

KIRSTIN MCNEIL - AUTHOR

Information for Schools, Libraries & Bookstores

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Meet Kirstin. Scottish writer, publisher and a mum of two. Kirstin is passionate about the benefits of early reading and writes rhyming inclusive picture books.

Driven by a passion for inclusivity in stories, Kirstin has been dazzling readers at Barnes Children's Literature Festival and Waterstones stores.

With more than a thousand copies of her books flying off the shelves nationwide, it's evident that Kirstin's stories are a hit with young readers. She's undoubtedly a trailblazer in the world of children's literature!

"Kirstin's books are joyful, inclusive and so very sweet and charming"

Simon James Green - award winning children's author

My Brother is a Werewolf - Kirstin's latest book

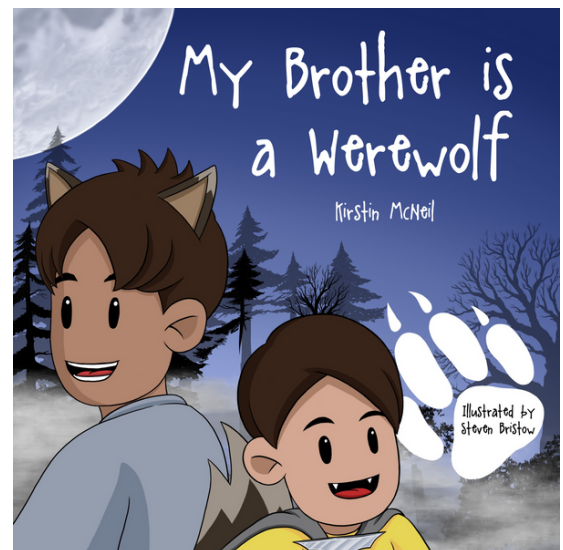
My Brother is a Werewolf

Ages 3-6, EYFS

Brothers can be difficult, especially if yours is a werewolf! His super strength helps him win every game, he can hear the smallest sound during hide and seek and he howls - a lot!

But these brothers know that despite their differences, they'll be there for each other.

Children will love this fun and colourful rhyming story of brotherly connection, brought to you by the creators of My Brother is a Vampire.



"A wonderful book about sibling connection"



OTHER BOOKS BY KIRSTIN

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My Brother is a Vampire

Ages 3-6, EYFS

Get ready for a fang-tastic tale that will have you howling with laughter! This playful story puts a fun spin on the similarities between little vampires and toddlers. With catchy rhymes and an original song, siblings will be giggling and guessing whether they have some vampire blood too!

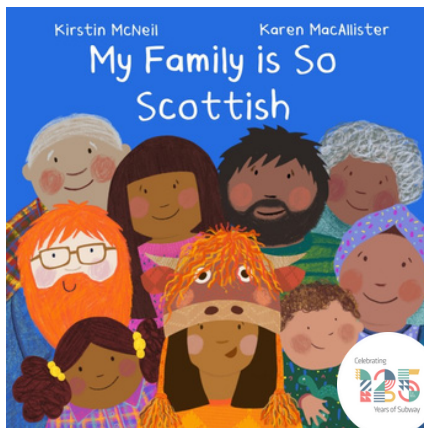
Teachers can't get enough of this book! They rave about the charming illustrations that captivate little ones and the repeat sections that keep them engaged. It's no wonder this book has become a beloved classic in school libraries everywhere!

Key Themes: Siblings, Make-believe, Halloween, Family, Rhyming & repetition, expressing emotions



The perfect bedtime story for early readers

Key Themes: Families, culture, traditions, siblings, LGBTQ+ pride



A fresh and exciting picture book celebrating Scottish culture

My Family is So Scottish

Ages 5-7, KS1

Jam-packed with over 40 nods to Scottish customs, this book paints a vibrant picture of a Scottish family that everyone can relate to.

Teachers rave about how this tale sparks a joyous appreciation for culture and identity, with kids eager to chat about their own family pride.

So, it's no wonder that this book has been shortlisted for the Selfies 2023 awards and is the official celebratory book for the 125th anniversary of Glasgow Subway. Get your tartan on and let's explore the magic of Scotland!

Daddy's Scared of Beasties

Ages 3-7, EYFS & KS1

Daddy's Scared of Beasties is an entertaining story about a dad's fear of minibeasties (beasties) and his children who love them. Celebrating diversity across families and in nature, this story features an LGBTQI+ mixed-race family and plenty of (not very scary) minibeasties.

The Bookseller: "Breaking stereotypes through a hilarious tale of mini-beasties versus daddy and full of colourful illustrations, this story shows that it's OK for grown-ups to be scared"

Key Themes: Mini beasties, family, LGBTQ+



Great for insect lovers



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@Kirstin_Writes



Kirstin McNeil Author



Kirstin McNeil

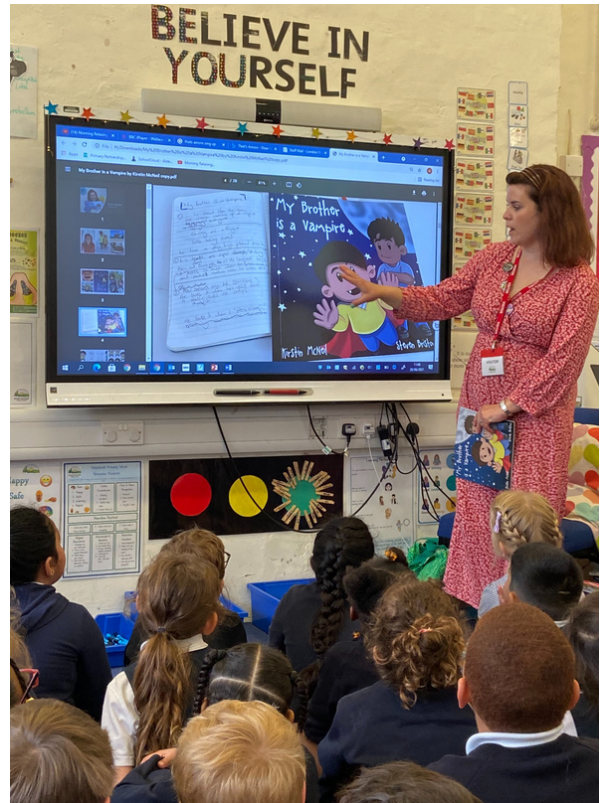
AUTHOR VISITS

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Sharing stories with the next generation is such a joy

An author visit from Kirstin includes:

- Introduction to who Kirstin is and how she became an author
- Engaging and interactive read-through of the book, including a pdf version to project on a screen
- My Brother is a Vampire comes with a song which Kirstin plays on her ukulele
- Age-appropriate discussion about the book with the children after the read-through
- Time to answer questions
- A free sticker for every child
- Free activity and colouring pdf for teachers to print out and share with the class
- A discount for parents on Kirstin's books



"We absolutely loved our visit from Kirstin, her engaging and charismatic personality made the children hooked before she had even turned the first page of her wonderful book. The children were immersed by her story telling skills and used the storyline in their play for the rest of the week!"



AUTHOR VISIT OPTIONS

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EYFS: Enjoying Reading

- Kirstin usually starts the session with a sing-a-long using her ukulele while the children settle.
- She engages with the children by asking them about what an author and illustrator is, and talks about how her love of reading as a child has led her to writing stories
- Kirstin introduces the story with some information about how she got the idea for her book

EYFS sessions are super flexible, so Kirstin can allow for last -minute changes, adaptations etc on the day

Time: approx. 20-30 min

KS1 / KS2: Telling Stories

- Kirstin engages with the children straight away, utilising her singing / ukulele playing
- She introduces herself and talks through the process of creating a story, sharing her initial drafts to show that mistakes are made, and that it takes time and collaboration to create a finished story
- Kirstin introduces the concept behind some of her stories, weaving in any relevant theme such as family, sibling relationships, mini-beasts, identity - depending on the agreed focus.
- There is enough time to read 2-3 of her stories
- Ending with a Q&A and a sing-a-long

Time: approx. 40 min

KS1 / KS2: Rhyming Workshop

- Starting with a fun game where the children write down rhyming words prompted by Kirstin
- Kirstin introduces her stories with a focus on why she finds rhyming so much fun
- With a challenge to call out the rhyming words as she reads, Kirstin reads one of her books to class
- Children are then asked to describe their teacher with as many adjectives as they can think of
- In groups, or as a class, we create a new rhyming story about their class teacher using the adjectives and rhyming words, followed by another story, or a Q&A

Time: approx. 40-50 min



AUTHOR VISIT PRICE LIST

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Children who had an author visit to their school reported higher levels of reading enjoyment (68.2% vs 47.2%) and writing enjoyment (43.9% vs 32.4%) than their peers who didn't receive a visit

National
Literacy
Trust

Change your story

Class / Assembly

1 hour

£65

Virtual session

£30 per class

Half Day

up to 3 sessions

£150

£100 if 10+ books are
pre-purchased

Full Day

£250

£150 if 20+ books are
pre-purchased

Visits outside of London will need to incur reasonable travel costs



I understand the wider importance of author visits, so will do my best to fit a visit in to any budget. Please feel free to email me to discuss other options
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