



LSW Festival Feedback

'The LSW Festival was a really inspiring day - to see so many children of different kinds and personalities getting together because they enjoy creative writing. The workshops clearly help their confidence and their articulation as well as boosting their imaginations. They were a great crowd to talk to, and I look forward to seeing the work of some of these children on the bookshelves some time in the future.'

Steve Cole, bestselling children's author and LSW Festival Headliner

'Thank you so much for an incredibly well-organised and fun festival. I had a great time, and I felt totally inspired by all of the wonderful Little Star Writers I met. They're going to take the book world by storm one day! Little Star Writing is a dream to work with and an amazing organization to support. Get involved!'

Robin Stevens, 'Waterstones Children's Book of the Year 2015' author and LSW Festival Headliner

'Absolutely cracking day at LSWFest2015. Well done to all the winners. I had an absolute whale of a time!'

Guy Bass, bestselling children's author and LSW Festival Headliner

'Congrats! Had an absolutely fantastic time at LSWFest 2015!'

Rebecca Hill, Usborne Editor

'I really enjoyed the afternoon - loved the big light up letters on the stage. You must be feeling so proud of yourself. What an achievement!'

Alison Fox, Literacy Coordinator, Nelson Primary School

'What a fantastic occasion, well done!'

Mr Herdman, Junior Coordinator at Stanley Junior School

'@littlestarwrite well done today. The children (and parents) loved it. I might even start to learn the ukulele! I managed to see a bit of @LauraDockrill and all of @SteveColeBooks you were right about both - loved it!'

Literacy Coordinator, Mr Malone, Hampton Junior School

'I just wanted to say a HUGE congratulations for Saturday. What a fab event, there was such a wonderful buzz in the theatre, let alone when we were waiting outside! Both Laura and Steve were brilliant but what really took me back was watching the kids - the confidence in which they spoke with on stage, but really it was the children all around the theatre who's excitement at seeing you was just so heart-warming. You have created a little bit magic in what you do. Thank you on behalf of teachers for the love and passion you are helping to further instill in our children. Good luck and well done.'

Mrs Gillis, Literacy Coordinator, Kew Green Preparatory School

'Well done for Saturday! I really enjoyed it - it was a great event.'

Deputy Head Teacher, Mr Smith, Trafalgar Junior School





‘Thank you very much for organizing the LSW festival. Jadwiga went with her father but later that evening we had one hour of full story telling about the whole afternoon. It was magical for her to meet all three authors and find out about their journey how they become writers.’

Elzbieta G, Parent

‘Thank you for such a fabulous afternoon. George read all the way home. Two little boys (and mums) truly inspired.’

Sarah H, Parent

‘Antonio and his friend had a blast even I couldn't get my eyes off the authors' words of wisdom. You never disappoint us on everything you organise.’

Almudena F A, Parent

‘Thanks so much for a brilliant event yesterday - the children (and my husband) had a really great time. It's just so wonderful for the children to meet such inspirational authors and particularly powerful for them to hear their stories outside of the classroom setting. Thank you so much for making this happen.’

Charlotte B, Parent

‘Thank you for an amazing day, children (and adults) inspired by the authors. A fantastic and fun filled day,’

Jo R, Parent

‘Just wanted to say how much we enjoyed the festival, the writers were truly inspirational and Maddy took a lot from the day, so many thanks to you and the team for organising such a great event!’

Pippa P, Parent

‘Just a quick note to say how much we enjoyed the festival the other weekend. We have seen a few authors give talks but your group was definitely the best. Sometimes it has felt that the author is doing it only because the publisher wants them to and they can't wait for it to end! From each of your authors we were thoroughly entertained (such different presentation styles!) and learned so much too. Before going, I had read *Stitchhead* and *Dreamsnatcher* to Hana at bedtime so that we knew what to expect. She found the Robin Stevens one too tricky but after having listened to her speak, she has now asked me to read that to her too. During the interval, Hana bought the second *Stitchhead* book and started reading it immediately and all the way home! It was an inspiring event, thank you!’

Anita S, Parent

‘Isabelle loved the event on Saturday – she came home beaming about it!’

Karen B, Parent

‘Thanks so much for yesterday we had a brilliant time and Alex was absolutely thrilled to be a little star writer of the year.’

Jo W, Parent





'It was a great day yesterday. Really well organised and both Freddie and I were inspired to write. We discussed story ideas all the way home and he has made me promise to commit to paper a silly story I made up and used to tell him and his sisters at bed time! Already looking forward to next year!'

Josie K, Parent

'Thank you LSW - we thoroughly enjoyed Saturday, even though my daughter doesn't yet go to your workshops.'

Lorna P, Parent

'Also just to say we loved the festival, my husband said he enjoyed it more than some comedians we have paid to see. Charlie is even voluntarily reading (rare) and is racing through Steve Cole's Mummy book! Hooray!'

Cara C, Parent

'We all had a superb afternoon yesterday. Sophie is now desperate to start the LSW after school workshops in January!'

Jane C, Parent

'Thanks for a lovely day, LSW. Abi loved being a presenter and I had a tear or two in my eye when she got her award. I thought both Laura and Steve were great speakers and thoroughly entertaining.'

Caroline C, Parent

'Martha loved her afternoon. Thank you for inviting her to read at the LSW Festival :-)'

Claire L, Parent

Thanks for a great and inspiring day yesterday. You should be very proud of what you've achieved with Little Stars.

Jess W, Parent

'Thanks for organising Saturday's festival. We had a lovely time and laughed a lot.'

Amy N, Parent

'Such an inspiring afternoon, thank you so much!'

Heather E, Parent

'Just emailing to say we really enjoyed the Richmond theatre event! Daisy loved it!'

Adrian S, Parent

'Lauren and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at the LSW Festival :) Laura Dockrill signed Lauren's drawings in her notepad which was really sweet of her.'

Lisa P, Parent

'Congratulations on a FANTASTIC LSW event! Steve Cole and Laura Dockrill had us in stitches. Lurved your extra large LSW in lights and your balloon Q&A was inspired! We had a brilliant time. Thank you!'

Serena S, Parent

'Was a totally inspiring day and great to see the pleasure books and writing can bring to





young writers. Missed the chance to discuss enrolling in sept but daughter meeting idol @LauraDockrill = #priceless'

Edward O, Parent

'Huge thank you to LSW team for organising such a great festival. We had an amazing day!'

Rosy S, Parent

'You and your team pulled off an amazing event today - make no mistake about it! We absolutely loved the writers. I can see why Kyra is in awe of Laura Dockrill, such an amazing, inspiring woman - it was no surprise that her books sold out in break-neck speed. Alex nipped out to Waterstones to get 'Hi so much!' Had to be done! I was particularly impressed with how both of your special guests captivated and regaled the audience. We had the iPad fully charged and ready to hand to Aaron (aged 6) in case boredom set in. It didn't. Not at all. He was extremely entertained and wants every book Steve Cole has ever written. In terms of Kyra's award... You will never know how much that meant to her. She was totally awestruck. Spellbound. It was like you were saying in big, fancy letters "I believe in you". And when someone as kind, motivated and gifted as the LSW director can see what you are made of ... What more do you need? (Other than to keep going).'

Nora K, Parent

'BigL has been attending writing workshops after school with Little Star Writing for the last term and is loving it. Her confidence and enjoyment with her creative writing in increasing every week. She doesn't tell me much about it, and I don't ask too much - it's her thing you know. But how proud was she showing me her epic story all typed up and ready to submit for the 2014 Little Star Writing book? So even though she couldn't attend today's LSW festival because she's a rugby camp, she wanted me to go with MiddleS and LittleE to see what I could bring back. Set in leafy Richmond we were entertained by Laura Dockrill, an imaginative imaginarium of ideas, brimming with energy and advice for would-be writers. I so wish BigL had been there. She was honest and such a positive beacon for the youngsters telling them they can be guided in their writing, but not in their imaginations - which is theirs; and that they shouldn't worry about what people will think of them, that it's important to be different. And the most brilliant revelation that if you want to be a writer you may think that you need to know Stephen Fry, David Attenborough and know the whole back catalogue of Shakespeare but actually this isn't true! You know all I can say about her is - why wasn't there someone around like her when I was a young wannabe writer. And then super Steve Cole again, launching onto stage a la bad Spiderman, and dishing out stories, laughs, advice about writing: ever thought of using a poem to help you start writing. We loved his Stinky Alien song. And linking to his Astrosaurus series - experiment with squishing two words together to make brand new creatures or inventions or worlds. And also about writing other things apart from poems and stories - as a teacher that is a great piece of advice to use with children who really struggle with fiction. And it was all washed down with an imaginative Q&A sesh with questions tagged onto balloons! What a fab idea! No longer a newbie to literary festivals, we bought our books prior to the interval and pre-signing scramble. MiddleS swooped down on Aliens Stink and I bought





BigL the first Darcy Burdock book - and already know she's gonna be asking for the second book in a matter of days. We got the books signed and piccies were taken - all with friendly banter and patient smiles for the queue of young readers. Kudos to you both and marvellous work to lovely Mel from Little Star Writing who organised the whole event.

Mama Elsie Blog, Parent

<http://mamaelsie23.blogspot.co.uk/2014/06/paperback-writer.html>

