

BOOK TALK #theJSway

February 2026

2026 is the YEAR OF READING!

YEAR OF READING

Our first Reading Event for the Year of Reading was a big success! All of the teachers swapped and shared a book with a different class!



There are lots of things you can do at home to support reading. Visit this website to give you some Top Tips!
<https://goallin.org.uk/get-involved/families/>



National Year of Reading 2026

With half term this week, why not visit the library? Central Library in the city centre has a great children's section! With a membership, children can borrow up to 20 books at a time!



CLASS CORNER

Year 2 are reading *The Magic Faraway Tree* in their English lessons. They are loving all of the different imaginary lands found at the top of the tree! This classic children's book is coming to the cinema later this year!



WINTER READING CHALLENGE!



There is still time! The Winter Reading Challenge closes on the 20th February 2026!

READING DIARY REMINDERS

Benefits of reading

Use these recommended activities to help your children develop reading for educational and recreational purposes.



- All JS children are to read at home a minimum of 3 times a week to practise their developing reading skills.
- Children can read a couple of pages, a chapter or the whole book. As long as they are reading regularly, there is no expectation on how much they read.
- Adults should write a written comment in the diary to reflect on their child's reading - there are prompts in the reading diaries to support you with this.
- Children will have the opportunity to change their reading book twice a week if they have finished their book or are not enjoying it.
- Re-reading books is good! It helps children read more fluently and develop their understanding more.

READING RECOMMENDATIONS

February brings Valentine's Day! This day is all about celebrating love and kindness. Here are some recommendations perfect for these themes...



We love this story about Percy, a hungry pigeon who is desperately looking for a scrap of food, but is foiled at every turn. On his last legs, help comes from the most unlikely of heroes. This is a genuinely moving and uplifting story about the kindness of strangers, generosity, and caring for others. With artwork as beautiful as the story, a percentage of sales also go to charity.



This is a beautiful picturebook that celebrates new beginnings and the power of human connection. Tilly moves to a new home by the sea. She's sad to learn that her precious dog Shadow is not allowed to go into her new school on her first day. Tilly faces the challenge of a new start alone. At playtime, the teacher notices that Tilly is alone and suggests trying the Friendship Bench. A boy already occupies the bench and the pair form a bond as they work together to transform the old, broken bench into something beautiful.