



Literacy Newsletter



Welcome to our second Literacy Newsletter, which comes just after we have celebrated World Book Day 2024. This year's event was a testament to the power of literature in fostering curiosity, imagination and a love for learning. Our students and staff truly embraced the magic of books, making the day a memorable and inspiring experience for everyone involved. See below for some of the highlights of the day!

Golden Tickets

Emulating the events of Roald Dahl's 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', all form classes in Years 7-9 had two of our very own golden tickets hidden in their classroom. Students were very enthusiastic in trying to find them, with the lucky winners claiming a prize of a pen and a bookmark. To the right, you can see one of our Year 9 winners, George, with his winning ticket.



Find the 'character'

Taking their expedition skills across the school, students were tasked with finding 25 different characters (staff) from novels throughout the ages, ranging from Cinderella (Mrs Selway) to Paddington Bear (Mme Gibert). There was an overwhelming response to this, with more than 50 students claiming their prizes from Mr Sweetman at breaktime. Below are two of our Year 8 students, Eva M and Paisley S, proudly showing off their completed entry form.



Book Tokens

The English department staff have book tokens for any student who would like one. These tokens can either be redeemed for either a free book or £1 off selected books at most bookshops and some supermarkets. This follows on well from our participation in "Book Buzz" earlier this year, where students in Y7 and Y8 were gifted a free book. It is important that, at school and at home, we continue to promote the value of reading.

The enthusiasm generated for World Book Day did not simply end at 3pm on Thursday. Our staff have established a staff book swap, our library is open every day after school and on Friday, all of Year 8 had a visit from a copywriter, where she explained what her job involves and how reading plays a crucial role in her profession.

Coming up...

- Mr Williams is currently running a creative writing competition, which could lead to students' work being published. This is open to all year groups. Anyone interested should see Mr Williams.
- On 21st March, we will celebrate World Poetry Day. The theme this year is "Standing on the shoulders of giants", a nod to iconic writers of the past whose trailblazing works enlarged poetry's footprint across cultures. Students should keep an eye out for events happening in school that day.

"I have a passion for teaching kids to become readers, to become comfortable with a book, not daunted. Books shouldn't be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage." Roald Dahl