



Peterchurch, Herefordshire, HR2 0SG | 01981 550231 | admin@fairfield.hereford.sch.uk | Head Teacher: Mr Paul Jennings

Monday 10th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 8 Hay Festival visit– Friday 22nd May 2026

Year 8 will be visiting the Hay Festival on **Friday 22nd May** to take part in the Hay Festival's Schools' Programme, where Young Adult writers will be discussing their creative inspiration and latest works with students from across the country. Our students will get to see the following, exciting authors:

Yassmin Abdel-Magied

In a quiet town, magic awakens... Thirteen-year-old Yumna lives in a sleepy town where nothing ever happens. But when she discovers something unbelievable, suddenly it seems that everyone's changing. When a friend vanishes, Yumna is the only one asking the right questions. As secrets unravel and danger creeps closer, it's up to Yumna to uncover the truth. In a town full of secrets and powers, can one ordinary girl become a hero?

Yassmin Abdel-Magied has published five books including Stand Up and Speak Out Against Racism. Her TED Talk on bias has received over 2.7m views.

Manjeet Mann

In this empowering, high-energy spoken word event performer Manjeet Mann – multi-award-winning author of Run Rebel and The Crossing – will give dynamic readings from her sensational YA verse novel Roar. She'll share the experiences and inspirations behind her writing journey, and, through a combination of performance and activities, help you reflect on what gives you courage and why your voice matters. Discover your own ROAR!

Curtis Jobling

Join author, illustrator and animator Curtis Jobling for this exciting and interactive event about his recently released folk horror novel, Wyrddwood. He'll walk you through the tales and places that informed the book, weaving folklore with contemporary horror. Curtis has published eleven novels for older readers, including the acclaimed and bestselling Wereworld series, now adapted into a major new animated series for Netflix, Wolf King.

The trip will take place within school hours. We will leave school at 9.00 am and return in time for students to catch their normal school buses. Students should wear school uniform (including a waterproof coat, or sun cream and hat depending on the weather forecast) and bring a packed lunch and drink. They might also wish to bring some spending money, as the bookstalls are very tempting (not to mention the ice creams)!

The Hay Festival trip has been made possible through funding from **Herefordshire Community Foundation**, who have kindly funded transport costs, in conjunction with the Fairfield PTA. This has allowed us to take the entire year group free of charge!

To fulfil our safeguarding obligations, **ALL** students will come to school first and travel to the festival and back in our coaches, returning to their homes on their normal school bus. Please do not ask for any changes to these arrangements; I apologise for any inconvenience they may cause, but I am sure that you will agree that the safety of our students is paramount.



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Every year students have a fantastic time at the festival and reignite their enjoyment of reading, and this year's offering looks no different!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Worsfold
Assistant Headteacher
Head of Faculty for English, MFL and Drama



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