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Dear Parents and Carers

Book Festival 2026: Year 7 Author Event Tuesday 10 March

On Tuesday 10 March, we are planning an exciting event for year 7 students. M. G. Leonard, author of *The Time Keys*, *Adventures on Trains*, *The Twitchers* and *The Battle of the Beetles* series has agreed to visit the school to talk to the students about her books.

M. G. Leonard is the bestselling writer of children's books such as *Twitch (The Twitchers)*, *The Highland Falcon Thief (Adventures on Trains)* and *The Hunt for the Golden Scarab (The Time Keys)*. They have won many awards, including the Sainsbury's Children's Book of the Year 2021, British Book Awards, Book of the year 2021 - Children's fiction, China's Children's Choice Book: Gold Medal 2018, the Branford Boase Award 2017, as well as being nominated three times for the Carnegie Medal and twice shortlisted for an Edgar.

She spent her early career in the music industry running Setanta Records, an independent record label, and managing bands, most notably The Divine Comedy. After leaving the music industry, she directed and performed on stage, before becoming a digital producer for Shakespeare's Globe, the Royal Opera House, the National Theatre and Harry Potter West End.

Afterwards there will be an opportunity for the students to buy a book and get it dedicated to them and signed by M.G. Leonard. A signed book can be a permanent reminder of a special experience and can reinforce the message about the importance of reading.

Books are also available by pre-ordering and paying in advance. Details of the titles that can be pre-ordered and how much they cost are given below. We advise you to use the [MCAS Parent Portal](#) to pre-order and pay for your books in advance to avoid disappointment. **Books can be pre-ordered and paid for from Friday 23 January. The deadline for pre-orders is Thursday 5 February.** Pre-ordered books will be available on the day of the author talk so your child can get them signed by

the author. Alternatively, if your child would like to purchase a book after the event, please make sure they bring cash in on the day. Of course, if your child already owns any of M.G. Leonard's books they can bring those in and she will be happy to sign them.

Books by M.G.Leonard available for pre-order and payment via the MCAS Parent Portal	Cost
The Hunt for the Golden Scarab (The Time Keys book 1)	£7.00
The Legend of Viking Thunder (The Time Keys book 2)	£7.00
The Impossible Gladiator (NEW – The Time Keys book 3)	£7.00
Twitch (The Twitchers book 1)	£7.00
The Highland Falcon Thief (Adventures on Trains book 1)	£7.00

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Kesteven
School Librarian