

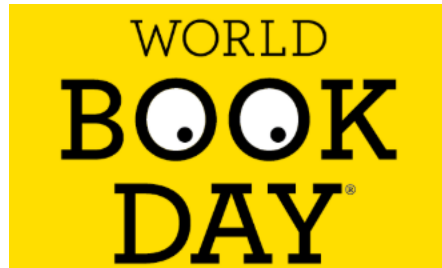


Shaftesbury CE Primary School

Wincombe Lane, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 8PZ

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Tuesday 10th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

2026 has been designated the **National Year of Reading**, a UK wide campaign led by the **Department for Education** and the **National Literacy Trust** to help children rediscover the joy of reading. The initiative encourages families, schools, and communities to “**Go All In**” and make reading an enjoyable part of everyday life

The Book Fair - 25th February to 2nd March.

The Book Fair will run from **25th February to 2nd March**. During school hours, children will visit the fair and create a wish list. Parents can then purchase books online. Once purchased, children can collect their books from the school office, provided they return their wish list with the **reference number** and **titles of the books purchased**.

The fair will also be open **after school each day until 4:15pm**. Please note that **card payments only** will be accepted.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

We are very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day and sharing our love of reading with the children. This year, we have planned some fun, meaningful activities that focus on the enjoyment of books.

Dress-up

On World Book Day, children are welcome to:

- Dress as a favourite book character, **or**
- Come to school in pyjamas to represent bedtime reading.



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Classroom Activities

Throughout the day, children will take part in reading and book-related activities appropriate to their age. Each phase will create a shared piece of work linked to favourite stories, characters, or book recommendations, which will be displayed around the school.

The Masked Reader

Staff will be taking part in a fun “Masked Reader” activity! Children will listen to short story extracts read by disguised staff members and try to guess who is behind the mask. The readers will be revealed later in the day.

Books at Bedtime

Building on the success of last year, we will once again be hosting a **Books at Bedtime** session. Children will enjoy listening to stories read by staff in a calm, cosy atmosphere, complete with hot chocolate and biscuits.

During this time, parents will need to remain on site in the school hall. Mr Barnett will run a session for parents on the **Safe Use of AI**. This session will provide an overview of how AI is being used safely and responsibly, and how parents can support this at home. Refreshments will also be provided!

Please arrive with your child at the main entrance at 4:30pm. Children will be guided to a classroom and parents to the hall. At the end of the workshop, your children will be brought to the hall for you to collect at 5.30pm.

If you and your child wish to join us for Books at Bedtime and the Safe use of AI session on the **5th March**, please complete this [form](#) to let us know that you will be attending.

We are really excited to share this special day with the children and to celebrate the joy of reading together.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lauren Airey
Reading Lead