

February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, the joy of World Book Day 2024 is fast-approaching. We look forward to celebrating this meaningful, exciting event on Thursday 07 March. In order to ensure our students and school community have the opportunity to embrace the day, we have the following activities planned.

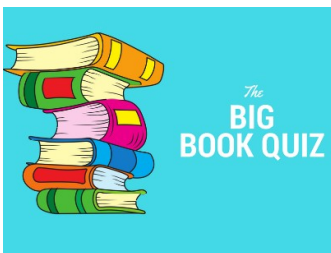
How are we celebrating World Book Day at Seaford Head School?



- Book Character Dress-Up Day- All year groups will be able to take part in a non-school uniform day on Thursday 07 March. Students should dress up as one of their favourite book characters and bring in a small paragraph explaining why they have chosen this character. If students are not dressed up as a book character, they should attend school in their usual uniform. Some easier, more cost-effective ideas have been put together by our lovely librarian, Mrs Callard, so dust off your Bridgerton dresses and dig out your Harry Potter wands! Best costume awards will be given, along with prizes, by Heads of Year and our visiting author, Lindsay Galvin. Students are encouraged to donate a small contribution of £1 to be given to their tutors on 07 March to raise money for one of our school house charities: Children's

Cancer. As some of you may know, this holds special significance for many, but especially one of our English teachers, Ms Kyprianou, whose daughter fought Hodgkin's Lymphoma last year. Please note: Year 11 students will be sitting some of their mock exams on this day, but students are still able to participate and be in non-uniform (for this day only).

- Author Visit for Years 7 and 8- We are delighted to confirm that an esteemed local author, Lindsay Galvin, will be spending the day with our KS3 students. Lindsay is a full-time author and she will be hosting assemblies, creative writing workshops and a meet and greet where she will be awarding winners for best book day costumes and signing copies of her books. Her novels are available to pre-order and purchase in advance on ParentPay. **Please do so by 23 February** in time for World Book Day. A list of the available texts are included below. If your child is entitled to free school meals, one of Lindsay's books will be purchased for them from the school budget for inclusion.



- Quiz- In tutor time, all students will participate in a reading/book themed quiz. Tutors will also distribute reading habit trackers for students to use to see how much time they can factor in to their day, in the hope this starts to build more regular, healthy reading habits. Prizes for the most reading completed will be available from both SS and AS LRCs.

- Library Activities- In both LRCS at SS and AS, there will be a vast range of activities for students to get involved with during break and lunch time throughout the entire week. Students can opt to design book front covers, watch 'Meet the Author' videos and interviews, complete author related word searches and word games, write book reviews and much more! Again, prizes will be available for the most impressive submissions.

Seaford Learning Trust

Mr R Ellis, Headteacher

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- **£1 Books**- Students have all been emailed a QR code to access their World Book Day voucher, which entitles them to buy a book for just £1!

- **Donate a book**- The 'book swap' that was initiated for the 'Acts of Kindness' House Competition last year will be resurrected, so students can gift/donate and choose a new book for free.

- **The whole school is reading**- On Thursday, during the start of every lesson, the teacher will discuss their favourite book with the class before reading a section of a short story. The story will be cut into six sections so that by the end of the day, all students will have read the whole story and be able to discuss their thoughts on what they liked/disliked. Last year, 'Lamb to the Slaughter' by Roald Dahl generated a fantastic buzz.

- **Book themed English lessons**- During English curriculum time for Years 7-9, students will partake in fun activities, such as a: book hunt, 'Fictionary', book charades, word games and many more activities.

Why are we doing this?

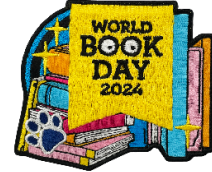
Reading is crucial to academic achievement, well-being, and life chances. There are so many positive, significant impacts reading has, and here are just a few:

- Listening to people read is a magical experience and is a chance to escape.
- Reading improves your child's life chances and gives them the power of essential speaking and writing communication skills.
- Reading increases happiness and lowers anxiety/stress. Just 6 minutes per day can reduce stress and anxiety by 68%.
- Reading helps your working memory and learning skills, leading to better academic achievement.
- Reading will help your child relax and sleep better.
- Reading promotes creativity and imagination.
- Reading allows you to learn vital vocabulary and reading skills to access ALL subjects across the curriculum.
- Reading stories can teach your child about ideas, cultures, people, events, history that they otherwise would have never known about. It is also important for building empathy skills.

How can you continue to embrace World Book Day and the value of reading at home?

- Talk about reading/books with friends or family. Maybe do a book hunt or play a game?
- Make a word related board game.
- Make a book themed costume or cook a baked good/dish related to a story!

- Create a 'book nook' at home so you have a special, dedicated reading space to enjoy.
- Gift/donate a book to someone you know/love.
- Visit a charity shop and donate a book – maybe even buy a new one cheaply!
- Write to your favourite author.
- Visit Seaford Library or Much Ado About Books in Alfriston.
- Write your own short story.
- Write a book review or start a book related blog/vlog.
- Encourage discussion about reading or favourite books at home.
- Model reading as a habit in your spare time.



We look forward to emphasising the importance of reading on World Book Day on 07 March and beyond.

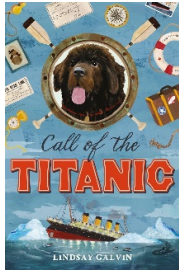
Yours sincerely,

Libby Johnson

Miss L Johnson

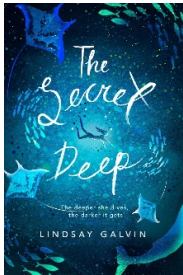
Literacy across the Curriculum Lead





Young cabin steward, Sid, is proud to be working on the *Titanic*, the greatest stream liner ever built. Clara dreams of adventure at sea, and discovers it the hard way as a stowaway on a much smaller ship, the *Carpathia*. Here, she meets a giant bear of a dog: Rigel, who has a reputation for mischief.

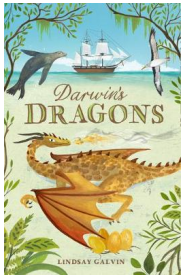
What none of them can foresee is how they'll need each other on the night *Titanic* collides with an iceberg, or that an even more extraordinary creature might also answer their call ...



When Aster wakes alone on a tropical island, she has no idea what has happened, why she is there, or where to find her younger sister, Poppy.

Meanwhile Sam, who once met the sisters on a plane, makes links between the mystery of their disappearance and suspicious happenings in his own life.

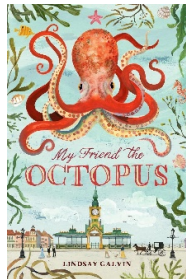
In a stunning dual narrative, the truth unravels with devastating effect – and the answer lies in the secret underwater world surrounding the desert island, populated by the beautiful and the impossible...



Syms Covington has landed the job of a lifetime - cabin boy and fiddler on Charles Darwin's *Beagle* - but when he is separated from the crew during a storm, his life takes a truly extraordinary turn.

Shipwrecked on a Galapagos Island, he makes a discovery that could change the world - and make his fortune. But should he share his find, or will it lead to the extinction of a legendary species?

There's one person who could help, but he's busy writing a book ...



Twelve-year-old Vinnie Fyfe works in the tea-shop at Brighton aquarium, and waits for her milliner mother to return from Paris.

The arrival of a giant octopus changes her life for ever. Discovering a talent for art, Vinnie begins to draw the extraordinary beast.

She soon realises she can communicate with the octopus through colour and – as a gripping mystery begins to unfold – discovers what true courage really means ...