



# ST. BEN'S BULLETIN: 27th February 2026

Please see our PTFA Facebook Page

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St. Ben's School Christian Values: **Community, Resilience and Kindness**

## WELCOME BACK, SUNSHINE!



Our new half term has started with some warmer (and drier) weather, which has meant lots of time outside this week. We have a busy half term in store with two residential coming up; next week sees Year 6 travel to London for an overnight visit and the week after it's Year 5's turn as they head off to Osmington Bay for the week. They are set for endless fun and adventure and we wish them *bonne voyage!*

We are excited about World Book Day next week – we will celebrate on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March and hopefully you are already thinking about costumes (if you aren't sure, see our handy guide to stress-free costume ideas on Page 4 (below).

Before Easter, we will also welcome author Andy Seed back for his third day at St. Ben's and we even have time to squeeze in three Parents' Evenings (letters have gone home this week) and a Careers' Week.

## WORLD BOOK DAY @ ST BEN'S

Next week, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Please see below, pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter, for more details about the various activities happening at St. Ben's, including costume ideas, book tokens, Story in a Box and our brand new 'Book Swap'!

## ST. BEN'S CHESS MASTERS

On Thursday this week, 12 members of chess club visited Ashcott School to take part in a tri-school chess tournament. The team, who have been sharpening their skills at Amanda Marshall's Wednesday lunchtime club, were very excited about the opportunity to represent St. Ben's and they played brilliantly against opponents from Meare and Ashcott schools.

Huge thanks to Ashcott for hosting this wonderful event and to Amanda Marshall for so selflessly volunteering her time to give our pupils the chance to learn chess and hone their skills. We hope for more matches in the future...

The team were:

**Loki, Silvia, Ronnie, Krish, Austin, Aurora, Keira, Courtney, Marley, Leo, John, Cave.**



## ACHIEVEMENTS and AWARDS

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Headteacher's Award</u>	<u>Teacher's Award</u>
Cats:	Cayden: for his fantastic attitude to improving his spelling shed score!	Jasmine: for always having a super attitude to her learning!
Unicorns:	Isobel: for working incredibly hard to improve in reading and maths.	Diego: for always working diligently in all of his work.
Chameleons	Tui: sharing enthusiasm in her swimming lessons and being kind to others.	Zara: for super hockey skills during P.E.
Owls:	Eleanor: for working really hard on her joined handwriting.	Ronnie: for super focus on problem solving in maths.
Spiders:	Chiyewo: always being respectful and kind and making progress in reading.	Ephraim: for aspiration in reading and focus in reading sessions.
Tortoises:	Reggie: for a very positive attitude to work this week!	Sophia: for 100% effort in all lessons!
Leopards:	Reggie T: always demonstrating our values and being a fantastic role model.	Nico: for excellent answers as part of our geography works looking at population.
Peacocks:	Luna-Lily: for always bringing positivity and happiness into the classroom.	Marshall: for improved concentration during arithmetic practice.
<u>Class Dojo Champs</u>	This week's champions are Cat Class and Unicorn Class with 12.8 points per child and they get an extra break next week. Well done to all of Year 3!	
<u>Attendance Champs</u>	This week's champions are Unicorn Class, with 97.5% attendance. Well done Unicorns, you get an extra break next week!	
<u>Book Battle Champs</u>	This week the following % of children managed to read 4 x a week at home: <span style="color: red;">Cat – 73 %</span> , <span style="color: red;">Unicorn - 77 %</span> , <span style="color: green;">Owl - 76%</span> , <span style="color: green;">Chameleon - 97 %</span> , <span style="color: purple;">Tortoise – 79%</span> , <span style="color: purple;">Spider – 76%</span> , <span style="color: blue;">Leopard - 88%</span> , <span style="color: blue;">Peacock - 100%</span> Meaning that this week's champs are <span style="color: blue;">Peacock Class</span> with 100%!	
<u>Values' Award</u>	Karla: for always showing kindness to others and being resilient in her learning. Lil: for showing kindness and caring to all her classmates.	
<u>Learning, Reading and ELSA</u>	Learning Behaviour: Bronze: Reuben, Pixie, Archie, Rubix, Toby (Yr3), Lauralie, Bence, Carmen (Yr5); Silver: Jaxon (Y6). AR Target: Elsie, Arthur, Layton (Yr3) and Tristan (Yr4) ELSA Awards: Louie (Yr5); for completing ELSA.	

### Dates for your diary:

Date:	Event/Activity:
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 London residential
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day at St. Ben's. Library visits on 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> March.
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 Osmington Bay residential
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Netball fixtures – Strode (1 – 3pm)
18 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evenings
w/b 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Careers' Week
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Class photos (please wear school uniform!)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Break up for Easter (Good Friday is on 3 <sup>rd</sup> April)
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term begins

# Hot Chocs with the Head

Today saw a Headteacher's tea party for every year group. As well as their hot chocolate, with all the trimmings, there was the chance to play dodgeball with Mr Ranger and Mr Lintell. Well done to every child who has earned a Head's Award and attended the parties.



## What are you up to?

***Our weekly focus on what our wonderful pupils are up to outside of school.***

This week, we feature Year 3 Coral and Year 5 Eli who have both earned themselves new belts at last week's grading. We also shine a light on Year 5 Lauralie who has (along with her Mum) created an amazing Dragon's Head mask. It's also well done to Eloise in Year 5 who has bagged herself six medals for her exploits in football and gymnastics! Well done to you all!

**Have you done something unusual or special out of school? Why not send Mr Ranger a Class Dojo message, with a photo, and you could be the star of the next newsletter!**





# World Book Day 2026!

Dear Parents and carers,

We are excited to let you know that at St Ben's we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 6th March 2026. This is a wonderful opportunity to share our love of reading and inspire children to explore new stories, characters, and ideas.

This year, we invite children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character or as an interesting word (for example: "sparkly", "brave", "mysterious"). Costumes can be as simple or as creative as you like - we encourage using items you already have at home to keep things fun and affordable. The children are welcome to bring in the book that their character is from.

Throughout the day, children will take part in a range of book-themed activities. Every child will also receive a **£1 World Book Day token** which can be exchanged for a special World Book Day book or used towards another book purchase at participating retailers.



## 10 No-Stress World Book Day costumes!

by ARTventurers

### 1. The Midnight Gang

Pair of pyjamas and a balloon and you're sorted!



### 2. Wednesday Addams

Black dress (with white shirt underneath if you have one or you could make a paper collar?) Pigtails and pale make up

### 3. Charlie Bucket

Blue jumper + Grey school trousers + A bar of chocolate (or if you're feeling crafty you could make a golden ticket!)



### 4. Matilda

Blue dress with a red ribbon in hair, carrying a few books



### 5. Harry and his bucketful of dinosaurs

Normal clothes and a plastic bucket full of dinosaur toys!



### 6. One of the dalmations from 101 Dalmations

White T shirt and a black marker to draw spots on it - if you want to push the boat out you could do a bit of black and white face painting too!

### 7. Goldilocks

A blue dress and three toy teddy bears



### 8. Diary of a Wimpy Kid

White T shirt + black shorts. Some white card and a black marker, draw the wimpy kid cartoon face (easy to do!) and cut out for them to hold over their face



### 9. Oliver Twist

Brown clothes, a bit of dirt on the face and carrying a bowl!



### 10. Mr Bump

Blue clothes then wrap a bandage round - or use loo roll!



This year, we will also be running a competition, 'Story in a Box'. The children are invited to create their own diorama storybook box (please see examples below). If your child wishes to take part, please ensure they put their name and class on their story box and hand into their class teacher no later than Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. The winners will be announced on World Book Day during our whole school assembly.



This year, alongside our usual fun activities, we will be holding a **Book Swap** to encourage our children to share their love of reading and discover new stories.

#### How it works:

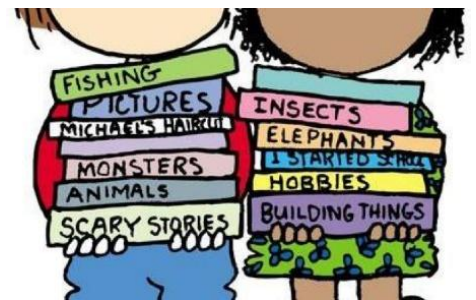
- Each child is invited to bring in **one (or more) pre-loved book(s)** from home that they have enjoyed but are ready to pass on.
- Books should be in good condition and suitable for primary-aged children.
- For every book your child brings, they will be able to choose a different one to take home.

#### When to bring books:

Please send books into school by **Monday 2nd March** so we can organise them ready for the swap.

This is a wonderful way to recycle books, spark excitement for reading, and give every child the chance to enjoy something new - all for free!

# BOOKSWAP



Thank you for your support in making this day memorable. We can't wait to see the children's costumes and to celebrate the joy of reading together.

#### Celebrating Reading for Pleasure



# World Book Day 2026





**WORLD BOOK DAY**

**5 March 2026**

The reading for fun charity



**Choose your £1 book for free!**

with your World Book Day® book token

Books are available in shops from 12 February until 15 March 2026.

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# World Book Day Costume Exchange

at Glastonbury Library

Do you have a costume that has been previously used and no longer needed?

Donate it to the costume exchange!

All donations must be of good quality and in a clean condition.

Please hand donations to a member of staff.

**GO ALL IN.**



National Year of Reading 2026