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World Book Day: I've thoroughly enjoyed all of our book themed activities —children started the day with a tasting menu that they could order new texts from, took part in the national design competitions, and competed in the book World Cup to select a new class reading book. Thank you to Mrs Yale in Year Two who made sure ALL children could participate fully.

Spending your book tokens: I know that we wrote out celebrating that Asda in Cape Hill were stocking the World Book Day texts but, when Mrs Yale and Miss Kaur walked around today at lunch they had none in the stands—but—heroes that they are, they have driven to stockists across Sandwell to source as many of the free books as possible. So, if children bring in their vouchers tomorrow we'll strive to match them we a free book. I can't thank staff enough for their commitment to getting books into homes and into the hands of our children! Myself and Mr Blakey-Harris will try to tempt them in further with readings during tomorrow's assembly...

Visitors this week: Year Four each spent a full day this week with a professional Actor and historian which allowed them to delve deep into the ancient city of Baghdad, exploring the famous events, scientists and mathematicians associated with the area and culture. They treated the rest of the school to a theatrical production at the end of each day: a fantastic way to introduce their History leaning hook.

Next week's events and visitors: A busy week ahead that includes: Hearing tests with the School Nurse on Monday, International Women's day assembly on Wednesday, British Cycling taster sessions for Year 5 (5SB), and West Midlands Police with follow up Online Safety sessions for Year 6 on Friday.

A thank you to our volunteers! We inducted 3 new starters this week to take our total of community volunteers to 11 across school. These have been an instant help, allowing us to listen to more children read, support more children in class and to support games at playtime.

Reception into the big playground: Mrs Howell and the team have been busy resetting the outdoor area in reception with resources and outside classroom equipment ready for the (hopefully) warmer days to come. This has allowed the reception children to begin their slow transition into Year 1 by moving into the larger play space at lunch. You could tell from their red faces this week how much they enjoyed the freedom to run and play—marking the half a year they have already completed with us!

With best wishes, Mr Reed