



Dear Parents /Carers,

World Book Day 2026 will be on the 5th March children of all ages will come together to share the joy of reading for pleasure.

### Why do we celebrate World Book Day?

We love celebrating the work of the charity World Book Day, and their purpose: To champion the fun of reading because it improves children's academic life chances.

Each year in March, it's a great opportunity to join in with the national buzz around reading and the celebration of books when we can encourage everyone to let go of pressure and expectations and give children a choice, and a chance, to grow a lifelong love of reading. World Book Day is a chance to spotlight and celebrate reading for pleasure, supporting children's autonomy in book choice, and embedding a habit of reading that brings a wide range of benefits.

For World Book Day 2026 in the UK, the main focus isn't a single theme but rather aligns with the National Year of Reading 2026, encouraging children to "Go All In" on reading, connecting books to their existing passions, and fostering reading for pleasure through activities that last all year. The campaign promotes diving deeper into interests through books, making reading a meaningful, social, and ongoing activity beyond just one day.

As it is the National Year of Reading, World Book Day 2026 is a key part of this broader UK initiative to promote reading habits throughout the year.

There will be lots of fun activities taking place here at St chads

We hope you have a very happy World Book Day!

## Book Hats

The Children are invited to make a Book hat from their favourite story, and bring into school to wear on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

For inspiration, please see below for examples of stories in boxes.



## Reading Café – DEAR session.

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 we will be opening our Reading Café in the school hall from 3:00pm. This will be a great opportunity for you to come and share a story with your child and have the opportunity to meet Croydon library services outreach team who will be holding a library stall at this session to speak to parents about library services and memberships.

## Dressing up day

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 the children will have the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character and bring their favourite book. There are lots of websites on line who provide great ideas on costumes

<https://www.muminthemadhouse.com/diy-world-book-day-costume-ideas/>

<https://www.madformums.com/toddler-and-preschool/last-minute-easy-world-book-day-costumes/>

### Quick & Easy Character Ideas

**The Tiger Who Came to Tea:** A tiger onesie, face paint, or striped clothing with ears.

**Paddington Bear:** A blue coat, red hat, and a luggage tag.

**Where's Wally?:** Red and white striped top, beanie, and glasses.

**Matilda:** A blue dress, hair ribbon, and a stack of books.

**Harry Potter:** School uniform, round glasses, and a drawn-on scar.

**The Very Hungry Caterpillar:** Green clothing with paper circles attached.

**Mary Poppins:** A white shirt, black skirt, hat, and umbrella.

**Zog:** An orange outfit with homemade wings and a mask.

**The BFG:** A waistcoat, beige trousers, and large ears.

**Mr. Twit:** A scruffy beard (made from cotton wool) and old clothes.

**Mr Bump** – Blue outfit and bandages

### Last-Minute & Budget-Friendly Tips

**Utilize Animal Onesies:** Repurpose tiger, bear, or cat onesies for characters like Tigger or We're Going on a Bear Hunt.

**DIY Fairies:** Use a green leotard, tutu, and a handmade wand for Tinkerbell.

**Accessorize Everyday Clothes:** Use a wand for Harry Potter, a chef's hat for Michael Rosen's Chocolate Cake, or a red cape for superhero books.

We also have our very own costume bank which is currently being developed by Mrs Dada – St Elizabeth class

Please do ask her for any top tips as well.

We look forward to seeing all your fantastic designs to make this years World Book a success for all our children.

