



SCHOOL EVENTS GUIDE 2019-2020

“A great author to work with. His presentation is extremely entertaining and combined with his enthusiasm for writing and stories, he inspires his audience.”

Cogito Books, Hexham



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! Any chance to speak to children about reading and writing is a privilege, and one I do not take lightly.

The following pages give details of the type of event(s) I do, format, requirements and what we need to know from you when inviting me to your school.

Please give this document a read. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vic Rontaler'.

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 event involve?

Piers usually does one session per day.

Piers gives a highly illustrated, animated and interactive TED style 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 Lost Magician*.

The talk is for groups of 100 and up, from ages 7 – 12.

The talk lasts about an hour, after which Piers will be happy to take questions, before signing books.

Piers is happy to speak to girls, boys or mixed audiences.

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 2019:

The Lost Magician paperback – 7th March 2019

The Frozen Sea (*The Lost Magician 2*) hardback – 5th September 2019

How much will a visit cost?

Piers charges a half day (1 session plus signing) rate plus expenses (travel, subsistence and accommodation, where applicable). Rates are available on request.

Piers is based in North London and travels to events by public transport. If the school is more than 10-15 min walk, we would expect transportation to and from the nearest mainline station to be supplied (or the cost of a taxi covered).

REQUIREMENTS

Technical

All talks are accompanied by presentations designed on Keynote for Apple Mac, to take advantage of their superior graphics and processing power. They are not transferrable to USB and do not play on Windows or Windows PCs. Piers always travels with his own MacBook Air Laptop, which is PAT tested every year by a qualified electrician, and all the relevant cables and adapters.

As time is often tight, we would be grateful if the computer (if it is not a Mac) in the hall/classroom etc. is disconnected in advance from the projector, and it is established in advance with your IT department how best to connect a laptop – this is normally via VGA or sometimes HDMI. This is particularly important if the connection is permanently wired or built in and cannot easily be swapped.

All presentations contain some music, video or sound effects, so will also require connection to a PA system or speakers.

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

A sale of all Piers currently available titles either during, before or immediately after his visit must be agreed a minimum of two weeks prior to the visit. This 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. 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. Sales are compulsory, purchase is not! If for any reason, the school has a policy of no book sales, a £50 premium will be payable in addition to Piers' fee.

Please note, Piers does not stock copies of his own books, so these must always be arranged through a bookseller or wholesaler.

HOW TO REQUEST A VISIT

Anyone wishing to invite Piers Torday to visit their school or library must 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:
 1. **The event location and name of school(s) or library service organising the event.**
 2. **A short explanation of why you would like Piers to visit (eg “We are studying his books”, “Recommended by another school”).**
 3. **The nearest station and how long it will take to get from there to the event.**
 4. **Type of school/library (public, private, boys, girls etc.).**
 5. **Type of pupils you’d like Piers to see (age, ability range, etc.).**
 6. **Number of pupils in each session.**
 7. **Venue details – capacity, seating type, microphone/tech facilities etc.**
 8. **Number and length of sessions.**
 9. **An indication of preferred dates/time frame.**
 10. **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:

"I honestly think the best author school talk I have ever seen"

Newcastle School for Boys Juniors

"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 lovely guy to work with and great at school events"

Dulwich Books

"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

"We would like to thank you for such an interesting and thought-provoking presentation today. Our students (and staff) had a great time! The talk was perfectly pitched to our year 7 and 8s and the accompanying animations, sounds and pictures potently illustrated your observations and ideas."

"Thank you Piers Torday for an incredibly interesting talk. I really enjoyed it" Ben, Year 8

Alexandra Park School (2018)

"We would like to express our gratitude for your visit. Both children and teachers thoroughly enjoyed your fun and inspirational talk. And now all your books in the library are constantly on loan! It was a pleasure to meet you."

St. Joseph's Highgate

"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

"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)