CYPSC
COISTE NA SEIRBHÍSÍ DO LEANAÍ & DO DHAOINE ÓGA
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE
Loch Garman
Wexford

CYPSCWEXFORD

Wexford CYPSC Newsletter

30 October 2026



For information on services and supports for children, young people and families see **Wexford CYPSC**

For information on parenting supports and programmes, see **Wexford Parents Hub** or access on **Facebook**

WEXFORD Parents Hub

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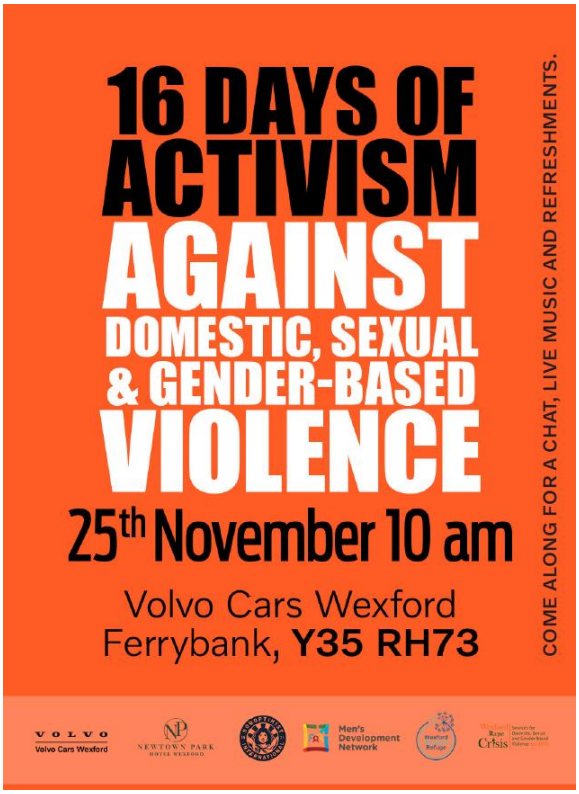
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EVENTS & CAMPAIGNS

16 Days of Activism 25 November 2026 - 10 December 2026







INFORMATION/RESOURCES

▶Child-friendly Family Law Resources



The Government of Ireland has created a series of short videos to help children better understand family changes like separation or divorce.

The videos feature bespoke animations aimed at children aged 8-12 years. There is also a PDF download of the resources available for children up to 15 years.

The Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration collaborated with the Departments of Children, Disability and Equality, and Education and Youth, as well as agency partners including the Courts Service, Legal Aid Board and Cuan. This extensive collaboration helped shape the content, language, and delivery of the resources, ensuring they reflect the real experiences and needs of children navigating family change.

The videos are available on **gov.ie/FamilyChanges** and on the Department's YouTube **Channel: youtube.com/@DeptJusticeIRL**

If you have any questions about the resources, please do not hesitate to contact either CXKirwan@justice.ie or TR-CivCE@justice.ie



WEBINARS/TRAINING

► Foróige: Online Safety Training for Staff & Volunteers Working with Young People

Connect Safely is an online safety programme which promotes safer use of digital resources, equipping young people with the skills to safely benefit from being online. It also empowers young people to safely participate in their online communities as positive digital citizens.

Online Training - Connect Safely 12-18 years

- **21st & 22nd of October (9:30am-1:00pm)**
- **25th & 26th of November (6.30pm-9.30pm)**
- **10th & 11th of December (9:30am-1:00pm)**

12-18 Years Training Registration

Online Training - Connect Safely 8-11 Years

- **17th of November online via Zoom (9:15am-1:30pm)**
- **8th of December online via Zoom (9:15am-1:30pm)**

8-11 Years Training Registration

For more information please see brochure attached below.

Connect Safely 12-18s Brochure

Connect Safely 8-11s Brochure

▶ National Youth Council: AI in Youth Work



TRAINING DESCRIPTION

This self-paced CPD programme supports youth workers to build confidence, understanding, and practical skills in using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in youth work settings. It introduces key concepts, tools, and ethical approaches that can enhance youth work practice while keeping young people's rights, wellbeing, participation, and safety at the centre.

The programme was developed by the National Youth Council of Ireland in response to the growing role of AI in young people's lives and the increasing demand from youth workers for guidance, practical learning, and opportunities to critically explore emerging technologies. AI can support creativity, planning, communication, inclusion, and learning. However, it also presents risks, including misinformation, bias, privacy concerns, over-reliance on technology, and the misuse of personal data. Youth workers need the knowledge and skills to identify both the opportunities and limitations of AI and to understand when its use may be inappropriate, unethical, or potentially harmful.

Through a combination of practical activities, real-world examples, and critical reflection, participants will explore how to use AI responsibly, transparently, and effectively in their work with young people. The programme encourages youth workers to make informed decisions about when AI can add value and when human judgement, relationship-building, safeguarding, and professional expertise should remain at the forefront.

The STEAM in Youth Work Programme at the National Youth Council of Ireland supports the youth work sector to build confidence and capacity in digital innovation, emerging technologies, and creative approaches to learning that empower young people to participate fully in an increasingly digital world.
CAPACITY: Unlimited
COST: Free of charge
DATE, TIME & VENUE: Modules are available on demand, take approximately 30-45 minutes to complete, and can be completed as standalone units.
Please click here for further information and to register.

▶ Neurodiversity and the Family | Parents Plus ADHD Programme Webinar



Embracing neurodiversity and appreciating the unique needs of children and parents is an important Parents Plus value. The new edition of the **Parents Plus Early Years Programme** is centred on sixteen topics that help parents tune into their children's needs while also being attuned to their own needs and goals as parents - making it suitable as an intervention for all children aged 1 to 8 including children with specific needs such as ADHD, Autism and other ND conditions. See below for details of upcoming workshops for trained PPEY facilitators to upskill in the new edition, as well as training for new facilitators.

I am also delighted to invite you to a **FREE one-hour practice session on the Parents Plus ADHD Children's Programme (6-12yrs)** which provides space to reflect on practice, share learning, and consider how a neuro-affirming, strengths-based approach drives best practice in delivering parent support.

Finally, in The Irish Times I am writing a series of articles on Neurodiversity and Family, covering topics such as:

1. Neurodiversity and identifying children's needs
2. Looking after your own needs as a ND parent
3. Couple Relationships and Neurodiversity
4. Moving beyond diagnosis and embracing neurodiversity.



▶ My Place to Play Briefing sessions November / December 2026

The Early Learning Initiative (ELI) invites you to attend a My Place to Play Baby and Toddler Briefing Session. These briefings are specific to services that are working with families in IPAS centres, homeless services, domestic violence, cramped Living conditions and families from Traveller communities.

My Place to Play

My Place to Play is a programme that aims to support parent-child interactions and the physical, emotional, cognitive, and language development of infants and toddlers living in cramped conditions. The programme is designed as an interagency response to support families living in these situations.

My Place to Play was originally a programme designed for parents and infants, and later a Toddler Pack was developed using play to promote language, communication, literacy, social and emotional development as well as fine and gross motor development for children. More information on My Place to Play can be found here: My Place to Play CYPSC website

Combined briefing sessions are being delivered for My Place to Play Baby Mat and the My Place to Play Toddler Pack. An Early Years Specialist and a Speech and Language Therapist facilitate these sessions. These sessions are open to staff who offer direct services to families living in cramped living conditions as outlined above, as well as those who may want to know more about the Initiative.

The Early Learning Initiative, National College of Ireland, has been commissioned by the CYPSC and PPFS to provide briefing sessions for organisations interested in delivering the programme with the families they work with.

Briefing Sessions and Sign Up

ELI invite you to participate in the MPTP briefing session if your organisation would benefit from information regarding supporting families living in homelessness, international protection or other low-quality housing conditions with infants aged 0-12 months and toddlers aged 12-36 months.

In this 90-minute briefing session, you will hear about:

- The background and theoretical underpinnings of My Place to Play Baby and Toddler programmes.
- The benefits of the My Place to Play resources for infants, toddlers and their families.
- Tips and hints on how to engage families in the use of the resource.
- Question and answer session.

Dates and times are as follows:

Month	Date	Time	Link
November	**Monday 9th**	**2pm**	Meeting Registration - Zoom
November	**Tuesday 17th**	**10.30am**	Meeting Registration - Zoom
December	**Wednesday 2nd**	**10.30am**	Meeting Registration - Zoom

After you attend one briefing session, you can request packs for families when packs are available.

If you have any questions about the My Place to Play project, please do not hesitate to contact ELI Programmes directly at: eli@ncirl.ie

▶Invitation to attend HSE-funded Youth Mental Health First Aid training, November 2026 | YMHFA for Youth Workers, SNAs and School Education Staff

Mindshift Ireland (previously Mental Health First Aid Ireland) is delighted to announce two Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) courses taking place in November 2026; both online and in-person training options are available. There is no cost to attend either course as training fees are fully funded through our partnership with the HSE.

HSE-funded YMHFA training (online via Zoom)

📖 Youth Mental Health First Aid for Youth Workers, SNAs and School Education Staff
🗓️ Thursday 05 and Friday 06 November 2026
🕗 09.00-16.00 each day
💻 Delivered via Zoom
💳 No cost to attend – fully funded by the HSE (the value of each place is €350.00)
👉 Secure your place here: https://training.mhfaireland.ie/courses/3-youth-mental-health-first-aid-online?e=4d22351b84b946de85fa2a8067018c1b

HSE-funded YMHFA training (in-person training in Dublin)
📖 Youth Mental Health First Aid for Youth Workers, SNAs and School Education Staff
🗓️ Friday 20 and Saturday 21 November 2026
🕗 09.30-16.30 each day
📍 St John of God University Hospital (Assembly Hall), Stillorgan Road, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin. A94 XV12.
💳 No cost to attend – fully funded by the HSE (the value of each place is €350.00)
👉 Secure your place here: https://training.mhfaireland.ie/courses/10-youth-mental-health-first-aid-inperson?e=4de6e2f3e5884e5e8e0e987b7c6e8eb4

The YMHFA course is designed for adults who live with, work with or support young people and young adults. This course teaches participants how to assist a young person who may be experiencing a mental health problem or mental health crisis until appropriate professional help is received or the crisis resolves, using a practical, evidence-based action plan. YMHFA training is particularly suited to parents/guardians,

school staff, sports coaches, community group leaders, volunteers and youth workers etc.

We encourage you to share this information widely with those in your network who would benefit from this in-demand training.
Important:

- YMHFA training is not a therapy/support group and is not suitable for anyone under the age of 18 to attend.
- If you have experienced a recent crisis or bereavement linked to mental health, we recommend that you wait 12-18 months before attending YMHFA training.



Parent Peer Support Fund 2026/2027

An Roinn Leanaí, Míchumais agus Comhionannais
Department of Children, Disability and Equality

What is the Parent Peer Support Fund?

Parent peer support is when parents support each other by sharing knowledge. This can help to reduce feelings of isolation and provides encouragement to navigate challenges and achieve well-being.

The 2026/2027 Parent Peer Support Fund is now open for applications. Grants of up to €5,000 can be provided to organisations working with parents and/or carers to support them to develop parent peer support initiatives.

This includes peer support for parents who share similar life experiences, such as raising a child with complex needs or a mental health condition.

The closing date for applications is Monday 2 November 2026.

The Fund Guidelines, Terms and Conditions, and application forms can be found below.

Guidelines and Terms & Conditions

Guidelines and Terms & Conditions: Parent Peer Support Fund 2026/2027

Application Forms

Application Form (€5,000): Parent Peer Support Fund 2026/2027

Application Form (€2,500): Parent Peer Support Fund 2026/2027



LITERACY

► New Shared Reading Group in Wexford Town Library

The Shared Reading Group is delivered in English and is intended for adults who can comfortably participate in conversations and activities in English. It may be particularly suitable for adults who would like to improve their reading or who haven't ever read regularly.

It is designed for adults who would like to build their reading confidence in a relaxed, friendly and supportive environment. Participants can enjoy stories and conversation, read at their own pace and connect with other in a welcoming setting.



Please contact Wexford Library to express your interest

Phone: 053 919 6760

Email: wexfordlibrary@wexfordcoco.ie

Starting: Thursday, 19 November 2026 - 6 pm to 7 pm, fortnightly

International Family Literacy Conference

Adult Literacy for Life's International Family Literacy Conference is open for registrations.

Don't miss it. Register using the link below, and please share with your networks!

[International Family Literacy Conference Tickets, Thursday, November 19 • 9:30 AM - 4 PM | Eventbrite]

Overview

Bringing national and international voices together to share research, practice and fresh ideas for the future of family literacy.

The International Family Literacy Conference brings together practitioners, researchers and partners to explore how we can better support parents to support their children's learning.

It focuses on practical approaches that build parents' confidence and recognises the important role families play in children's language, literacy and learning.

Through shared learning, research, examples of practice and collaboration, the conference supports practitioners to develop approaches that respond to families' needs. It also highlights how strong partnerships across education, public services and communities can extend the reach and impact of family literacy, supporting better outcomes for parents, children and families across Ireland.





Four free NALA webinars

Four free NALA webinars - Tuesday, 3 November to Friday, 6 November 2026

NALA is putting on four free webinars for tutors during the first week in November. The webinars will focus on voter education, teaching reading, AI for the classroom and ESOL.

1. **Voter Education: Getting the conversation started**.
   Tuesday, 3 Nov - 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm

2. **The foundations of teaching reading: Strategies and resources**.
   Wed 4 Nov - 12.00 to 1.00

3. **Bringing social and emotional learning to life in the ESOL classroom**.
   Thurs 5 Nov - 11.00 to 12.00:

4. **Power up participation: Hands-on AI for all**.
   Fri 6 Nov - 12.00 to 1.00:

For more details on each webinar, see the **NALA website**.

▶Wexford Town Library Events

Comhairle Contae Loch Garman
Wexford County Council

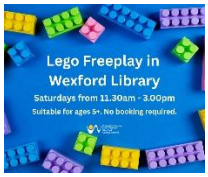
Regular Events



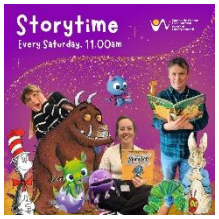
Baby Tummy Time - Fridays 13th and 27th November, 11 - 11.45am
Join us for a Baby Tummy Time session in Wexford Library.
According to the HSE, Tummy time helps to strengthen baby's head, neck, and back muscles. Your baby can begin tummy time as a newborn and continue to do it throughout their first year.
We will provide books for babies and there will also be books on parenting available to borrow. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and babies.
Book Here for November 13th: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4606846
Book Here for November 27th: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4606847



Rhyme Time, every Wednesday, 11.00am-11:30am. Suitable for children aged 0–3
These fun, free and interactive Rhyme Time sessions are perfect for babies and toddlers. Children should be supervised at all times when visiting Wexford Library. **No booking required.**



Lego Free Play, every Saturday from 11am-3.00pm. Suitable for children aged 5+
LEGO Freeplay tables available in Wexford Library on our Children's floor area from 11.30am to 3pm. LEGO will be made available for children and families to build their very own designs. Get Creative! This session is suitable for ages 5yrs +.
No Booking Required. Please note that children must be supervised at all times.



Storytime, every Saturday - 11.00am-11.30am

Join us in Wexford Library every Saturday at 11.00am for lots of Storytime fun! Suitable for 4 - 7 year olds. **No booking required.**



Tabletop RPG: Dungeons & Dragons (ages 13-17) - Tuesday 10th November, 6.30 - 8.30pm

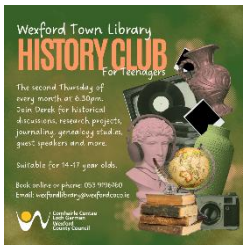
Are you ready to embark on an epic adventure? 🎲🐉 Well then, join us at Wexford Library for tabletop role-playing gaming and unleash your imagination!

Don't worry if you're new to the game. Our library is the perfect place to start your journey. Our sessions are run by seasoned players and they are eager to guide you through the exciting process of character creation and rule mechanics. They'll make sure you're equipped with everything you need to start your heroic escapades!

These sessions will help you meet fellow adventurers, learn advanced strategies, and uncover tips and tricks from seasoned players. It's a fantastic opportunity to make new friends and become a master of the game!

So, gather your friends, roll the dice, and embark on an extraordinary adventure at the Wexford Town Library. The world of tabletop RPGs awaits you! 🌟🎲🎉

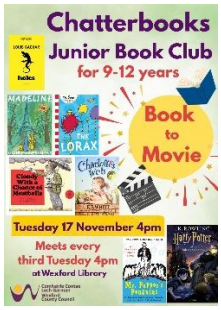
Book Here: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4605731



History Club for Teens (ages 14-17) - Thursday 12th November, 6.30 - 7.30pm

Join Derek on the second Thursday of every month at 6.30pm for historical discussions, research projects, journaling, genealogy studies, guest speakers and more. The club is suitable for 14-17 year olds.

Book Here: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4497293



Chatterbooks Book Club (ages 9-12) - Tuesday 17th November, 4 - 5pm

Come along and enjoy a chat about all things books - we'll even do some arts and crafts too! Our theme for November is Book to Movie

Book Here: https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/libraries/whats-on-in-my-library



Teen Comic Club (ages 13-15) - Thursday 26th November, 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Join us in Wexford library on the last Thursday of the month for our teen comic book club, where stories come off the page! Each month we'll dive into a new graphic novel - from superhero sagas and fantasy adventures to slice of life tales and manga masterpieces!

Book Here: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4622730

Science Week Events



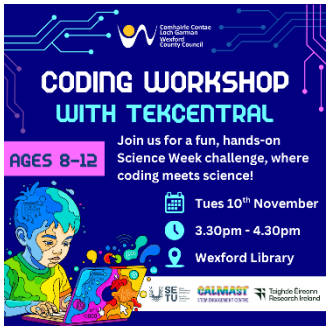
Science Week: Dr Ken Science Show (all ages) - Saturday 14th November - 10.30am - 11.30am and 12.30pm - 1.30pm

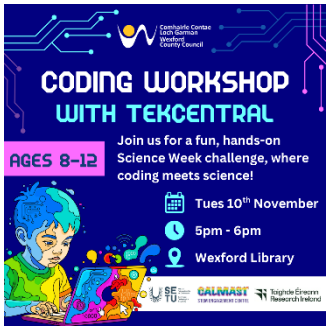
Element X: Ancient Ideas, Modern Science, Explosive Results.

A high-energy journey through the four classical elements. From spectacular water demonstrations to fiery reactions and surprising challenges, audiences discover how ancient ideas inspired scientific curiosity.

Book Here for 10.30am: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4613913

Book Here for 12.30pm: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4613914





Science Week: Coding Workshop with Tekcentral (ages 8-12) - Tuesday 10th November, 3.30pm - 4.30pm and 5pm - 6pm

TEKCENTRAL'S SCRATCH SPECTACULAR!

Get ready to take a tiny water molecule on a HUGE adventure!

This Science Week, children aged 8–12 will become both coders and scientists as they use Scratch to create their very own animated journey through the water cycle.

From splashing around in the ocean , to soaring into the sky as water vapour, falling back to Earth as rain and starting the journey all over again - the children will bring the amazing journey of a water molecule to life through coding, animation and creativity.

Code it. Animate it. Explore it.

A fun, hands-on Science Week challenge where coding meets science!

Book Here for 3.30pm: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4611503

Book Here for 5pm: https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4612338



▶ Bunclody Library Events



Halloween Kids' Movies & Spooky Treats – Saturday 31st October, 2.00 to 4.00pm

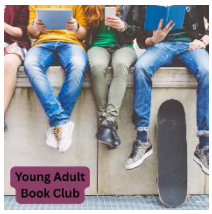
To celebrate Halloween, we will be playing some spooky family-friendly movies from 2.00 to 4.00pm. Pop in with your Halloween costume and get a few little treats and watch a movie while you are here! Happy Halloween everyone!



Rhymetime for ages 0 to 5 years - every Wednesday at 11.15am
Join us for Rhymetime every Wednesday when will have lots of fun nursery rhymes and stories suitable for babies and toddlers followed by a Duplo play session. **No booking required.**



Baby Playtime for ages 0 to 2 years – Friday 6th November, 11.00am to 12.00pm
Join us for our baby sensory playtime morning. We will provide lots of fun sensory toys and story sacks. Come along and meet other parents and babies in a comfy environment! No need to book - all welcome!



Young Adult Book Club for ages 13+ - Friday 6th November, 4.15 to 4.45pm
Join us for this month's YA book club! New members are always welcome.



Saturday Storytime for ages 3 to 7 years - Saturday 10th October, 11.00 to 11.40am
Join us every Saturday morning at 11.00am for stories perfect for ages 3 to 7 years. No need to book - all welcome!



Lego Free Play for ages 4+ - Saturday 7th November, 2.00 to 3.30pm
Join us for Lego Free Play perfect for ages 4+, we have Duplo and Lego to let the children's creativity shine! No need to book. All welcome.



Sensory Friendly Hour. **Every Saturday from 4.00 to 5.00pm.**
Sensory friendly hour is observed in Bunclody Library. We encourage you to come along and relax in the calm environment of the library. **No booking required.** All welcome!

Sensory Basket
A sensory basket containing various sensory toys/books available for children to use while visiting the library. Just ask at the desk.



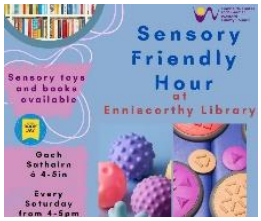
▶Enniscorthy Library Events



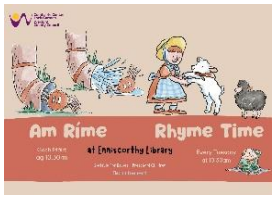
Interactive Story Time at Enniscorthy Library
Join us in Enniscorthy Library every Saturday at 11am for our Interactive Story Time! Perfect for 3-5 years old but fun for everyone!
All welcome and no booking required.



LEGO Free Play at Enniscorthy Library - every Saturday 11.30am-5pm.
Enniscorthy Library invites you and your family to join us for a session of LEGO Free Play, LEGO will be made available for children and families to build their very own designs. This session is suitable for ages 5+.
Please note we're closed for lunch from 1pm-2pm.
No Booking Required



Sensory Friendly Hour at Enniscorthy Library - Every Saturday from 4-5pm
Sensory Friendly Hour will be observed in Enniscorthy Library.
We encourage you to come along and relax in the calm environment of the library. **No booking required**. **All welcome!**



Baby and Toddler Rhyme Time at Enniscorthy Library - every Tuesday at 10.30am
Join us in Enniscorthy Library for songs, stories and rhymes!
Perfect for up to 3 years old but fun for everyone!
Through rhymes children naturally learn essential skills for communicating such as turn-taking and joining in.
All welcome and no booking required.



▶ Gorey Library Events

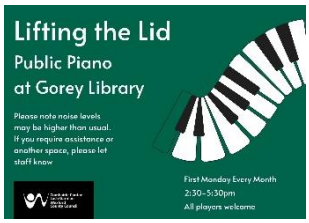
October Events at Gorey Library

Children's One-Off Events for October:

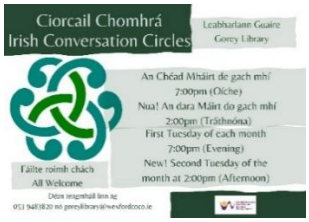


Trick or Treat with Spooky Storytime:
Saturday October 31st at 2:00pm
Storytime at 3pm

Regular Adult Events



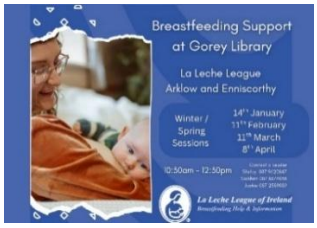
Lifting the Lid Public Piano: First Monday of the Month at 2:30pm



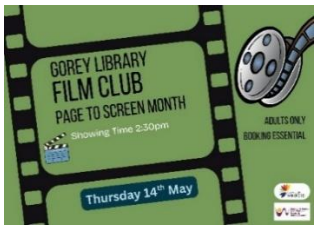
Ciorcal Comhrá: First Tuesday of the Month at 7:00pm
AND NEW: Second Tuesday of the Month at 2:00pm



Happy to Chat Coffee Morning: Second Monday of the Month at 11:00am



La Leche League Breastfeeding Support: Second Wednesday of the Month at 10:30am



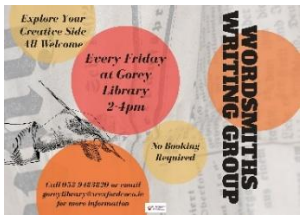
Gorey Library Film Club: Second Thursday of the Month at 2:30pm



Scrabble Club: Every Tuesday at 7:00pm



Knitting Circle: Every Friday at 11:00am

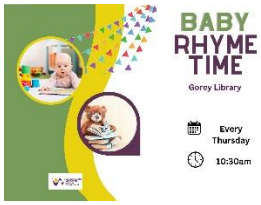


Wordsmiths Writing Group: Every Friday at 2:00pm

Regular Children's Events:



Children's Storytime: Every Tuesday at 11:00am
Age: 3-5



Baby Rhyme Time: Every Thursday at 10:30am
Age: 0-3

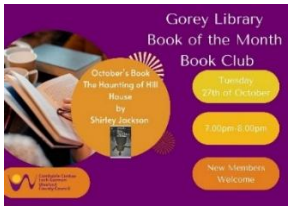


LEGO Freeplay: Every Saturday at 10:30am

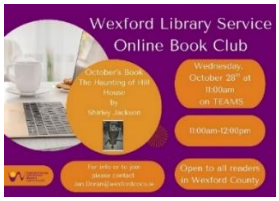


Sensory Hour: Every Saturday at 4:00pm

Adult Book Clubs and Reading Circles:

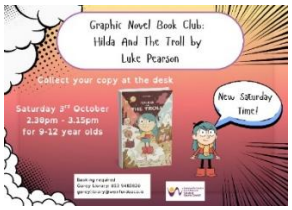


Book of the Month Book Club:
Last Tuesday of the Month at 7:00pm

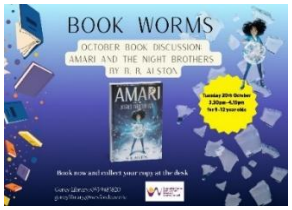


Wexford Library Service Online Book Club:
Last Wednesday of the Month at 11:00am

<u>Children's Book Clubs and Discussion Groups:</u>



Graphic Novel Book Discussion: NEW DAY! First Saturday of the Month at
Age: 9-12



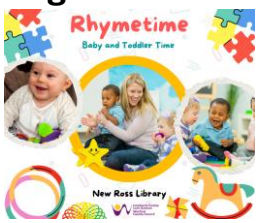
Book Worm Book Circle:
Last Tuesday of the Month at 4:00pm
Age: 9-12



YA Unreal Book Club:
Third Thursday of the Month at 4:30pm
Age:12-15

▶ New Ross Library Events

Regular Events



Rhyme Time at New Ross Library, Thursday at 11.00am - 11.30am.
Join us for Rhyme Time in New Ross Library every Thursday morning. These fun, free and interactive sessions are perfect for babies and toddlers.
Suitable for children aged 0 - 4 years.
Please note that children must be supervised at all times.
No booking required.



Sensory Hour at New Ross Library. Every Saturday from 4.00pm-5.00pm.
Sensory Friendly Hour will be observed in New Ross Library.
We encourage you to come along and relax in the calm environment of the library.
No booking required.



Epic Reads Junior Book Club. Saturday 31 October 10.30am-11.30pm.
We are inviting you to join our Epic Reading Adventure this year.
We have selected 60 classic and favourite books for our Epic Reading List that we believe every child should read before leaving primary school.
We would love to hear what our young readers think of the books we have chosen.
Before our club meets in on October 31, why not drop in and borrow a book of your choice! Suitable for ages 9 to 12 years.
Booking is essential. Book online or phone 053 919 6722 -
https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4615053