



SCHOOL EVENTS GUIDE 2021

“I just wanted to say a huge thank you for coming to St John’s last week. You were an absolute highlight of the week with both the children and the staff. Our pupils have all been so inspired by your talk and learning about the real magic that stories hold. It was the perfect opening presentation for a wonderful day.”

St John’s College School, Cambridge (March 2020)



rontaler
pr • events

+44 (0)7733 210937
victoria@rontalerevents.co.uk
@RontalerEvents
www.rontalerevents.co.uk

Hello,

Thank you for your interest in having me visit your school, either in person or virtually! Any chance to speak to children about reading and writing is a privilege, and one I do not take lightly.

The health and well-being of students and staff are my priority during the Covid-19 pandemic. While schools are shut and national travel restrictions are in place, I am happy to offer a range of online visits, tailored to suit your needs, which can be live or pre-recorded and shared.

I am happy to move existing bookings online or reschedule for a later date.

The following pages give details of the type of event(s) I do, format, requirements and what we need to know from you when hosting an online visit.

Please give this document a read before getting in touch about dates. We're very happy to make suggestions and answer any questions you may have so don't hesitate to drop my events manager, Victoria Rontaler, an email.

Yours,

CONTACT

For all event queries, please contact Victoria Rontaler of Rontaler PR & Events:

victoria@rontalerevents.co.uk

07733 210937

THE EVENT

What does a Piers Torday online event involve?

During the pandemic, Piers is happy to offer an online event (or an in person visit when restrictions are lifted). These can also be pre-recorded. Piers usually does 1-2 sessions per day if visiting in person.

Piers gives a highly illustrated, animated and interactive virtual presentation exploring the values of sharing stories, and childhood reading and writing for a primary school age audience. He will explain how he became an author, and what inspired him. He will also talk about how he learned to write books through *The Last Wild*, tell the very personal story which led to *There May Be A Castle*, and explain why he wrote the books in his latest series, *The Lost Magician* and *The Frozen Sea*.

The talk is for ages 7 – 12, and lasts about 45 minutes, after which Piers will be happy to take questions, before signing books. The live, in-person talk is best suited to large groups, as social distancing allows.

For virtual visits, the talk is for groups of any size and can be broadcast into multiple classrooms to suit the school's social distancing measures or remote learning infrastructure. We also offer pre-recorded sessions, to allow screenings for individual classes within the school's timetable.

Piers also offers a 30-minute virtual Q&A session.

Book sales are still encouraged through a local bookseller or our bookshop partner and signed bookplates will be provided for any books sold.

When is Piers available?

Piers does 1-2 school visits each week and tends to get booked up about 4-6 months in advance (more quickly around busy periods such as World Book Day and around publications of his new books). When requesting a visit, it is advisable to give an indication of preferred dates but be prepared to be flexible, so we can do our best to accommodate you.

For reference, here are Piers' publication dates for 2021:

The Wild Before hardback – September 9th, 2021

(Talks/visits on this book available from mid-Summer term onwards)

How much will a virtual visit cost?

30 minute Q&A session - £125

60 minute session (full talk and Q&A) - £250

REQUIREMENTS

Technical

For virtual visits, we use Zoom and will require you to have a good quality PA system/speakers and stable and reliable internet connection. However, if you/your school have alternative, preferred platform, we would be happy to consider using that if it suits the requirements of the session.

If the facilities required are not available, please discuss with us at least 30 days ahead of time so we can discuss an alternative.

Book Sales

Book sales are a key element of author visits, be that in person or online. So, for Piers' virtual visits, having books on sale is still encouraged and can be arranged through a local bookseller of your choice, or we can arrange discounted copies via our preferred supplier on a sale or return basis.

Piers will host a virtual book signing after his session where anyone who would like to have their book(s) signed can submit their name and we will supply signed bookplates in the days following the visit.

Above all else, Piers writes his stories for them to be read so, when visiting schools, he is keen that the children have the opportunity to buy copies of his books, and have them signed, if they wish.

HOW TO REQUEST A VISIT

Anyone wishing to invite Piers Torday to visit their school or library, in person or virtually, should begin by sending a pitch by e-mail to his events manager, [Victoria Rontaler](#).

Please read the following guidelines before sending your pitch:

1. Have a read of this document. If you have any questions drop Victoria Rontaler an e-mail.

2. Send us a rough outline of your proposed event including as many of the following details as reasonably possible:
 - a. **The event location and name of school(s) or library service organising the event.**
 - b. **The kind of online session you would like (Q&A, full talk and Q&A, workshop, live or pre-recorded).**
 - c. **A short explanation of why you would like Piers to visit (eg “We are studying his books”, “Recommended by another school”).**
 - d. **Type of pupils you’d like Piers to see (age, ability range, etc.).**
 - e. **Number of pupils in each session.**
 - f. **Venue details – which online platform you use and tech facilities (speakers, screen availability, multi-room casting, etc).**
 - g. **Number and length of sessions.**
 - h. **An indication of preferred dates/time frame.**
 - i. **Contact name and details. The URL of your school/library website is also useful.**

3. We will confirm that your pitch has been received and, if we’re able to take it forward, request any additional information and begin the booking process.

TESTIMONIALS

From Newcastle to Hawaii, all educational sectors, school to library to shop:

“That was Brilliant!!! Walhampton pupils are huge fans and were delighted to see Piers and have their questions answered...they were so interested that they were quiet for the whole interview!”

Walhampton School, Online Q&A (March 2020)

“Huge thanks to Piers for such a wonderful talk today at Ashlyns School. The talk was absolutely spell-binding and I've already received lovely feedback from the teachers from the session.”

Ashlyns School, Berkhamsted (Oct 2019)

“Please can you pass on our sincere thanks to Piers for his time this afternoon. He was fab! The children were totally engrossed for his full presentation...It was over too soon!”

Round House Primary Academy, St Neots (Sept 2019)

“Piers’ enthusiasm and conviction was infectious, and I suspect we all left with a reinforced belief in the importance of creativity as part of our education.”

All Hallows School, Somerset (May 2019)

“The talk was wonderfully inspirational, and the children were enthralled and hugely entertained by Piers. Enormous thanks to him for his time, we are extremely grateful.”

Garden House School, London (May 2019)

“A really super day with Piers yesterday. His talks were interactive, stimulating and very thought provoking. He really engaged all the children and kept their attention right to the end.”

James Allen Girls Prep School

“Your presentation was superb –you had great interaction with the children, and it was so good that you accepted all their answers so graciously. I know staff and children alike had a great time.”

Hertfordshire Libraries

“AMAZING!!! They loved listening to your stories and are very inspired.”

Punahou Middle School, Honolulu, Hawaii

“A huge thank you for a truly outstanding and inspiring session yesterday. It was absolutely superb, and the teachers thought it was engaging, highly informative and useful.”

Guardian Education Centre

“Wow! What an afternoon! The children [& staff!] sat spellbound and enthralled by Piers' presentation. It was a truly magical afternoon, very much appreciated.”

Alleyn Court Prep School, Southend on Sea