

LITERACY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025



BACK TO SCHOOL

WELCOME BACK!

This is the Back to School edition of the Literacy Newsletter - I'm so glad you're here!
You are always welcome at WGSA.

This newsletter is all about the events and special days happening in September, and activities we can do to engage with the topics and improve literacy/reading skills linked to these events.

If you want to know more about anything in this newsletter, please come and have a chat with me in room 4.!!

- Ms. Jackson

VERSE NOVEL CHALLENGE

Verse novels offer a unique blend of poetry and storytelling. For recommendations, turn this page over!

The National Literacy Trust is running a competition to do with writing in verse - this will be a great challenge and a chance to express yourself!

More information will be available on 23rd September - see Ms. Jackson for details.



SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- 6th** - Read a Book Day
- 8th** - International Literacy Day
- 13th** - Roald Dahl Story Day
- 18th** - Read an eBook Day
- 23rd** - Verse Novel Challenge
- 23rd** - International Day of Sign Languages

Interested in sign language? Join our Makaton enrichment to learn key signs.

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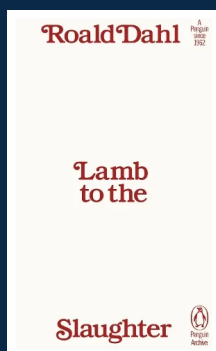
BACK TO SCHOOL

READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Why not check out these books? Plus, you can always ask Ms. Jackson for more recommendations!

Roald Dahl Story Day

Roald Dahl was a writer who created iconic characters and promoted a love of reading. How can you celebrate the stories of Roald Dahl?



This is a fantastic short story (only four pages!) which is available for free online about a murder and an unexpected twist coverup. Filled with horror and black comedy (14+).

Many of Dahl's stories have been adapted into films - I recommend the Matilda films. She is a character who finds comfort and escape in reading. Why not read the book too?



Writing Task

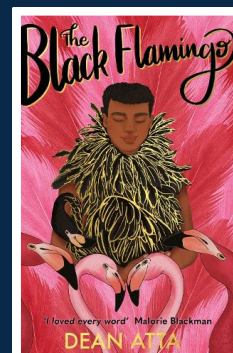
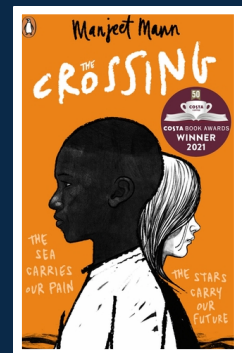
Write a short story inspired by Roald Dahl and his characters and submit them to Ms. Jackson. This might include:

- Nasty villains
- Funny words
- A challenge or journey
- Dark comedy
- A character who wants to do the right thing

Verse Novel Challenge

Why not try a book written in verse? They are set out like a poem but read like an ordinary story. They're quick reads as there are less words on the page!

A story of two teenagers who are each fighting personal struggles - one is a refugee and the other is struggling with grief. Deeply impactful. We study an extract in Y8 English.



For older readers. A young man comes to terms with his identity and discovers who he is. He's been on a brave journey to get here, and is ready to show himself to the world in bold colours...

A tale of two sisters who share the same father - without knowing the other sister exists. A story of grief, secrets, and the family we find along the way.



**“BOOKS TRANSPORTED HER INTO NEW WORLDS
AND INTRODUCED HER TO AMAZING PEOPLE”**

(Matilda, Roald Dahl)