

# MJS NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th February 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

MJS has been magically transformed into Hogwarts today as Year 5 launch their **Harry Potter topic** with a bang. Over the next few weeks, pupils in Year 5 will be drawing and writing about their own "fantastic beasts".



Looking forward, next week we have a big focus on reading which, as we all know, is the foundation for children's success in school and beyond. We are promoting **reading for pleasure**. This includes celebrating **World Book Day**. Please see the next page for more details.

We are also running a school **Book Fair** next week. Each class will have a chance to browse the books during the school day. Pupils can bring cash in (in an envelope please) to buy books themselves. Parents are welcome to come into the fair with children after school. A separate letter is being sent out today with more details.

Finally, it was lovely to see the sunshine, albeit briefly, this week. Let's all hope for some warmer spring weather over the next few weeks.

Best Wishes

Mr Pike

Headteacher

**Together  
Everyone  
Achieves  
More  
at MJS**

## Monday 2nd March 2026

Basketball Finals @ Durrington School  
Forest Schools - 5GK  
Y3 Boys Football (3HB, 3ST & 3ST)  
Netball Club

## Tuesday 3rd March 2026

Forest Schools -4OC  
Yoga Bugs Club  
Cross Country Competition @ Oriel  
Y5 & 6 Girls Football  
Let's Dance Club (5 pm finish)  
Yr 4 Craft Club (4JM & 4PG)  
Book Club (Lower School)

## Wednesday 4th March 2026

Girls Football Festival @ 3G Pitch  
Forest Schools—3SR  
Y4 Swimming (4GH & 4PG)  
Y6 Boys Football  
Y6 Chess Club  
Choir (Finish 4.30pm)

## Thursday 5th March 2026

World Book Day—Dress up in your PJ's  
Yr 3 Roman Workshop (3ST, 3JD & 3HB)  
Girls Football Competition @ 3G Pitch  
Forest Schools—Launchpad  
Girls Football ( Y3 & 4 AW)  
Dare Dance Club  
Mindfulness Club

## Friday 6th March 2026

Y3 Roman Workshop - (3SL & 3SR)  
World Book Day—3ST, 3JD & 3HB only  
Forest Schools—6BM  
Storm Basketball  
Cheneler Musical Theatre

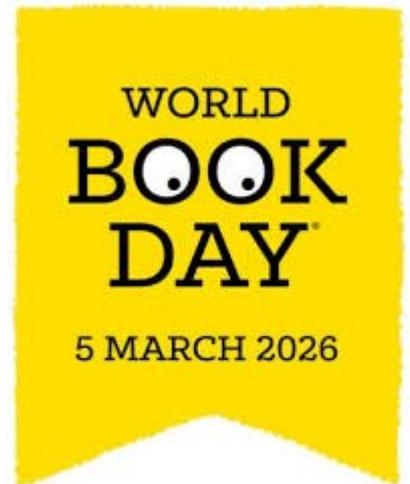
## WORLD BOOK DAY—THURSDAY 5TH MARCH

To truly celebrate this day the children will have the opportunity to come to school in their pyjamas rather than their school uniform.

However, please make sure that suitable footwear is worn. Children who do not wish to wear pyjamas can wear school uniform as usual.

The children are also encouraged to bring in to school their favourite bedtime story. This can be one they still enjoy or one from when they were younger. These books can then be shared with the class.

As some Year 3 classes have their Roman Immersion Day on the 5th March, the following classes will be celebrating World Book Day and wearing pyjamas on Friday 6th March: 3HB, 3JD and 3ST.



## PARENTS EVENING

A letter and email was sent out earlier in the week about booking a slot to meet your child's class teacher.

Any problems with booking an appointment, please contact the school office..



## YEAR 5 HARRY POTTER DAY



## SCHOOL CAR PARK

A reminder that the school car park by Harvest Road is for staff only, except for a small number of visitors spaces for drop off and pick up. Only cars with a school permit are allowed to park here and should only be for 5 or 10 minutes to drop off or collect. No cars should be parked there at these for a longer period.



## YEAR 5 FOOTBALL

A team of Year 5 footballers took part in a Crawley Schools' tournament this week. The future looks bright as the boys were in rampant mood, winning all 8 of their games without conceding a goal. Congratulations to the boys involved.



## YEAR 5 & 6 CRICKET



A team of 6 girls took part in a Crawley Schools' indoor tournament yesterday, most of whom didn't know how to play cricket at the start of the day. Everyone developed lots of amazing skills for batting, bowling and fielding. The team were unbeaten as they got through to the final... which they won with a massive score of 87!

As a result, they have been invited to take part in a county-wide competition. Everyone showed great sporting behaviour, shouting for each other and ending each game by shaking hands with their opponents.

## Y6 LEAVERS HOODIES

Our Y6 Leavers Hoodies are now available to buy from our uniform supplier Logo2threads.

All information and prices are available at <https://logos2threads.co.uk/>

**The closing date to order is Friday 13th March 2026.**



## ROYAL ACADEMY YOUNG ARTISTS' SUMMER SHOW

We were amazed by effort, imagination and care that had been put into every submission. Thank you to all the adults who encouraged and supported their child throughout this creative process. Staff have chosen 6 pieces to go forward to the Royal Academy. In choosing these six artworks we were keen to get a full representation of the different ideas, styles and media as well as a range of different ages.



We are extremely proud of every single entry and these will all be displayed in a special school gallery at this year's Open Evening in May,

### Entries submitted to the Royal Academy



Toby, Year 3



Zia, Year 4



Elizabeth, Year 3



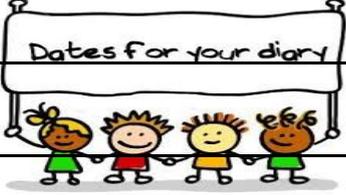
Timon, Year 5



Felix, Year 6



Hania, Year 5

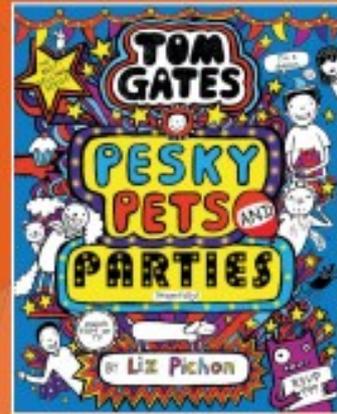
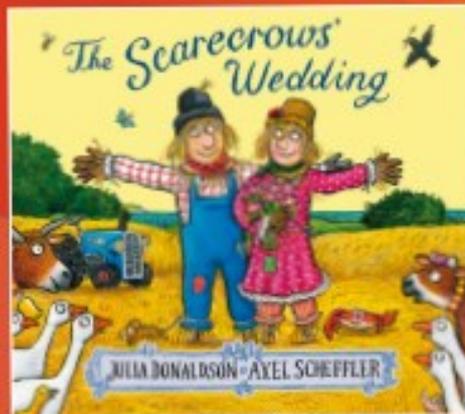
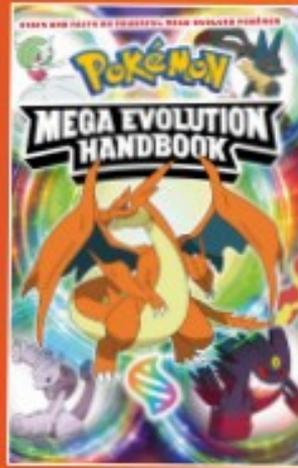
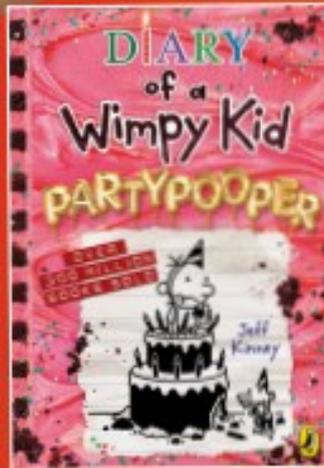
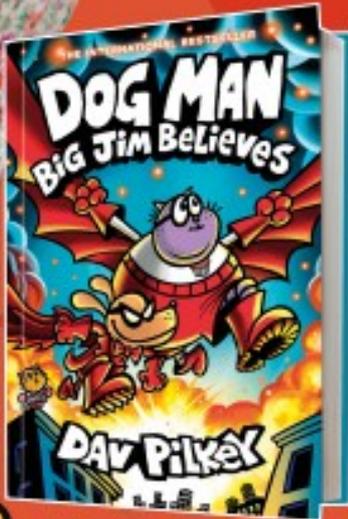
Date	Event
<b>SPRING TERM 2026</b>	
Mon 2nd March—Fri 6th March	Scholastic Book Fair 
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day Year 3 Roman workshops
Friday 6th March	Year 3 Roman workshops
Monday 9th March	Year 4 Rainbow Theatre
Weds 11th - Fri 13th March	Year 5 Harry Potter trips
Tues 17th March	Non-uniform Day—St Catherine's Hospice
Wednesday 18th March	Parents Evening, with afternoon sessions in this fortnight
Friday 20th March	Year 3 Fishbourne Roman Palace trip
Wednesday 25th March	Y3, 5 & Launchpad Pizza Day
Thursday 26th March	Y4 & 6 Pizza Day
Thursday 26th March	Last day of term. 1:15pm finish
Friday 27th March	INSET DAY
Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
<b>SUMMER TERM 2026</b>	
Monday 11th May	Y6 SATs Week
Monday 25th - Friday 29th May	HALF-TERM
Monday 1st June	INSET DAY
Wednesday 20th May	Early Closure at 1.15pm due to Open Evening 4pm—6.30pm
Thursday 25th June	Lower School Sports Day am
Friday 26th June	Upper School Sports Day am
Wednesday 1st July	Transition Day
Tuesday 7th July 2026	Y6 Residential Trip
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of term 1:15pm finish.

Every book you buy earns **FREE BOOKS** for our school!

# COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

## AND FIND YOUR NEXT FAVOURITE READ!

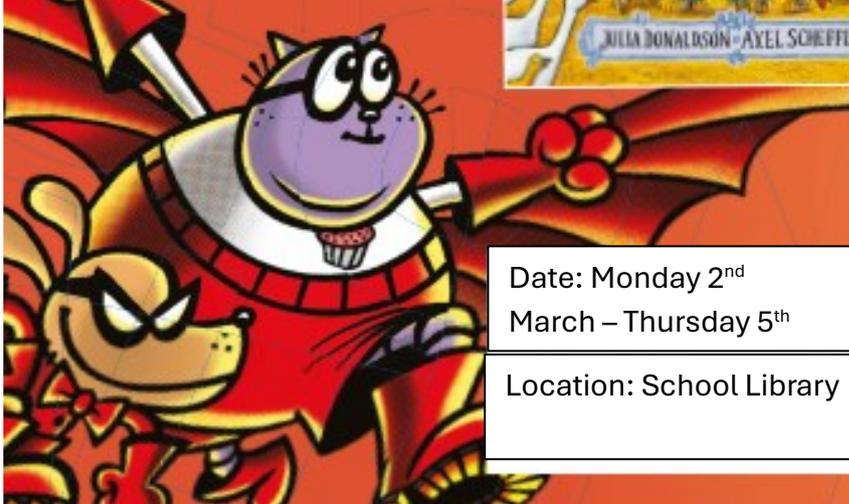
Art © Dav Pilkey, 2013/14/15, TM © Dav Pilkey



Date: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>

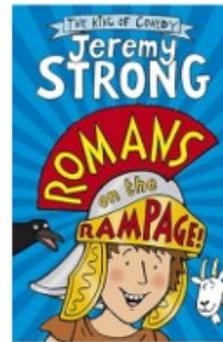
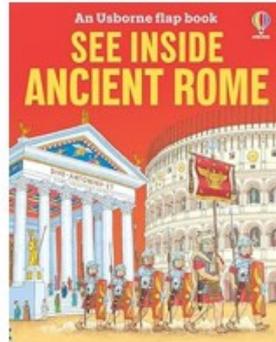
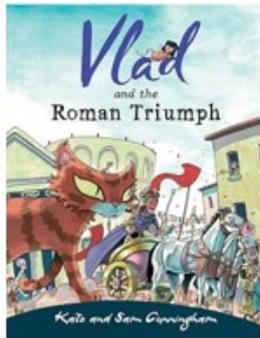
Time: 3:20pm – 4:15

Location: School Library



# NEW TOPIC RELATED READING SUGGESTIONS ...

## Year 3 – The Romans



The Julius Zebra Series – Gary Northfield

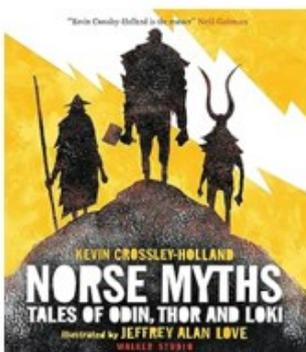
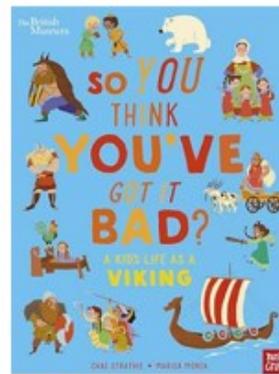
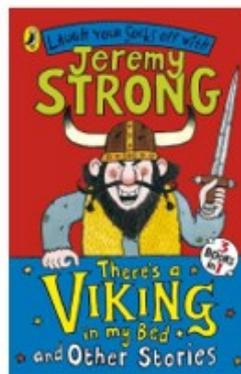
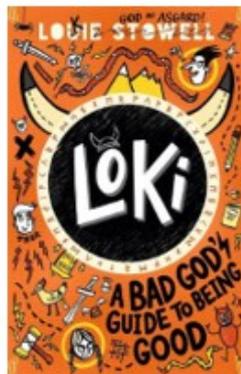
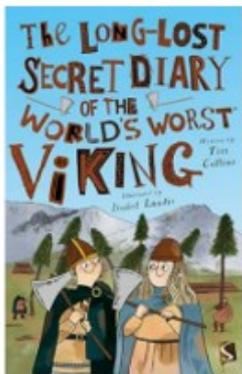
See Inside Ancient Rome – Katie Daynes

There Was a Roman in Your Garden – Bettany Hughes

Romans on the Rampage – Jeremy Strong

Vlad and the Roman Triumph – Kate and Sam Cunningham

## Year 4 – Vikings



The Long-Lost Secret Diary of the World's Worst Viking by Tim Collins

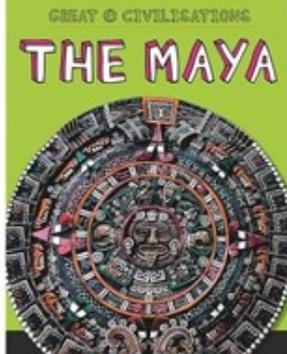
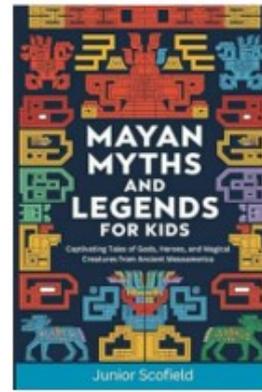
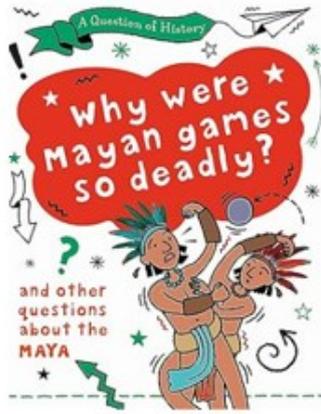
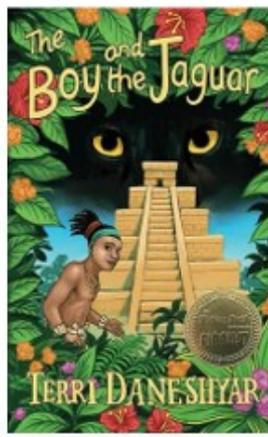
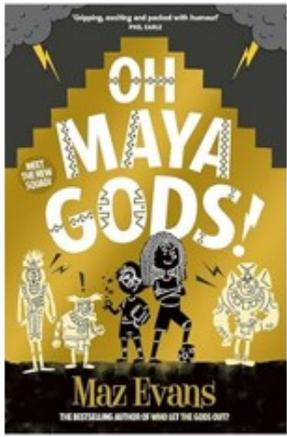
Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good by Louie Stowell

There's a Viking Under my Bed by Jeremy Strong

So, You Think You've Got It Bad? A Kids Life as a Viking by Chae Strathie

Norse Myths: Tales of Odin, Thor and Loki by Kevin Crossley-Holland

## Year 5 – The Mayans



Oh, Maya Gods! by Maz Evans

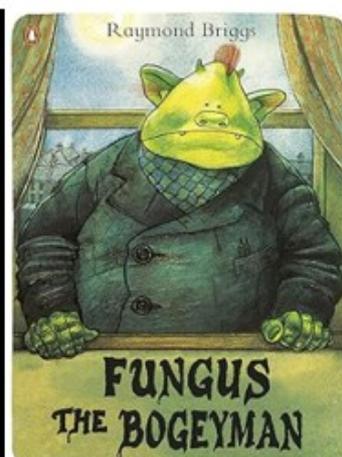
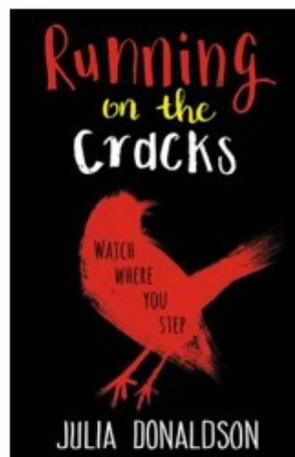
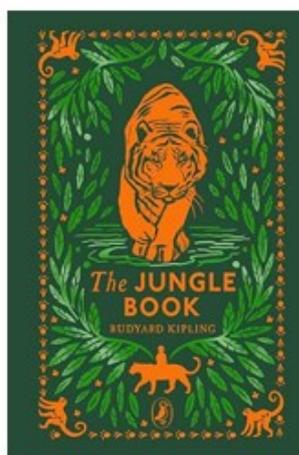
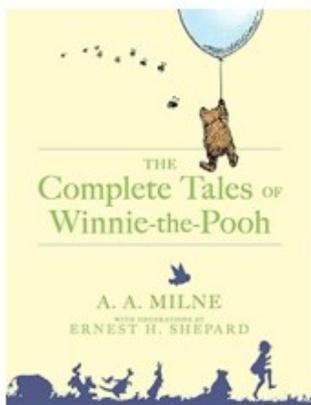
The Boy and the Jaguar by Terri Daneshyar

Why Were the Mayan Games So Deadly? by Tim Cooke

Mayan Myths and Legends for Kids by Junior Schofield

The Maya – Great Civilisations by Tracey Kelly

## Year 6 – Books by local authors



The Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh by A.A. Milne (from Hartfield)

The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling (from Burwash)

Running on the Cracks by Julia Donaldson (Steyning)

Fungus the Bogeyman by Raymond Briggs (Westmeston)

Ethel and Ernest by Raymond Briggs

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## Children's Martial Arts classes in Maidenbower

Hello

My name is Martin and I have been running children's martial arts classes in the area for over 12 years in Maidenbower, Pound Hill and Balcombe and now have around 60 students training every week.

It is proven that martial arts training has many benefits for children including improved focus and concentration. It encourages respect and discipline as well as improved physical fitness, which is a challenge in these days of phones and social media! At our club we help to develop these characteristics in them at the same time as having fun.

Our club activities are highly inclusive with lots of teamwork and games included alongside the more traditional techniques which teach them useful self-defence in a controlled environment.

We currently have a few spaces in our Juniors class for 10 to 12 years and Adults /13 years + and Family Classes (where the whole family can train together)

**Monday & Wednesday: Juniors 6.45pm – 7.30pm, Adults / 13 yrs + 7.30pm till 8.15pm.**

**Saturday: Family Class 10.15am - 11am**

**Venue: Maidenbower Infant School**

We can offer a FREE no obligation trial - for details email me at: [martinnew@ppckd.com](mailto:martinnew@ppckd.com)

or call / text **07884 667173**.

Martin New  
Chief Instructor  
2nd Dan

## Mindfulness Club

*A nurturing, creative, fun*

*after-school club*

*for Maidenbower Junior School*

*For children in Years 3- 6*

### At Mindfulness Club we will:

- Explore our emotions using the arts and play
- Learn new ways to manage and explore feelings
- Have space to de-stress and be creative
- Find calm, peace and support
- Have fun and get to know ourselves and each other!

Mindfulness club will be run by the same child therapist every week.

**Day and Time:** Thursday's, 3.15-4.15pm

**Dates:** Summer term, 10 weeks, from 30<sup>th</sup> April – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**Cost:** £9 per child, per week- **First payment via Eventbrite: deposit of £10, invoice for remainder to follow.**

*Bonus for parents and guardians: If your child attends Creative Emotions club you will be given free access to the Your Space Therapies 'Overcoming Overwhelm' so you can learn key strategies to support your child's emotional and mental health.*

**To book please click this Eventbrite link:**

**[Maidenbower Juniors Mindfulness Club- Book Now!](#)**



**N.B** We are unable to provide refunds for this club once spaces are booked. After we have received your booking, we will email you from [bookings@yourspacetherapies.org](mailto:bookings@yourspacetherapies.org) with an essential registration form to complete. Thank you.