



Reading Newsletter



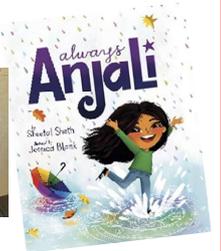
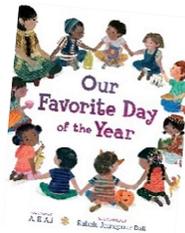
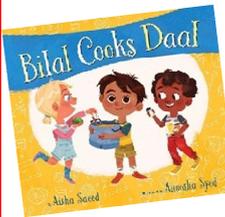
Autumn 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great start to the year we have had! Throughout the whole school, children have been reading and sharing books and stories from school and home: Reception read, 'The colour Monster'; Year 3 linked Geography and Reading with their study of 'Christopher's Story' and Rwanda; Year 4 dived into the world of Harry Potter (literally when they visited the Warner Brother studio Tour in Leavesden); and Year 6 read 'I Am Not a Label' and explored equality, equity and inclusion.

PSHE Whole School Books

This year, Ms Shah (PSHE Lead) has introduced whole school focus books for each half term linked to PSHE connected to the school goal of increasing awareness and understanding of ethnicity and diversity. In Autumn 1, Ms Shah shared 'My Favourite Day' and 'Always Anjali' in assembly, then the children explored the books further in class, discussing multiculturalism, celebrating your culture and what makes you unique. In Autumn 2, everyone read 'Bilal Cooks Daal' in assembly and a whole school home learning task about culture recipes was introduced – watch out for more about this after Christmas!



Class shared reading:

Each KS2 class has been paired with an EYFS or KS1 class for paired reading this year. Several times a term, the classes get together and share stories. Sometimes it is the younger children sharing their favourite story book from the classroom, and sometimes it is the KS2 children sharing a story they have written in class.



Following Jesus' footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness.



St Robert Southwell Catholic Primary School

Aiming For Excellence - Being The Best We Can Be

Successful Book Fair:

We are pleased to share the great success of our Autumns Term book fair. Our school families spent an impressive £1600! Earning our school just over £900 to spend on books with Scholastic.

Thank you to all our families who contributed to the success of the book fair and supporting reading at home. Your support is invaluable, and directly benefits our children.

Another huge thank you to our Year 6 prefects and helpers who demonstrated great customer service skills, as well as maths knowledge to process the payments!



Year 1 exploring the book fair books

Upcoming KS2 Poetry By Heart Competition:

In January, we will hold an in school 'Poetry By Heart' Competition.

This event will celebrate the beauty of poetry and the talents of our young performers, and will culminate in a grand showcase final at Kingsbury Green Primary School on Wednesday 11th February 2026.

Each pupil in Years 3, 4, 5, and 6 is invited to learn a poem by heart and perform it to their peers and year groups focusing on **voice, understanding, performance confidence and accuracy.**

Children who would like to participate should choose one poem from the anthology (see the Parent App or Teams) and learn the poem by heart. The children will perform their poems to their class, and short-listed children will perform to the whole school! The winners will go on to compete against other local schools at Kingsbury Green.

**POETRY BY
HEART**

Following Jesus' footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness.



St Robert Southwell Catholic Primary School

Aiming For Excellence - Being The Best We Can Be

National Year of Reading

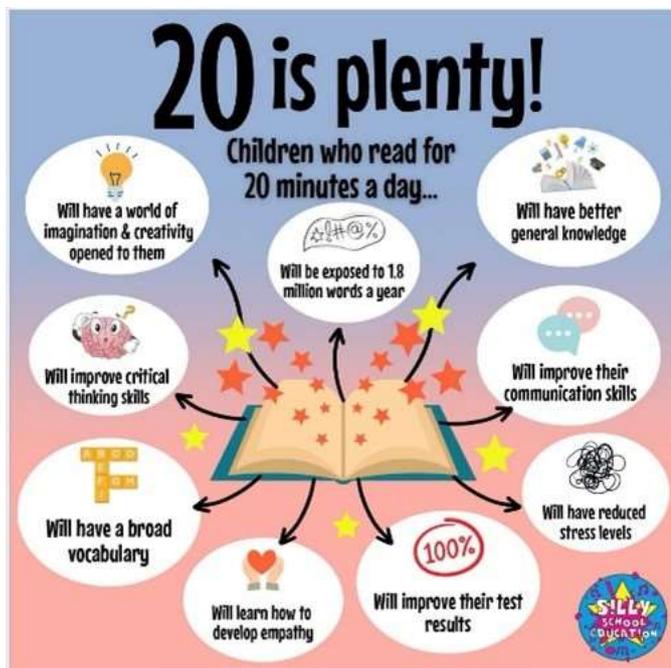
The Department for Education and the National Literacy Trust have announced that 2026 is the Year of Reading. To launch this at St Robert Southwell, in January every child will have the chance to make a bookmark and we will celebrate with shared class reading and introduce DEAR – Drop Everything and Read – to help instil a love of reading for all.

What can you do to help support reading at home?

The best things you can do are:

- Listen to your child read and read to them regularly.
- Make reading fun! Enjoy stories together as a family.
- Talk about what you read: ask questions and share ideas.
- Be a role model: let your child see you reading too.
- Explore different texts: books, comics, recipes, and even audiobooks.

There is a lot of evidence that shows children who read often do much better at school. To find out more, visit: www.goallin.org.uk



SCHOLASTIC
SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUBS

READING EVERY DAY...

- ...**CREATES** lifelong readers.
- ...**TEACHES** children to find adventure, ideas, and answers through books.
- ...**STRENGTHENS** relationships and creates memories as a family activity.
- ...**OPENS DOORS** through which children can learn about themselves.
- ...**BUILDS** a diverse vocabulary and strengthens fluency in reading.
- ...**ALLOWS** a child's imagination and creativity to blossom.
- ...**GIVES** children the tools needed to become successful students.
- ...**TAKES** the "scary" out of reading in the classroom.
- ...**HELPS** children make connections to new places, people, and concepts.
- ...**AWAKENS** children to the world around them.

READ
Every Day
Lead a Better
LIFE

Following Jesus' footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness.



St Robert Southwell Catholic Primary School

Aiming For Excellence - Being The Best We Can Be

WINNER



Book Corner Competition:

In November, Miss Beck introduced a Book Corner competition to re-vamp the classroom reading areas. Everyone put in an amazing effort and the new book corners look great! Congratulations to the winners: 1S, 6R, 2R and 3R.



Nursery



Reception



1R



2R



3R



4R



4S



5R



5S



6S

Following Jesus' footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness.