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Dear Parents and Carers,

Tuesday 24th February 2026

World Book Day 2026

We are delighted to share our plans for **World Book Day on Thursday 5th March**, a wonderful opportunity to celebrate stories, imagination, and the joy of reading. We have an exciting range of activities planned to make the day memorable for all our children.

What's Happening on the Day

Dress as a Book Character & Class Parade

We will be inviting the children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Costumes can be as simple or as creative as you wish. During the day, each class will take part in a special costume parade to showcase their amazing outfits.

Drop Everything and Read

At various points throughout the day, a bell will ring to signal our "Drop Everything and Read" sessions. When the bell sounds, children and adults will pause what they are doing and enjoy a few minutes of reading or sharing a book together.

Story Sessions with Staff

Children will also have the chance to visit different members of staff to hear and discuss a variety of stories. This is a lovely way for them to explore new books and discover different styles of storytelling.

Potato Character Challenge

We are excited to introduce our **Potato Character Dress-Up** challenge! Children are invited to decorate a potato as a popular book character (this should be done at home). These creations can be brought into school from **Monday 2nd March until Friday 6th March** and will be displayed in the atrium for everyone to enjoy.

Book Review Competition

As a school, we are running a **Book Review Competition**. Children are encouraged to choose a favourite book they have read and present a review in a creative, eye-catching format. These will form a vibrant display in the library to inspire a love of reading across all ages. Five children will win a £5 book token for their outstanding book reviews which they can redeem at our Book Fair (Tuesday 10th - Monday 16th March 2026).

Delivering a nurturing and inclusive environment to encourage growth of the individual

The book reviews (which should be completed at home) can be emailed to enquiries@newlands.hants.sch.uk or alternatively a paper copy brought into the school office by Friday 13th March 2026.

■ World Book Day Tokens

Every child will receive a £1 World Book Day token, which can be used to purchase one of the special World Book Day titles or put towards a book of their choice at our Book Fair (Tuesday 10th - Monday 16th March 2026).

We hope these activities help to make World Book Day a fun, inspiring, and engaging experience for all our pupils. Thank you for your continued support in nurturing a love of reading at home and at school.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Harris
English Lead