

12th February 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Re: Year 7 - World Book Day 2019 (was to be Thursday 7th March)
Dress Up Day – Date Now Changed to Friday 8th March due to Rushell Farm Visits**

This half term sees the annual international celebration of World Book Day at The Holt School and we would like to inform you about a number of activities arranged by the English Department that your daughters will be able to enjoy as part of this event.

Tutors will all receive the usual World Book Day tokens to distribute to their forms. If you would like to browse the range of available books this year with your daughters, the website (www.worldbookday.com) has a list of all the £1 books available in addition to plenty of other information about the day. The tokens can also be used in part payment for higher value books.

There will be an array of activities taking place across the school to share our love of reading with our students and help them appreciate the wide range of literature available to them. Assemblies will be led by our KS3 Co-ordinator, Ms Mirza, throughout the week on the importance of reading; this will join up with our weekly 'Thought for the Week' activity in form time, focusing on 'how books can open your mind'. In English lessons, students will be given lots of opportunities to talk and write about their favourite books and teachers will introduce students to a range of their own 'top reads'. Year 7 students will also take part in the 'Decorate a Door' English competition, which will be judged by Mrs McClelland and Mrs Pearce.

It would be wonderful to see all of our **Year 7** students have their favourite book with them for the celebrations on **Friday 8th March**. Traditionally, we invite all of **Year 7** to come to school for the day dressed as one of their best-loved book characters. We are always surprised by the students' inventiveness and creativity so there will be prizes for outstanding costumes. The following websites may be helpful in guiding students (and parents!) to decide on costumes: <http://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up> and <https://www.bookaid.org/support-us/world-book-day/world-book-day-dress-up/>

Please remember that they will be dressed up all day as well as on their journeys to and from school, so appropriate and comfortable outfits are essential. This year we would like to encourage students to offer a voluntary contribution of £1 to Word Book Aid International if they would like to dress up. The charity's vision is a world where everyone has access to books that will enrich, improve and change their lives. Voluntary donations will be collected during form time.

Our focus this year is reading for pleasure and sharing stories; our aim for the week is to educate and inform students on the benefits of reading, encourage them to share the stories they read with their fellow students and teachers whilst promoting a diverse range of challenging and engaging literature.

We hope that you will encourage your daughters to join in these activities celebrating World Book Day and are very grateful for all of your support in helping us to promote a love of reading in all of our students.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. R. McClelland
Head of English Faculty