



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

JWN/JDN

09 February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers & Students,

As you may be aware, Thursday 7 March is World Book Day and we will be celebrating in true HGS style with several fantastic events across the entire week, outlined below.

Firstly, as you would expect for World Book Day, we will be having a non-uniform day and encourage all students, including Sixth Form and Year 11, to attend school dressed up as a character from a book. Throughout the day, we will ask students and staff to carry around their favourite book, or their current read, and we encourage everyone to ask questions about what others are reading. To really make the most of the time and effort put into sourcing and styling a World Book Day costume, students will be able to parade their attire in our Fabulous Fashion Show in the Swann Hall at lunchtime of the day, where points will be awarded for all costume entries per House as well as prizes for the best dressed!

As always, we ask for a donation of £1 either in cash on the day, or via ParentPay. One of the charities we are supporting will be [Give A Book](#) which is dedicated to promoting books and the pleasure of reading, particularly with disadvantaged children and in places such as prisons and schools.

In addition to costumes, during break-times (Monday-Wednesday) we will host fireside-read sessions in the style of Jackanory (many parents will remember this from their youth), where students and staff will read extracts from their favourite books. These will take place in the Swann Hall under the warmth of a roaring – computer generated, and entirely controlled – fire. At lunchtimes on these days, The Junior Spelling Bee will also be taking place. Last year was incredibly tough – with some words really stumping our contestants. We hope to see some fantastic entries and scores this year, to collect a whole host of House points.

Our school librarian, Mrs Whitelaw has also arranged an additional treat for Year 7 students on Monday and Tuesday, where they will take part in a talk and workshop with Nikki Young, a HGS alumni who has written a book series set in Heckmondwike Grammar School. Mrs Whitelaw will be sending a further communication about this to Year 7 parents in due course. Further, a pair of bespoke lessons have been planned for Year 7 students that will take place surrounding World Book Day to prepare for the arrival of the author and support their understanding of the charity.

Mrs Whitelaw will also be running the annual bookmark competition (which was fiercely contested last time, and not without controversy), so students in all years are encouraged to get involved via The Library throughout the week.

If all of that wasn't enough, we are holding a treasure hunt on Friday lunchtime named 'The Case of the Stolen Book'. Mr Tipler has, very evilly, stolen one of Mr Roberts' books! In teams of up to three, students are welcomed to come along to The Library to begin their scavenger hunt to see if they can figure out which book has been stolen. There will be fabulous prizes to be won across all events throughout the week.

Celebrating literacy and a love of reading should not just be the domain of primary schools; books are hugely important in our society, and in our school, and we hugely appreciate your support for this event.

Please keep your eyes on our social media posts, and website, for photos of the events that are taking place - it promises to be a great week of events and a wonderful World Book Day.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a light grey oval. The signature is stylized and appears to read 'J Wilkinson'.

Miss J Wilkinson

Whole School Literacy Coordinator and Teacher of English