

# Happy New Year!

From



It's a brand-new year, a new term, and we have lots of new exciting ways for you to enjoy your local library!

School newsletter January 2025



## School Library Visits

We welcome class visits to the library year-round, flexible to your needs. Give your children a valuable opportunity to learn more about how libraries work, engage with stories and activities, or simply enjoy some free time to browse and borrow books.

Sessions usually last around an hour and can be tailored to fit any projects or events through-out the year.

To enquire please contact us by email:  
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## National Storytelling Week

This fantastic annual event is a joyful celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world, they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy, they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills. The theme for National Storytelling Week 2025 is 'Reimagine your world'. Whether it's something unexpected on a walk in the park, odd sounds you hear at night, or a path you've never followed, the world around us is full of secret lives, places and possibilities. The most extraordinary story can come from the most ordinary place: it just needs someone to find it.

National Storytelling Week is a fantastic opportunity to arrange a visit to your local library and celebrate the power of stories.





## Children's Mental Health Week

Place2Be launched Children's Mental Health Week 10 years ago, with lots of schools and youth groups getting involved every year. We'd love to have you join us for Children's Mental Health Week! The year's focus is Know Yourself, Grow Yourself, with the aim to equip and empower children and young people across the UK to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them.

Class visits to the library arranged during Children's Mental Health week will be themed to showcase all the ways the library can help support young people's mental health. Staff will discuss the importance of reading for pleasure, how to find books on important subjects such as mental health and highlight some of the many digital resources available, such as our **When a Book Might Help** collection.



Behaviours and routines

Disability and neurodiversity

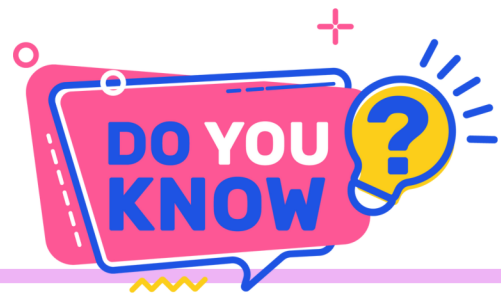
Education and learning

Families and home life

Health and wellbeing

LGBTQ+

Sharing stories about various situations can put a child's mind at ease and make transitions and new experiences easier to cope with and more understandable. **When a book might help** is a list of story books suitable for this purpose. Visit our webpage to find curated lists of books for all ages that tackle a multitude of health and wellbeing related subjects.



National  
Literacy  
Trust

Change your story

- Children who are the most engaged with literacy are three times more likely to have higher levels of mental wellbeing than children who are the least engaged (39.4% vs 11.8% [Clark & Teravainen-Goff, 2018](#))

In our Annual Literacy Survey, we asked children and young people aged 8 to 18 to reflect on the reasons why they read.

- 3 in 5 (59.4%) children and young people told us that reading helped them relax
- Nearly 1 in 2 (46.0%) said reading made them feel happy
- 3 in 10 said reading made them feel more confident (29.8%) or helped them deal with problems (27.3%)

Find out more in our [Reading for Mental Wellbeing report](#)



# What's happening at



## Saturday Family Fun - Construction Club at Chandlers Ford Library

Every Saturday  
10am to 4:30pm

Come along, play and build!  
Parents/carers to remain in the library.

- Free
- Chandler's Ford Library
- Saturday
- Age 4 and over
- Construction Club

## Rhymetime at Chandler's Ford Library

Every Tuesday and Thursday  
10:30am to 11am

Join us for fun and rhymes at Chandler's  
Ford Library.

- Free
- Chandler's Ford Library
- Thursday
- Tuesday
- Storytime and rhymetime

## Mini Chatterbooks at Chandler's Ford Library

Every 2nd and 4th Monday of the  
month  
4pm to 4:30pm

Talk about books, do activities and much  
more!

(Term time only)

- Chandler's Ford Library
- Monday
- Age 4 to 7
- Free
- Books, reading and writing

## Storytime at Chandler's Ford Library

Every Monday  
10:30am followed by Play and Stay

Join us for fun and stories at Chandlers  
Ford Library every Monday.

Suitable for all children aged 5 and  
under.

- Free
- Chandler's Ford Library
- Monday
- Under 5s
- Storytime and rhymetime

## Spring Half-Term



Join us for lots of free fun  
activities, trails, crafts and more  
during half-term! This year's  
crafts will be themed around  
Green and Thrifty fortnight which  
means lots of eco-friendly  
activities such as junk modelling  
and an eco-themed library trail!  
No need to book, just come along  
and enjoy the fun!