

12th February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Literacy Week – Poetry: Week Commencing Monday 4th March 2024

We are very excited that Literacy Week (with World Book Day being on Thursday 7th March) is fast approaching, and we would like to outline the details and activities of this week. The theme will be “Poetry”. We have chosen to focus on poetry this year so our students can be familiar with different poets, and to also celebrate the life and works of Benjamin Zephaniah, who sadly passed away last year. Benjamin Zephaniah is a favourite author amongst our students, but many are not familiar with his poetry that is equally as influential. We will be using the week to promote other poets to help inspire our students.

We are kicking off the week with competitions that are becoming traditions during Literacy Week. To promote our Accelerated Reader programme, we are allowing students to be put into reading teams and the team with the most Accelerated Reader points will be gifted an afternoon of watching a film with popcorn as a reward. This will also be alongside a Pizza Party that will be taking place on the Wednesday. A read-a-thon will be taking place in the LRC on Thursday, where we will be inviting some students to the LRC to enjoy a day of reading... and to see who can last the longest!

We are inviting only year 7 and 8 this year to dress up as their favourite book character on Friday. Please can we take this opportunity to remind you that this is not a non-school uniform day, and if students in year 7 and 8 do not wish to dress up they must come in their full school uniform. Students must clearly be in costume, and we ask that students do not come in casual clothing, and to not wear hoodies or hats. In addition, if year 7 or 8 students wish to dress up, they must bring in a £1 charity donation which their tutor will collect. Although only students in year 7 and 8 can take part in dressing up, we are inviting all students to come wearing a placard of their favourite book/poem to promote discussion. Placards will be available in the LRC.

Games and competitions will be held throughout the week, including: guess the staff member’s costume, creating creative poems, book themed quizzes and guessing which poem is the staff member’s favourite. All will be advertised on the student bulletin and we are confident these literacy activities are varied enough to interest all students.

Furthermore, we will also be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in the LRC where we will be selling books, posters and stationary. If students would like to make a purchase, they can do so using cash, or purchasing vouchers on the website www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay, and selecting our school from the drop down menu. Scholastic Books have in place a reward system; in which all purchases help fund our school library.

All students will be gifted a £1 off book voucher which they will be able to use in bookstores and in the book fair we are hosting. If you would like more information on how these vouchers can be used, please visit the website www.worldbookday.com.

To help this week to be a success, we ask you to encourage your child to participate in these activities, and as always, discuss reading and literature with them. There is also a Loom video attached to the bottom of this email, which will be shown to all students, for your information.

We thank you for your continued support with the programme.

The Loom video for your information -

<https://www.loom.com/share/eff979d27c4745ecb41942c968316f10?sid=2276e276-c1f1-4f15-9846-b72ee1cb3172>

Yours sincerely,

Ms S Rezaei

Learning Resource Coordinator