

BOOK TALK

March 2026

2026 is the YEAR OF READING!

YEAR OF READING

World Book Day

What a busy World Book Day we had this year! The children and teachers participated in lots of wonderful book-based activities in their classrooms. There were so many fantastic character costumes too!



There are lots of things you can do at home to support reading. Visit this website to give you some Top Tips!

<https://goallin.org.uk/get-involved/families/>



National Year of Reading 2026

CLASS CORNER

Year 4 are reading The BFG. We are big Roald Dahl fans here at JS! How many Roald Dahl books have you read?



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you for all of your support with this year's book fair! It was very busy and we are pleased that lots of children are enjoying their new books!

With your support, we have earned £178.76 in commission. This will be used to buy new books for the classrooms!



READING DIARY REMINDERS

TEN AMAZING BENEFITS OF READING BOOKS



- Strengthens your writing skills
- Improves your memory and focus
- Enhances your imagination
- Increases your vocabulary
- Expands your knowledge
- Stimulates your brain
- Boosts your mood
- Deepens empathy
- Helps you relax
- Lowers stress



- All JS children are to read at home a minimum of 3 times a week to practise their developing reading skills.
- Children can read a couple of pages, a chapter or the whole book. As long as they are reading regularly, there is no expectation on how much they read.
- Adults should write a written comment in the diary to reflect on their child's reading - there are prompts in the reading diaries to support you with this.
- Children will have the opportunity to change their reading book twice a week if they have finished their book or are not enjoying it.
- Re-reading books is good! It helps children read more fluently and develop their understanding more.

READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Here are some recommendations for books from around the world as we have been celebrating World Book Day...



Sing to the Moon is a beautiful, tender story about a young boy who spends his time dreaming of riding supernovas and sailing across the ocean - it is after all rainy season in Uganda. Together with his Jjajja (the Luganda word for 'Grandmother' or 'Grandfather'), they look to fill the long hours with the greatest gift of all: storytelling. While completing their chores, Jjajja tells of past adventures, friendships and memories. At night, the tower of books is revealed and as the candle burns bright, the fables passed down are recalled until it is time to fall asleep and dream again. Written in rhyme with distinctive illustrations, this book tells a simplistic tale of dreams, memoirs and family.



Selvi befriends Lokka, a rare golden leopard who lives in the mountains behind her home. One day on her visit to Lokka, she encounters poachers who are desperate to capture him. While escaping the poachers, Selvi comes across Amir, a boy in her class, who hides her. Can they become friends and work together to save Lokka from the poachers?

This is a story of adventure and friendship. The relationship between Selvi and Amir takes a while to build and it shows that friendships take work to be successful. The setting of the Serendib mountains will transport children to a place that many are likely to know very little about and provides an opportunity to introduce them to different lifestyles and cultures.