



Literacy Newsletter

New Library

We are proud to be able to let you know that we have a new library at school. We have been working hard to develop this new space as a part of our commitment to promote reading for pleasure at our school.

There will be an Library Open Evening on Monday 11th March for parents. More details on the next page.

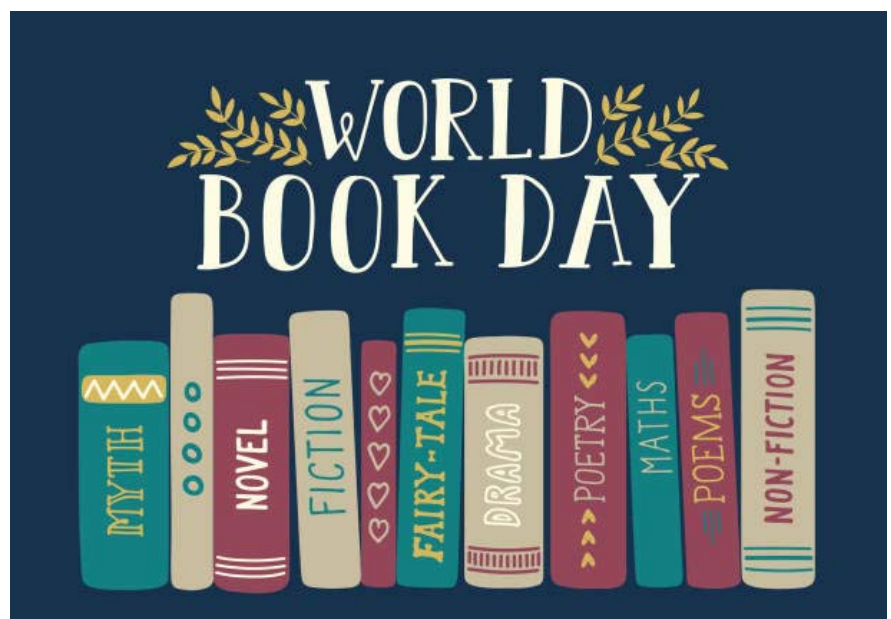


Reading Events and Projects This Term

- **Read for Good Readathon 1st-20th March** – Students in years 7-9 are taking part in a readathon this term. They will be asking adults they know to sponsor their reading and donate. Money will go to a charity who provide books for children in hospitals across the country. Our school will also receive a book voucher worth 20% of the money we raise. We will be delighted if you can donate and encourage your child to get involved! Find out more here: www.readforgood.org Donate here: [Sponsor a pupil - First find their school Readathon \(salesforce-sites.com\)](https://salesforce-sites.com)

- **Celebration Event/Author Visit 22nd March** – This event recognises students who are working hard and enjoying independent reading, SPARX Reader and Bedrock. The event will take place during the school day and will include a certificate from our Headteacher, treats and a talk from an author. Please encourage your child to get involved so they can be in the running to attend this event.
- **Library Open Evening 11th March 5-6pm** – We would be delighted if you could attend an event for parents/carers to have a look at our developing library. If you are interested in attending, please email our Librarian, Sara Scott: scotts@seahaveacademy.org.uk Or simply turn up on the day!

- **World Book Day 8th March** – During World Book Day, staff across the school will be promoting reading by showcasing their favourite books. We will also have a cake sale in the library to raise money for more books. Year 7 will be given a book on this day to take home and read. Other year groups will be given



a voucher for a £1 book or £1 off a book of their choice. Find out more here: www.worldbookday.com Please ask your child about conversations they have had around reading when they get home on that day.

- **Author Online Event 8th March** – As part of our World Book Day celebration, students have the opportunity to attend an online talk with Children's Laureate and author, Joseph Coelho. They can sign up for this event with their English teacher or in the library – please encourage them to do so. Find out more here: [Join in our Joseph Coelho, Children's Laureate, exclusive event to inspire pupils! - Read for Good](#)

Watch this space! We will to run more reading events, projects and trips during the summer term. We will keep you posted on how your children can get involved.

What can you do at home?

The more you can encourage and discuss reading at home the better.

If children are struggling to find books they enjoy, these are good search tools:

[Bookfinder: find children's books for every age | BookTrust](#)

[Older readers - Read for Good](#)

[Teen / Young Adult - Read for Good](#)

[Non-fiction - Read for Good](#)

Or visit your local library for a browse: [Newhaven Library | East Sussex County Council](#)

Our school library is open every day during break, lunch and after school. **We have just had a delivery of nearly 700 books so we are more than ready to support your child to find a book they will enjoy.** Please encourage your child to come to the library and borrow books.

If you are feeling stuck, this has some helpful hints: [Help! My child won't read! \(readforgood.org\)](#)



Why are we doing this?

There is a wealth of research telling us that reading for enjoyment supports children's educational outcomes, wellbeing and life chances.

- Reading a book or listening to a story relaxes our bodies and minds: research estimates that 6 minutes of reading can reduce stress and anxiety by 68% - more than listening to music or watching TV.
- Reading gives our senses a break from the constant assault of digital media. It's important children have some peace and quiet to allow their imagination to take the reins for a while – and who knows where that will take them?
- As well as improved knowledge, vocabulary and writing skills, reading different stories with different characters builds other important life skills like empathy, analytical thinking and problem solving. It aids sleep, boosts self-esteem, builds good communication skills and strengthens their predictive skills.
- Reading for pleasure also means they're more likely to do well at their GCSEs.

We take this very seriously and we are doing everything we can to help our students to benefit from a varied and enjoyable reading diet.

For more information or to discuss your child's reading, please contact their English teacher, our librarian or our Head of Literacy, Cashel Gormley
gormleyc@seahavenacademy.org.uk

Happy reading from Seahaven Academy!