a fantastic range of book-themed activities

EYFS & KS1 will explore The Colour Monster, KS2 will focus on The Lost Words.

All classes will take part in a special letter-decorating project for The Imaginarium at Sharpe's Pottery Museum as part of the Swadlincote Festival of Words.

Throughout the day, children may enjoy reading dens, torch reading, paired reading and other exciting activities.

Classes will also enjoy virtual author visits throughout the week.

We look forward to celebrating stories, imagination and the joy of reading!

Quick & Easy Dress-Up Ideas:

- Mr Bump – blue top + bandages
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid – white T-shirt + drawn mask
- Little Red Riding Hood – red tea towel/blanket cape
- Harry Potter – school uniform + paper tie + marker-pen scar

Rise Voices – Tickets Now Available

We are delighted to share that Rise Voices tickets are now on sale!

This event is always a real highlight in the school calendar, and our year 4 children have been working incredibly hard to put together a fantastic show.

The performance will take place at the Mattioli Arena, Leicester, on Thursday 23rd April. Doors open at 5:15pm and the event begins at 6:15pm. Tickets cost £12.50 each, and you can purchase them using the QR codes or link on the attached poster.

It promises to be a wonderful evening celebrating music, teamwork and our brilliant young performers. We hope to see many of you there!

Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March

We are excited to be supporting Red Nose Day on Friday 20th March. This year's theme is "Take Yourself Funny for Money", encouraging everyone to embrace a bit of silliness while raising funds for a brilliant cause.

Children are invited to come to school wearing something silly — bright colours, odd socks, funny hats or anything that brings a smile!

If you are able, please send a small cash donation, which will go directly to Comic Relief to support families and communities in need.

Let's fill the school with laughter and kindness as we take ourselves funny for money this Red Nose Day!

Scholastic Book Fair – Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th March

We are delighted to be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair in school from Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th March. The fair will be open after school each day and is a fantastic opportunity for families to browse a wide selection of brand-new, high-quality children's books.

There will be books suitable for all ages and interests — from picture books and early readers to exciting chapter books, graphic novels and non-fiction favourites. It's a great chance to pick up something new to enjoy at home or to inspire children to try a different author or genre.

Every book purchased helps us earn free books for our school library and classrooms, so your support makes a real difference to our reading provision. Thank you, as always, for helping us continue to nurture a love of reading across the school.



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March

3rd Parents Evening
4th Parents Evening
5th World Book Day
12th Youth for Christ Assembly
12th NHS Dentist visit (children aged 5 only)
20th Festival of Words and Author Visit
23rd - 26th Book Fair at School
24th Easter Church Service
14:30
27th School Closes for Easter

April

12th Deposit deadline for year 4 & 5 upcoming residential trip
13th School Reopens
23rd Year 4 Rise Voices

May

4th May Bank Holiday
11th - 15th Year 6 SATs
22nd School Closes for Half Term

June

1st School Reopens
5th - 6th Space Centre Sleepover Years 3 & 4
18th Youth for Christ Assembly
24th Life Education Visit in School

July

9th School Closes for Summer

Other upcoming Dates

20th & 21st August Inset Days
24th August School reopens
16th October Inset Day
19th - 23rd October Half Term
30th September - 2nd October Year 5&6 Residential
Information to follow

SWADLINCOTE FESTIVAL OF WORDS

19-22 MARCH 2026

AUTHOR & POET PERFORMANCES, INTERVIEWS
& WORKSHOPS | LOCAL AUTHOR SHOWCASE
OPEN MIC NIGHTS | CHILDREN'S DAY
PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOLS

Sarah Pearse



John Hegley



Ted McMinn 'Tin Man'

'THE IMAGINARIUM'
@ SHARPE'S POTTERY MUSEUM

sparkling the

IMAGINATION



CLAIRE WARD
MAYOR OF THE
EAST MIDLANDS

East Midlands
Combined County
Authority

www.swadlincotefestivalofwords.co.uk



Funded by
UK Government

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AUTHOR&POET PERFORMANCES, INTERVIEWS
& WORKSHOPS | OPEN MIC NIGHTS | CHILDREN'S DAY
THE IMAGINARIUM | LOCAL AUTHOR SHOWCASE
PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOLS



Featuring

The Brothers McLeod, Animation Duo

Sarah Pearse, Award-Winning Author

John Hegley, Poet & Comedian

Ted McMinn, 'Tin Man'

And Many, Many More



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MAYOR OF THE
EAST MIDLANDS



East Midlands
Combined County
Authority



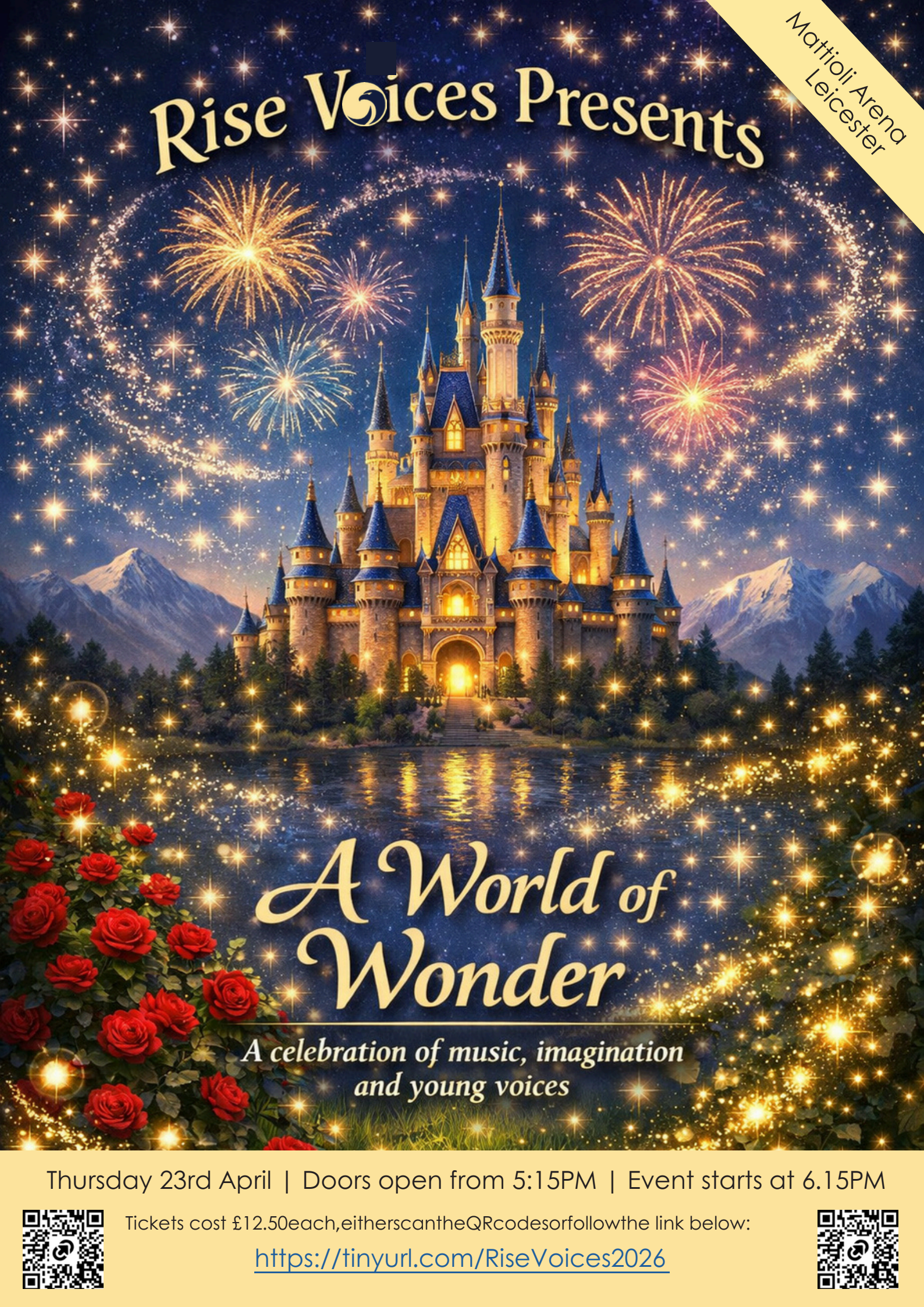
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www.swadlincotefestivalofwords.co.uk  

Rise Voices Presents

Mattioli Arena
Leicester



A World of Wonder

*A celebration of music, imagination
and young voices*

Thursday 23rd April | Doors open from 5:15PM | Event starts at 6.15PM

Tickets cost £12.50 each, either scan the QR codes or follow the link below:

<https://tinyurl.com/RiseVoices2026>

