



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

JWN/JDN

January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers & Students,

As you may be aware, Thursday 6 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 encourage 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 the total number of 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.

The eagle-eyed of you may have noticed that Thursday 6 March also falls on the day of Year 9 Parents' Evening. In the spirit of keeping Literacy alive, we are encouraging staff and students to remain in their costume throughout the evening to keep the World Book Day energy burning bright. Please do feel free to join in if you so wish!

In addition to costumes, during break-times, Mrs Whitelaw we will host our annual fireside-read sessions in the style of Jackanory, where students and staff will read extracts from their favourite books. These will take place in The Hub in the Library under the warmth of a roaring – computer generated, and entirely controlled – fire. Mrs Whitelaw will also be running the annual bookmark competition, where the winning bookmarks will be printed and available to use in reading books throughout the year.

As has been the case in previous years, Monday to Wednesday of World Book Day week will also host The Junior Spelling Bee, with the Senior competition the following week. Last year proved to be incredibly tough – with some words really stumping our contestants! It is set to BEE a great competition.

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An additional treat for years 9-13 has also been arranged where a guest speaker, Simon Day, will deliver a series of oracy workshops on Wednesday 5th March in promotion of reading for pleasure and speaking publicly. These will be no mean feat – working as whole-year group sessions in the Sports Hall across the day. Additional prizes and rewards are on offer as part of the session, so this promises to be an exciting addition to our World Book Day schedule. If all of that wasn't enough, the pesky Mr Tipler has stolen another of Mr Roberts' books and detectives will be needed once more on Friday lunch time to solve 'The Case of the Stolen Book'! Much like last year, 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 of the fifteen books has been stolen, with prizes for the fastest teams.

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, appearing to read 'J Wilkinson', enclosed within a faint, light-colored circular border.

Miss J Wilkinson
Whole School Literacy Coordinator and Teacher of English