

World Book Day 2026

This year's World Book Day centred on the inspiring theme **“What's Your Passion?”**, an approach that aligned strongly with our school's curriculum intent to develop confident, enthusiastic readers who see books as meaningful, relevant and connected to their real lives. The focus on children's passions - from sport, art and science to nature, travel and future ambitions - ensured that every pupil could see themselves reflected in what they read and could develop their own identity as a reader. This enriched our reading culture by strengthening personal engagement, motivation and reading for pleasure across the school.

Children proudly wore creative costumes representing characters from both fiction and non-fiction texts linked to their chosen passions. This created an inclusive environment where every child could express themselves, and it demonstrated the breadth of reading materials valued within our curriculum - not only stories, but also information texts, biographies, poetry and subject-specific literature.

A key strength of the day was the cross-curricular design, which provided opportunities for pupils to apply reading in meaningful contexts linked to art, geography, drama, and science. Working in House teams encouraged collaboration across year groups, building social confidence and strengthening our whole-school community ethos. Each teacher led an activity based on a book connected to their own passion, modelling for pupils that adults too are active and joyful readers - a powerful driver of long-term reading engagement.

Enrichment Activities

I See a Song by Eric Carle – Music, Art & Interpretation

In this expressive arts session, pupils explored how colour, shape and movement can communicate ideas in the absence of words. This wordless text sparked rich discussion about visual narrative and encouraged pupils to respond creatively through painting and musical interpretation. The session supported literacy through inference, prediction and expressive vocabulary, while also strengthening creativity and emotional expression.

Me on the Map by Joan Sweeney – Geography, Mapping & Narrative Structure

Pupils learned about spatial awareness, mapping skills and the concept of 'place in the world'. Each House created a large-scale 3D story map of a traditional tale, applying geographical knowledge to construct landscapes, pathways and key settings. This activity reinforced sequencing, comprehension and retelling - key reading skills - while building links to geography and design technology.

Grimm's Fairy Tales – Storytelling Through Dance & Drama

Through mime and movement, pupils brought well-known stories to life without using spoken language. This work developed pupils' understanding of narrative structure, character motives and mood. It also strengthened speaking and listening skills, teamwork, and confidence in performance, all of which are central to our English and Oracy curriculum.

George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl – Science, Imagination & Procedural Thinking

Inspired by Dahl's playful text, pupils mixed “marvellous medicines” using safe ingredients to explore colour, reaction and texture. Children engaged in structured prediction, observation and description - key scientific skills - while also using imaginative language to design their own concoctions. This blend of science and literacy supported curiosity, vocabulary development and procedural writing.

Impact on Learning and School Culture

World Book Day 2026 had a clear and measurable impact on pupils' attitudes toward reading:

- Reading for pleasure increased, with pupils independently seeking books linked to their passions.
- Cross-curricular learning deepened, as children saw how reading supports subjects such as art, geography, science and drama.
- Vocabulary and expressive language improved, particularly through arts-based and drama-based sessions.
- Older pupils modelled positive behaviours for younger ones through the House structure, enhancing peer relationships and building confidence.
- Teacher passion was visible, demonstrating to pupils that reading is lifelong, meaningful and enjoyable.

Most importantly, the day reinforced that reading is a gateway - to knowledge, creativity, self-expression and future aspirations. By connecting reading to what children love most, we strengthened their identity as readers and supported their journey toward becoming confident, motivated and enthusiastic learners.

World Book Day 2026 was a powerful celebration of creativity, curiosity and community - embodying our vision of *Growing Together, Rooted in God, Enjoying Fullness of Life*.

World Book Day



GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)