

KH/RPO/MGA/TM/WorldBookDay

23rd February 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,



World Book Day- 26th February to 6th March 2026

Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a love of reading and literacy, we are excited to celebrate World Book Day with our pupils this year. This global event reminds us all of the importance of reading in shaping young minds and encouraging lifelong learning.

The Importance of Reading

Reading is an essential skill that goes beyond simply learning to decode words. It helps build imagination, empathy, and critical thinking skills while also broadening vocabulary and improving communication. Encouraging your child to read can enhance their academic performance, boost creativity, and expand their worldview. By reading regularly, pupils can explore new ideas, cultures, and experiences that nurture both their cognitive and emotional growth.

World Book Day Activities

At Barr Beacon School, we are passionate about instilling a love for books, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to celebrate World Book Day with a special visit from Epic Tales. During their visit on Thursday 26th February 2026, Epic Tales will deliver a special assembly for all Year 7 pupils. They will also run interactive workshops in the iCentre on Thursday 26th February and Friday 27th February 2026, each Year 7 form will participate.

We are also excited to announce a *Short Story Competition* for Year 7 and Year 8 pupils. They will choose one of the four prompts and craft their own unique short story. Pupils need to make sure their stories meet the minimum word count of 500 words. Pupils can hand their stories to Mrs Garrett in the iCentre or send them digitally to postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk. This competition will run from Monday 2nd March 2026 to Monday 16th March 2026. The winner will receive a book of their choice. There will be additional prizes for second and third place. Please see the short story prompts are this link <https://bit.ly/49RtURr>

For the rest of the school, we have prepared a presentation that will highlight the significance of reading and showcase Barr Beacon's most popular authors. Through this presentation, pupils will be encouraged to reflect on their favourite books, authors, and the stories that have impacted them most. There will also be a book related quiz and trailers of popular books that have been turned into films/TV series. This will be followed by assemblies about World Book Day and activities in English lessons for Key Stage 3.

We have also designed a *Beacon Book Detective* game for all pupils. This exciting activity involves 15 clues hidden around the school. Pupils will be given a map showing the approximate locations of each clue and will need to work their way around the school to



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find them, solve the puzzles, and record their answers. Once completed, pupils should hand their answer sheet to Mrs Garrett in the iCentre. Those who successfully solve all the clues will receive prizes and praise points.

Book Tokens

In celebration of World Book Day, we will also offer book tokens to all pupils, which can be redeemed at participating bookstores. These tokens will allow pupils to purchase a book of their choice, encouraging them to explore new genres or discover authors they have never read before. You can exchange your tokens for books from 23rd February 2026 to 15th March 2026.

We hope that through these activities, pupils will not only have fun but also feel inspired to read more and appreciate the power of books.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Hibbs
Headteacher



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