

September 2023 - July 2024

**Ongoing activities**

## Reading Milestones for Year 7 - 9

To celebrate each pupil's successes with Accelerated Reader quizzes they will receive a certificate to mark their progress and their name will be added to our awards board in the library. Any pupils reaching 1 million words will be rewarded with a book of their choice. The awards will be received once the number of words below have been read:

**Bronze**

10,000 words

**Silver**

25,000 words

**Gold**

50,000 words

**Ruby**

100,000 words

**Sapphire**

250,000 words

**Emerald**

500,000 words

**Amethyst**

750,000 words

**Millionaire**

1,000,000 words

## Bolton Book Awards

Year 7 have been invited to take part in the Bolton Book Awards which are run by Bolton School. A shortlist of books aimed at Year 6 and 7 have been chosen by the librarian at Bolton School. From October onwards, pupils will be asked to read the books and vote for their favourite. The winning author will be announced at the awards ceremony at the end of the year which will be held at Bolton school.



We will also attend a Celebration day later in the year when pupils will have the opportunity to meet the authors of the books they have been reading.



# Literacy Calendar

## 2023 - 2024

September 2023

### **Bolton Book Awards – Last year's winner**

During the last academic year, a small group of pupils from 7P1 and 7P2 took part in the Bolton Book Awards. They thoroughly enjoyed reading the books and voted Dreadwood by Jennifer Killock as our winner.

This was also chosen as the overall winner by all the other local schools involved. Throughout this month all of last year's shortlisted books will be promoted as well as other titles by these authors.

**These books will be available to borrow throughout the year.**



### **Road Dahl Day – 13th September**

Road Dahl day is an annual event which remembers the life and stories of the much loved children's storyteller Road Dahl. It always falls on his birthday, the 13th September, and is celebrated in schools and libraries and around the world.

Born in 1916, he led a fascinating life before becoming on the best-selling and well-known authors of the 20th century. Road Dahl books will be available to borrow throughout this month and the rest of the year.

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October 2023

## Black History Month

Black History Month has celebrated every February in the USA since 1970, it was not officially celebrated in the UK until 1987. October is when African chiefs and leaders gather to settle their differences so this month was chosen to reconnect with black people's roots on the continent. Throughout this month we will be promoting books written by black authors.

**Throughout this month we will be promoting books focusing on this topic.**



## World Space Week – 4th – 10th October

The World Space Week 2023 theme is “Space and Entrepreneurship” which aims to inspire pupils worldwide to study STEM and business, and offer space companies the opportunity to recruit the workforce needed for the expanding commercial space industry.

**Throughout this month we will be promoting books focusing on this topic.**



## National Poetry Day – 5th October

National Poetry Day generates an explosion of activity nationwide, with thousands of amazing events across the UK all celebrating poetry's power to bring people together. The theme for 2023 is 'Refuge'. Pupils will be writing poems in class on this theme and some will be chosen to read their own poems at a lunchtime event in the library. Several members of staff will also join by reading their favourite poem.

**Throughout this month we will be promoting books focusing on this topic.**



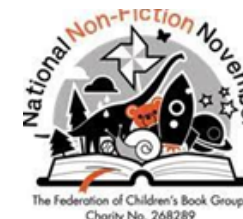
# Literacy Calendar

## 2023 - 2024

November 2023

## Non-fiction November

Non-Fiction November was set up by the Federation of Children's Book Groups as a way to highlight the importance of Information books and to promote reading non-fiction for pleasure. One of the most important roles non-fiction plays in our education is the fact that it teaches us about our past.



## Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is on the 11th November and marks the day World War One ended, at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, in 1918. Students will have access to a wide range of books on the theme of War to celebrate and remember those who fought and gave their lives in the past.



## Anti Bullying Week – 13th – 17th November

This year's theme is Make a Noise about Bullying. This theme came about following consultation with teachers and pupils by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, which coordinates Anti-Bullying Week every year, as they wanted a theme that empowered them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes.



## Year 11 Pop Library

Every Thursday lunchtime there will be a pop library in the Winter Garden. This will allow for Year 11 pupils to borrow and return library books. This will be run by our Year 11 pupil librarians.

November 2023 continued

### **Mr Dilly Meets Remembrance Day Author Event – Friday 10th November**

During this live online author event our pupils will hear from best-selling children's authors Phil Earle, David Farr, Hiba Noor Khan and Tony Bradman, as Mr Dilly interviews them about their war themed stories. We will have the opportunity to hear some read-alouds from their books and listen in as they speak about the importance of remembrance, hope and peace.

### **Live author event with SF Said – Friday 10th November**

SF Said is a British Muslim author of Middle Eastern origin. He was born in Beirut, Lebanon, and came to live in Britain when he was 2 years old. He will tell the story of how he went from being a young reader like the children to writing award-winning books such as *Tyger*, *Phoenix* and *Varjak Paw*, which was listed by BookTrust as one of the 100 best children's books of the past 100 years. His talk will include material about his own childhood reading, insights into the writing process, a reading from *Tyger*, and a live Q&A at the end!

December 2023

### **12 Days of Christmas**

Throughout December, the library will be displaying Christmas or Winter themed books which are suitable for all years. Each of the '12 days of Christmas' will feature a different book, which will be available for students to borrow. A summary of each book will be on display in the library as well as on the screen in the canteen, on the school website Library Events and our Twitter page.



# Literacy Calendar

## 2023 - 2024

January 2024

### Science Fiction Month

Celebrated on January 2nd every year, Science Fiction Day celebrates everything science fiction. Sci Fi typically deals with imaginative and futuristic concepts such as advanced science and technology, space exploration, time travel, parallel universes, and extra terrestrial life.

It often also has aspects of dystopia featuring a hypothetical society, set in the future or near future, where the population is faced with disastrous political, societal, technological, religious, and environmental situations.



### Holocaust Memorial Day – 27th January

Holocaust Memorial Day encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) promote and support the international day on 27th January to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of other people killed under Nazi persecution of other groups.



# Literacy Calendar

## 2023 - 2024

February 2024

### Valentines Month

Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine is celebrated annually on 14th February. It is a day for celebrating love, not just romantic love between couples but to celebrate the love we have for our friends, family members, and even ourselves.

**Throughout this month we will be promoting books focusing romance and friendships.**



### Book in a Jar competition

We are running a 'Book in a jar' competition to help celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. Throughout February, pupils are invited to think about how a book of their choice, could be represented in a jar. Any clear jar can be used for example a coffee jar or jam jar.

Pupils should put chosen items to represent a book into a jar, selected quotes from your book, or perhaps even clues about its characters or setting.





March 2024

## World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

We will be celebrating World Book Day this year with several events taking place throughout school including:

- **Decorate a Door** – Year 7 and 8 will be working in their tutor groups to decorate their classroom door on the theme of a book of their choice. Staff judges, including the school librarian Mrs Hanson, will pick their favourite doors with prizes for the winning tutor group
- **Book Tokens** – Each pupil will receive a World Book Day token to claim a free or discounted book from bookshops and supermarkets
- **Borrowbox assembly** – Blackburn library will be coming into school will deliver an assembly to promote Borrowbox (Blackburn library's online library) and explain to pupils how they can join
- **Book recommendations activities** – Each year group will have five book recommendations suitable for their age. They will have the opportunity to watch a trailer of the book and then read the opening extract



## International Women's Day – Friday 8th March

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. It is a time to reflect on progress made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women, who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities.





March 2024 continued

### **British Science Week – 8th – 17th March**

British Science Week, run by the British Science Association, is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths, featuring entertaining and engaging events and activities across the UK for people of all ages. **During this week pupils will have the opportunity to borrow Science themed books.**



### **Joseph Coelho live author event – Friday 10th March**

Pupils will have an opportunity to join Joseph Coelho for an engaging event as he talks about his brilliant books, reads some of his wonderful poems, shares his fabulous 'Poetry Prompts' and answers questions from schools.

Joseph is an award-winning performance poet, playwright and children's author. His books include the critically acclaimed Luna Loves... series, If All The World Were, and the CLIPPA-shortlisted collection of poems, Overheard in a Tower Block.

### **Writing Thrillers & Horror with SJ Wills live event – Friday 15th March**

We will be taking part in a live event with SJ Wills to discover how she became an author, what inspired her thrilling teen werewolf 'Bite Risk' series, and what we can expect from book 2, Caught Dead (Bite Risk). You'll also hear her top tips for writing great thrillers and suspense. She has worked as a freelance copyeditor since 2003, alongside rediscovering my childhood love: writing my own stories.

April 2024

## Classics Month

A classic is a novel that represents a genre or a writing style, or it can be a novel that makes a contribution to literature. There are all kinds of classics, from horror to romance, from novels that sold millions of copies to a novel that changed how a genre was written.

On Tuesday 2nd April we celebrate International Children's Book Day. For centuries the importance of reading has been taught in schools. This day brings awareness to reading and how essential it is in molding the young minds of the future.

**During this month pupils will be encouraged to borrow and read Classic novels both written for children and young adults alike.**

## Sarah Crossan live author event – Monday 22nd April

In this live author event we will meet award-winning author and poet Sarah Crossan, who introduces her new book, *Where the Heart Should Be*, set in 1846 in Ireland during the Great Famine; a powerful and thought-provoking novel in verse.

Sarah studied philosophy and literature before training as an English and drama teacher, and then becoming a writer. Sarah was the Laureate na nÓg (Ireland's Children's Literature Laureate) from 2018–2020. She won the CILIP Carnegie Medal in 2016 for her novel *One*, which also won the YA Book Prize and the ClIPPA Poetry Award. *Moonrise* was shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Awards 2017 and the YA Book Prize 2018.

## Shakespeare Day – Tuesday 23rd April

Many fans and enthusiasts across the world celebrate Shakespeare Day on 23rd April every year to honour the birth of Shakespeare. His birth date was never officially recorded as it was not the norm in that era. However, people from all over the world have considered April 23 as his date of birth. He also died on 23rd April in 1616, when he was 52 years of age.



# Literacy Calendar

## 2023 - 2024

April 2024

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April 2024 continued

## Scholastic Book Fairs

At Pleckgate we encourage reading for pleasure as an integral part of our pupils' daily diet. Research shows that reading for pleasure can promote better health and wellbeing, as well as an increase in reading attainment, writing ability and self-confidence. Reading at home can create connections to the wider community and provides insight into the world view of others.

We are delighted to be holding a 'Scholastic' book fair in the school library. The fair will run take place from Wednesday 24th April until Tuesday 14th May. The book fair will be open to all year groups. Pupils will be able to view the books in the library before and after school, at break and lunchtime, as well as in reading lessons.

**The book fair will also be able at the Year 8 Parents Evening on Thursday 30th April and the Year 7 Parents Evening on Tuesday 14th May.**

May 2024

## 'Bookflix' Month

You've seen it on Netflix, but have you read the book? This month the library will be promoting books that been made into a programme series or film on Netflix. Research shows that the majority of readers prefer a book to the film. When you read a book, you can interpret the plot and the story to your liking. Books allow your mind to be creative and challenge readers to imagine and interpret the story in their own unique way.

**Throughout the month, the library will have books available that are featured on Netflix.**



June 2024

## National Crime Reading Month

National Crime Reading Month is a unique festival, held throughout the UK, which promotes the crime genre. It is hosted by the Crime Writers' Association (CWA) and takes place throughout the month of June. It aims to promote and celebrate crime reading through exciting events and activities, online and in person, in bookshops, libraries, museums and theatres.

**Throughout this month the library will promote the borrowing of Crime and Thriller fiction suitable for both KS3 and KS4.**



July 2024

## Borrowbox recommendations Month

Borrowbox is an online library run by Blackburn library. As part of our World Book Day celebrations in March, a member of staff from the library came into school to promote the online app. Throughout this month, we will be promoting the use of Borrowbox as an alternative to paperback books that can be used by pupils throughout the Summer months and beyond.

## Roman Boy live author event with Tony Bradman

During this event pupils will discover the action-packed story of Roman boy Lucius, exiled from Rome to the most savage province of the Empire – Britannia. Tony Bradman, author of Viking Boy and Anglo Saxon Boy, introduces his newest book in the series and talks about life in Roman Britain. Tony is an award-winning writer of many children's books, a well known editor with a particular focus on diversity and finding new voices.