



St. Thomas More

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

St. Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy, Palace Fields, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 6AF Headteacher: Mr D Redfern

Dear Parent/Carer,

We at St Thomas More are proud to share that, once again, we will be hosting a wide range of exciting opportunities to celebrate **World Book Day on Thursday 5th March**. This is always a highlight in our calendar, and we are delighted to offer students a vibrant, enriching week of activities that place reading at the heart of our school community.

Why World Book Day Matters in Secondary School

As students progress through high school, maintaining regular reading habits has a significant impact on their academic progress, emotional wellbeing and cultural awareness. Celebrating World Book Day at this age encourages students to stay connected to reading at a time when it can strengthen vocabulary, deepen inference skills, broaden knowledge and improve writing across the curriculum. Regular reading is also linked to increased resilience, creativity and empathy: skills that benefit every young person both in and beyond the classroom.

Why Reading Is Important at St Thomas More

Reading is central to our school culture. Our student-led library has become a supportive and inspiring space where students work, revise, read, and participate in a variety of challenges and clubs. It is a safe haven for many; a place where imagination thrives and students discover new interests, new authors and new confidence.

This year, our theme centres on **detectives and crime in literature**—a genre that encourages curiosity, critical thinking and problem-solving. Crime and mystery stories are ideal for engaging readers of all abilities because they invite prediction, deduction and analysis, making reading active, exciting and accessible.

World Book Day Week Activities

Murder Mystery Escape Room

Students can sign up during lunchtime on:

- **Tuesday 3rd March**
- **Thursday 5th March**
Held in the library.



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**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Reading Champions Celebration

- **Wednesday 4th March – Period 3**

A special event recognising students who have shown exceptional commitment to reading.

National Literacy Trust Competition

We are thrilled that a team of **Year 7 students** will be competing in the **National Literacy Trust's Great Big Footy & Booky Quiz** on **Thursday 5th March**.

Sponsored Read-a-Thon

- **Friday 6th March**

Raising money to support new resources for our school library.

Masked Reader

Running all week on social media and in form time—

Can you guess which teacher is behind the mask?

Scavenger Hunt

A book-themed challenge throughout the week, with prizes for students who complete the tasks.

Emoji Book Challenge – Thursday 5th March

Students hunt for emoji clues hidden around classrooms and work to decode the name of the mystery novel.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

All students are warmly invited to **dress up as any fictional character** from literature, film, or graphic novels.

During form time, we will hold a **costume parade**, and winners will be selected to watch *A Series of Unfortunate Events* in the hall during **P4 and P5**.

To be selected, students should demonstrate:

- Creativity in their costume
- Clear knowledge of their chosen character
- A copy of the book, if possible





Learning Activities Throughout the Day

Period 1 – Crime & Detective Fiction

- Introducing Agatha Christie and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- Exploring new young adult and teenage mystery books
- Participating in deduction and code-breaking activities

Period 2 – Short Story Study

- Exploring *Lamb to the Slaughter* by Roald Dahl

Period 3 – Literature Quiz & DEAR

- A crime-genre and literature knowledge competition
- **Drop Everything And Read**—every student will be expected to have a book with them

Book Tokens

Every student will receive a **£1 World Book Day book token** to purchase one of the special edition titles.

Your support is deeply valued by the English Department, our student leaders, and the entire St Thomas More community. Thank you for helping us continue to nurture a culture where reading is enjoyed, celebrated and shared.

With kind regards,

Mrs Shaw

Head of English

St Thomas More

