If you had to describe yourself in just one word I wonder which one you would pick. Vibrant? Adventurous? Curious? Now imagine you had to depict the word in a costume using everyday prompts. Would that change your word? Or enhance your thinking?

We celebrated World Book Day this year by asking all pupils to come to school dressed up as a word. In our lessons we are having a clear focus on learning new vocabulary through topics, discussion and particularly reading and writing, and World Book Day was no exception. It was a joy to see the richness of our language displayed on the children as well as their creativity in making their word come to life!

During the day itself we encouraged the children to value and appreciate books and stories through creativity and challenge. Having heard the African/Caribbean traditional tale of the mischievous spider Anansi the children went on to make African drums and silhouette puppets. Building skills were required when children learnt about 'The Three Little Pigs' and small groups had to construct houses that could withstand the big bad hairdryer! 'The Enormous Turnip' created a dual challenge of teamwork and pulling skills! They were tasked in their mixed groups to see how long they could stretch a curly wurly. Two groups managed to exceed three metres without breaking the curly wurly – or eating it! Finally, Rapunzel was renowned for her long hair and children were challenged to recreate her tresses with finger knitting. Nimble fingers and patience were both required!

The day really showcased what our children do best and they displayed many of our values, including wonder, harmony, outreach and resilience. We used the day as another opportunity for vertical learning, enabling the children to work together in their houses. Our eldest children stepped up as leaders ensuring that the younger members were included in each activity and the youngest children energised everyone with their excitement and enthusiasm for every challenge they encountered.

Our next challenge is for the children to carry out some extreme reading! We have asked the children 'Where's the strangest place you can read: up a tree, under the bed, when brushing your teeth, in the supermarket?' I wonder where you would pick…

Helen France
Headteacher