

**THURSDAY 25 JUNE**

## **GET MORPURGOED!**

### **BOOK FESTIVAL ANNOUNCE THE CHANCE TO WIN A DAY WITH MICHAEL MORPURGO**

The Edinburgh International Book Festival today announced details of an exciting competition for 7 – 14 year old children involving world renowned, award-winning author and former Children's Laureate, Michael Morpurgo.

The winning entrant will spend the day at the Edinburgh International Book Festival on Saturday 22 August. They will meet Michael Morpurgo backstage and have the honour of introducing him, on stage, to a capacity audience of over 500 people, and then enjoy the event from a seat in the front row. The winner will also have a 'golden ticket' to be first in the queue following the event to get their book signed by the author.

Morpurgo is the author of over 100 books for children of all ages, including *Kensuke's Kingdom*, *Private Peaceful*, *The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips*, and *War Horse*, which has been turned into a hugely successful stage production.

Children across the UK are invited to submit up to 200 words on why they love Michael Morpurgo's stories. From this a shortlist of 20 will be drawn up and all shortlisted entrants will be invited to submit a 1 minute video explaining why they would love to come to the Book Festival. The winning entrant will be chosen by Michael Morpurgo and Sara Grady, Director of the RBS Children's Programme at the Edinburgh International Book Festival.

Sara Grady said "We are in the business of bringing readers and writers together. This summer, we are scouring the country for one enthusiastic, passionate child to celebrate a special day with Michael Morpurgo – Could it be you? If you have been inspired or excited by Michael's wonderful stories, this is your chance to shout about it. We can't wait to hear from children across the country and to welcome one lucky child to Edinburgh for a once in a lifetime experience, so get your entries in today!

Entrants should submit their entry (up to 200 words) on why they love Morpurgo's books to the Edinburgh International Book Festival by midnight on Friday 10 July 2009. Entries will be judged on their creativity and originality. The shortlisted entrants will be notified by 15 July,

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FRANCES SUTTON, PRESS MANAGER:**

**[frances@edbookfest.co.uk](mailto:frances@edbookfest.co.uk) / Tel: 0131 718 5654 / Mob: 07841 579481 / Fax: 0131 226 5335**

15 - 31 August 2009, Charlotte Square Gardens, Edinburgh.

[www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk)

and asked to submit a 1 minute video by midnight on 24 July 2009. The winner will be notified by telephone by 31 July 2009.

The competition is open to 7 – 14 year olds in the UK. The prize includes return train travel to Edinburgh from anywhere in mainland UK for one adult and one child, accommodation for one night in a four star hotel in Edinburgh, and two tickets for the Michael Morpurgo event at the Book Festival on Saturday 22 August at 1.30pm. In addition the winner will receive a free book and tote bag and have their photograph taken with the author.

**Full details of the competition, entry forms and terms and conditions, can be found on [www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk).**

-ends-

For further information please contact

Frances Sutton, Press Manager

[frances@edbookfest.co.uk](mailto:frances@edbookfest.co.uk) or 0131 718 5654

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FRANCES SUTTON, PRESS MANAGER:**

**[frances@edbookfest.co.uk](mailto:frances@edbookfest.co.uk) / Tel: 0131 718 5654 / Mob: 07841 579481 / Fax: 0131 226 5335**