



SUMMER TERM  
NEWSLETTER

School Newsletter - MAY 2026



## 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 30-45mins and can be tailored to fit any projects or events through-out the year.

To enquire please contact us both by email:  
samuel.munday@hants.gov.uk  
yvonne.taylor2@hants.gov.uk



## Coat & Wellies Exchange

Do your old winter coats or wellies that no longer fit? Looking for an upgrade? At Chandler's Ford Library you can donate old children's coats and wellies (in good condition) and take new ones for free! You don't need to donate one to take one and you don't need to take one to donate one. It's all part of our Warm and Welcome campaign to make sure everyone has access to warm clothing when they need it.



## Home Education Club - Every Friday

Would you like to meet other children who are home educated?

Come along to our informal group to meet other families and enjoy what the library has to offer together!"

Every Friday from 10am



World Book Night is run by **The Reading Agency**, a national charity that tackles life’s big challenges through the proven power of reading. It brings people from all backgrounds together for one reason – to inspire others to read more.

What better way to celebrate than by arranging a trip to your local library!

To enquire please contact us both by email:  
samuel.munday@hants.gov.uk  
yvonne.taylor2@hants.gov.uk



World Autism Acceptance Month is an opportunity for everyone to come together and raise awareness, acceptance, and create a society where autistic people are supported and understood. Whether you’re at home, at school, or at work, your involvement can make a real difference. It’s about how you show up, whether you’re supporting your autistic colleagues, students, or family members, your actions can help create an inclusive and accepting world.

**At school**

Free school resources, lesson plans and activities.

[See our resources](#)

There are a tone of free resources on the National Autistic Society’s website with ideas about how you can get involved.



You can find a curated list of books about and containing characters with Autism on the Hampshire Libraries When a Book Might Help collection web page!



## Shakespeare's Birthday! - 23<sup>rd</sup> April

The immortal bard, William Shakespeare's birthday is traditionally celebrated on April 23, which is also St. George's Day and the anniversary of his death in 1616.

A perfect opportunity for a Shakespeare inspired school project or even a themed trip to the library!



## Elmer Day - 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Elmer Day is a colourful celebration of David McKee's beloved patchwork elephant, Elmer. The annual event encourages children and grown-ups alike to celebrate diversity, kindness, and creativity – core themes in the much-loved Elmer stories.

There will be lot of free resources and activity packs to download on the official website.

Why not celebrate with a Elmer themed school project or a trip to your local library!



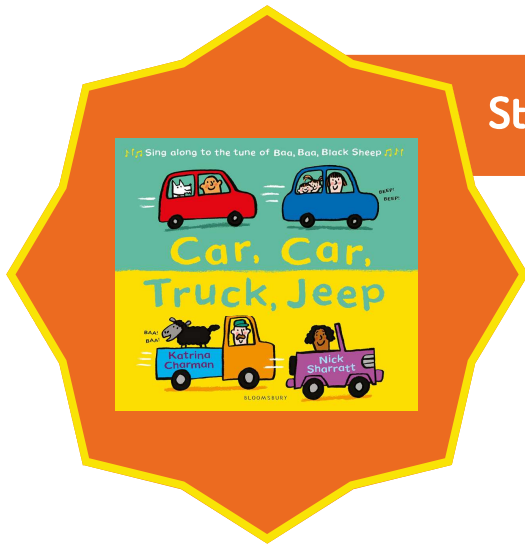
## Summer Reading Challenge 2026

The dates for the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge, Read to the Beat, are confirmed for Saturday 11 July to Saturday 12 September.

We will soon be contacting schools to offer SRC assembliles - keep an eye out for future newsletters!

In the meantime you can find out more about this year's theme on the official Reading agency website!

<https://readingagency.org.uk/get-reading/our-programmes-and-campaigns/summer-reading-challenge/>



## Story of the Month!

Hampshire Libraries' Story of The Month for April is Car, Car, Truck, Jeep! Enjoy the story in the library and grab your own Story of the Month Chart. Claim a sticker for each Story of the Month you read and when you've read 6 you'll get a certificate!



## Rhyme of the Month

Hampshire Libraries' Rhyme of the Month for April is Hickory, Dickory, Dock! Enjoy the rhyme in the library or at home and grab your own Rhyme of the Month Chart. Claim a sticker for each Story of the Month you sing together and when you've sung 6 you'll get a certificate!



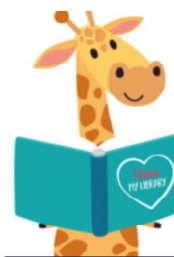
## Activity Challenge of the Month

Hampshire Libraries' Challenge of the Month for April is called 'What's in the Box?'. select 3-10 objects and hide them in boxes/bags. Can your child guess what's in each one by shaking and listening? After discovering what's inside, can they describe what the object is and what it is for?



**BBC TINY**  
**Happy**  
**PEOPLE**

Find more fun activities, rhymes, tips and advice for all ages on BBC's Tiny Happy People website!

[FIND A LIBRARY](#)[MEMBERSHIP](#)[WHAT'S ON](#)[SERVICES](#)[KIDS' ZONE](#)[ABOUT US](#)

## Fun stuff for families and kids



Fun stuff



Children's clubs and events



When a book might help



## Support for parents and babies

Your local library is a hub of support for new parents and babies during their first twelve months and beyond. Find out how we can help your new family feel at home in the library.

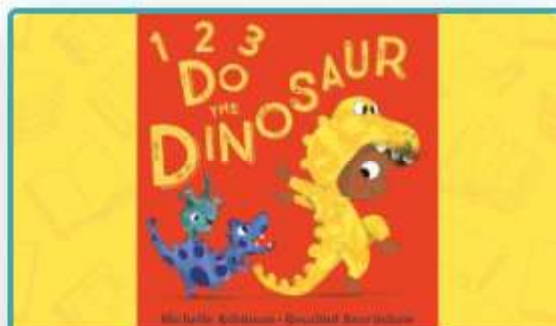
[Find out more](#)



### Rhyme of the month

Row Row Row Your Boat

[Find out more](#)



### Story of the month

1,2,3 Do the Dinosaur

[Find out more](#)

**authorfy.**  
a world of author videos & book resources

## Authorfy

The one-stop hub for children's book resources, author videos and high-quality classroom content. You can get free access to this fantastic resource during the National Year of Reading (1 January to 31 December 2026).

[Find out more](#)



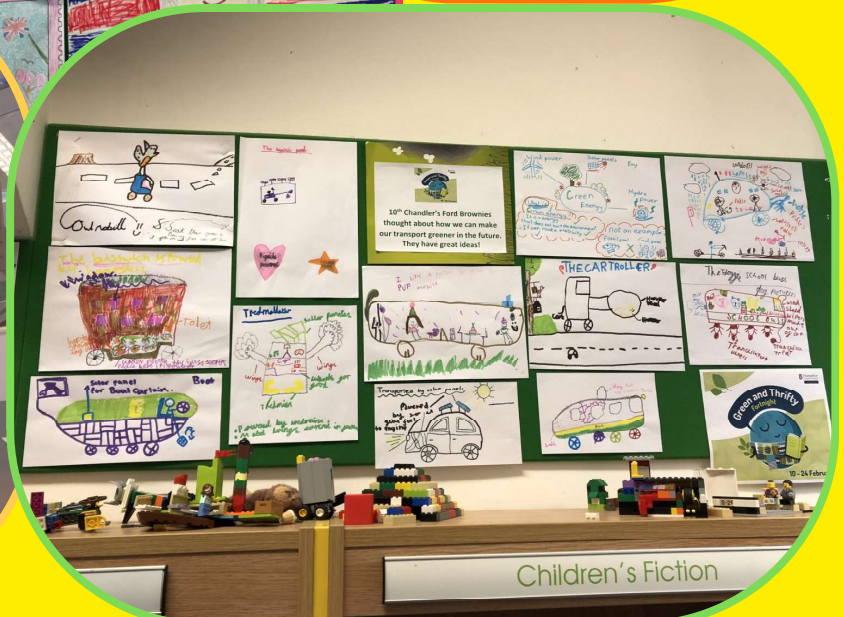
# SCHOOL LIBRARY DISPLAYS

Here are just some of the fantastic displays our local schools have contributed to the library and local community.

Displays help us celebrate national and local events and make the library a colourful and vibrant place to be!

If you'd like to see your school projects featured in our library spaces, please contact us via the email below.

We'd love to hear your ideas!  
[samuel.munday@hants.gov.uk](mailto:samuel.munday@hants.gov.uk)  
[yvonne.taylor2@hants.gov.uk](mailto:yvonne.taylor2@hants.gov.uk)





# CHANDLERS FORD LIBRARY

## Family Events

**MONDAYS**

**10:30am**

### Story Time & Stay and Play

Listen to some of your favourite stories, make new friends and help support your child's language development and communication skills. Followed by a free stay and play - crafts, puzzles, duplo, colouring, dressing up and more!

**TUESDAYS  
THURSDAYS**

**10:30am**

### Rhymetime

Our super popular Rhymetime sessions are a fantastic opportunity to have lots of fun, boost your child's confidence, and help them develop strong language and communication skills. It's never too early to start!

**FRIDAYS**

**From 10am**

### Home Education Club

Would you like to meet other children who are home educated? Come along to our informal group to meet other families and enjoy what the library has to offer together!

**EVERY  
SATURDAY**

**10am - 4:30pm**

### Family Fun - CONSTRUCTION CLUB

Free fun in the children's library! Colouring, Lego, toys, dressing up, children's trails and of course loads of books!  
This is a self-led session. Children must be supervised at all times.

**FREE DROP-IN FAMILY EVENTS - NO NEED TO BOOK!**