In response to the waves of refugees from Africa and the Middle East arriving in the Italian island of Lampedusa, iBbY (International Board on Books for Young People) launched the project ‘Silent Books, from the world to Lampedusa and back’ in 2012. The project involved creating the first library on Lampedusa to be used by local and immigrant children. The second part of the project required creating a collection of silent books (wordless picturebooks) that could be understood and enjoyed by children regardless of language. Over 100 titles from over 20 countries were collected from iBbY National Sections. One set of books was deposited in Rome, another delivered to the library in Lampedusa and a further set was part of a traveling exhibition which will be in dlr LexIcon from 2-29 May! See inside for events organized by dlr Libraries as part of this exhibition.
**LAUNCH OF THE SILENT BOOKS EXHIBITION WITH LAUREATE NA NÓG P.J. LYNCH**

**Monday 8 May from 11.00am–12.30pm**

dlr LexIcon, Children’s Library, Level 4

Organised by iBbY Ireland, this event will be attended by other Irish authors and illustrators and will include a short workshop and talk about the exhibition.

*Ages 3rd-5th class. Local schools.*

**Bookings** by phoning 280 1147 or email dlrlexiconlib@dlrcoco.ie

1 class per school. Max 3 schools.

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**NATION CREATION WORKSHOPS FOR SCHOOLS**

Silent Books Workshops with author Debbie Thomas and illustrator Tatyana Feeney.

**2 hour sessions from 10.30am–12.30pm:**

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dlr LexIcon, Level 5, Room 2

Participants will browse the exhibition and explore how Silent Books are accessible to all. Learning how and why the collection started on Lampedusa, they will appreciate that refugees have ‘lost’ their nation and how devastating this can be. The children will then invent a new nation – perhaps their ideal one – with the help of the illustrator. They will create laws, flags, language, food, sports, folk tales etc. using words and pictures, and bring it all together in their own patchwork island/nation.

*Ages 3rd-6th classes*

**Bookings** by phoning 280 1147 or email dlrlexiconlib@dlrcoco.ie

1 class per session (max 30 in group)

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**BABY BOOK CLUB SPECIAL**

**Wednesday 10 May, 10.00am**

Children’s Library, Level 4

Organised by library staff, this session features some books from The Silent Books Exhibition.

*Ages 0–3. All welcome.*

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**CEARDLANNA ‘SILENT BOOKS’ LE SADHBH DEVLIN**

Ag 10.00–11.30am agus 12.00–1.30pm

Dé Céadaoin 17 Bealtaine

Leibhéal 5, Seomra 2. Rang 1–3

Beidh Sadhbh Devlin ag caint le páistí mar gheall ar an taispeántas ‘Silent Books’ agus beidh na páistí ag tarraingt nithe éagsúla le chéile agus a scéalta féin a chruthú.

Áirithintí: 280 1147 agus dlrlexiconlib@dlrcoco.ie

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**AUTHOR VISIT WITH JANE MITCHELL**

Award-winning author of *A Dangerous Crossing*, based on the experiences of real Syrian families.

**Friday 26 May**

dlr LexIcon, Children’s Library, Level 4

2 x 1 hour long sessions from 10.00–11.00am and 11.30am–12.30pm

*Ages 5th-6th classes.*

**Bookings** by phoning 280 1147 or email dlrlexiconlib@dlrcoco.ie
SILENT BOOKS FAMILY DAY
Saturday 20 May

HELEN BARRY WORKSHOPS
FOR YOUNG FAMILIES.
Level 5 Room 4, 10.00am, 12.00pm & 2.30pm.
Max of 8 families per session. Parents remain
with young children. Workshops suitable for
ages 3-6 and are 75 minutes long.
Bookings by phoning 280 1147 or email
dlrlexiconlib@dlrcoco.ie.

EXHIBITION DROP IN TIME
WITH JENNY DUFFY
Level 5 Room 2 from 11.00am–1.00pm
and 2.00–3.00pm
Drop in sessions for families with picturebook
enthusiast and Gutter Bookshop staff
member Jenny Duffy. Browse the collection at
your leisure.
No booking necessary.

FAMILY DRAW-A-LONG
WITH MARIE-LOUISE FITZPATRICK
Studio Theatre at 2.30pm and 3.45pm
Join award-winning author/illustrator
Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick for a fun family event
based on her latest book Owl Bat Bat Owl.
Suitable for all ages, especially young families.
Adults get to draw too!
No booking necessary. First come, first served.

REGULAR FEATURES

ACTIVITY SHEET
Enjoy some fun activities with The Silent Books
Activity Sheet, created by author Debbie Thomas.

FEATURED SILENT BOOKS
Follow dlr Libraries on social media to see regular
features highlighting books from The Silent Books
Exhibition throughout the month of May.

SPRING INTO STORYTIME WITH LIBRARY STAFF
Children’s Library, Level 4
Tuesdays 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 May at 3.00pm
Featuring books from The Silent Books Exhibition.
Ages 3–6. All welcome.

VIDEO BLOGS
Listen to our Writer in Residence, Sarah Webb, dlr
LexIcon librarians and other special guests as they
chat about some of the picturebooks from The Silent
Books Exhibition.

VISITORS BOOK
Visit The Silent Books Exhibition and let us know
what part of Ireland or the world that you come
from. Tell us what book or books in the exhibition
meant something to you.

dlr LexIcon
Haigh Terrace,
Moran Park
Dún Laoghaire,
Co. Dublin
T 01 280 1147
E dlrlexiconlib@dlrcoco.ie
W libraries.dlrcoco.ie

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@dlr_libraries
### What Makes a Brilliant Picturebook and Do They Have to Rhyme?

**Chair:** Sarah Webb, *dlr Writer in Residence.*

The answer is no! Hear the case for rhythm and rhyme by poet Lucinda Jacobs who will also conduct a quick workshop on rhyme scheme, and the case for prose by Valerie Coghlan. They will also talk about their favourite picturebooks and why they work.

### Coffee Break

### What Comes First, the Words or the Pictures?

**Chair:** Sarah Webb

An introduction to the world of picturebooks with award-winning picturebook writers and illustrators Michael Emberley, Chris Judge, Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick and Mary Murphy. They will talk about the different stages of producing a picturebook and also the ups and downs of life as a full time writer/illustrator.

### Shhh! Silent Books

iBbY Ireland’s President, Jane O’Hanlon will introduce the iBbY Silent Books Collection and Exhibition. Jane will give a brief illustrated talk on the importance of wordless picturebooks.

### Conversations about Leaving, Loss and Lampedusa

Martin Doran and students from St. Laurence College, Loughlinstown present their Yellow Flag Project.

### Lunch

Plus a chance to look at the picturebooks from the Silent Books Exhibition.

### Is It Me You’re Looking For?

**Chair:** Aoife Murray, Children’s Books Ireland

Find out what publishers want from illustrators and writers with Walker Picturebook Publisher and Creative Director, Deirdre McDermott, Publisher at Futa Fata, Tadhg MacDhonnagáin and O’Brien Press Design Manager, Emma Byrne. Margaret Anne Suggs from Illustrators Ireland highlights the pros and cons of illustration agents v literary agents. Find out about fees, advances and royalties too.

### If I Could Tell You Just One Thing

Picturebook Boot Camp’s Adrienne Geoghegan shares the most common mistakes writers and illustrators make and gives her tips for writing and illustrating a great picturebook.