



NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK

National Storytelling Week is an annual event celebrating the joy of stories – something we certainly do here at Crown Street! Stories are incredible as they help teach us about the world; allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy; they help us to relax and escape to other worlds and they can of course help develop essential literacy skills.

National Storytelling Week is not just a celebration of written stories in books, but oral storytelling and writing for pleasure too.

The theme this year was 'Soundtrack your Story' exploring how music can connect us to words and helps us to express who we are and how we see the world, and also how the magic of stories can come alive through sound, lyrics, rhythm and rhyme!

To bring the magic of storytelling alive, each class took delivery of a brand-new book to inspire their learning for this week. 'A First Book of Bugs' a poetry book by Simon Mole was delivered to Pre-School and Reception – allowing them to explore rhyme and rhythm, and 'I am Nefertiti' was delivered to Year 1 – allowing them to explore story creation through music and rhythm.

The National Literacy Trust have created some 'Storytelling at Home' resources to support the learning done this week in school. For the EYFS resource [click here](#), and for the Key Stage 1 resource [click here](#).

- **Pre-School** have enjoyed performing mini-beast poems from the book, storytelling through puppets at the Pre-School Puppet Show, re-telling their favourite stories to their friends and sharing stories with parents/carers during the Stay & Play.
- **Reception** have enjoyed performing some of the bug poems and creating their own pieces of bug artwork as well as their own bugs using playdough.
- **Year 1** started the week with a live, online storytelling workshop with Annemarie Anang where they joined a nationwide band and orally composed the next adventure for Nefertiti. They then completed some incredible writing including factfiles about Marimas (an African instrument used in the story), diary entries and a letter to the author.



CROWN STREET COMMUNITY - VISITORS

STAY & PLAY IN EYFS – thank you to all the parents/carers who were able to attend our Stay & Play this week. We enjoyed welcoming you and sharing our Busy Learning with you. We will hold another session in the Summer term.

DENTAL HYGIENISTS VISIT, ALL CLASSES – we welcomed in dental hygienists from Smile Stylist Dental Clinics to speak to the children about oral health - we learnt all about what teeth do and how many we have, as well as looking after our teeth including the importance of brushing. The children got the chance to show their teeth brushing skills using the models. A huge thank you to the Smile Stylist team for taking the time to visit us.

GUIDE DOG VISITOR IN 1ND – today we welcomed in Jacqueline and her Guide Dog Lindy, who spoke about sight loss, the Guide Dogs Charity and the importance of Guide Dogs and how they can help people. Thank you so much to both Jacqueline and Lindy for taking the time to visit us.



ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK ...

Our assembly this week was linked to National Storytelling Week. We discussed what storytelling is and the importance of it for so many things, including encouraging us to use our voices to tell our own stories. We discussed some of our favourite stories and when and how we like to listen to stories, but also how stories are actually all around us – not just in books!



Did you know that storytelling is the oldest art form in the world? As long as there have been people – there have been stories! We looked at some images of storytelling through history – including how stories have been recorded. We finished by sharing how everyone has stories to tell and that we are all storytellers!



CHARACTER AWARDS!

This week's Character Awards have been awarded:

In PLMM this was awarded for **Curiosity**
– for amazing mark making

In RSH this was awarded for **Citizenship**
– for being a good team member and friend

In 1ND this was awarded for **Bravery**
– for being an exemplary role model

Well done to you all!



Bravery



Citizenship



Curiosity



Gratitude



Integrity



Kindness



BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation by: Mrs Parker

Book Title: Thank You for the Little Things

Author: Caryl Hart

Character Trait Link: Gratitude

Reason: It makes me reflect on all the things I should be grateful for – even the small things!



HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

With half-term nearly upon us (Monday 16th – Friday 20th Feb), please find some links below that may be useful in finding different things that are happening across the city:

- [The Super-Duper Family Festival \(18th – 21st Feb\)](#)
- [Science and Industry Museum](#) – Horrible Science: Cosmic Chaos Exhibition
- [Z-arts](#)
- [70 things to do in Manchester](#)
- [RHS Garden Bridgewater](#) – The Wind in the Willows Trail
- [Loads to Do - Manchester](#)

Please click the image for information about an external Multi-Activity Holiday Club for half-term



CROWN STREET COMMUNITY

UPCOMING FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS - INVITATION TO ALL PARENTS / CARERS

HOLI (MARCH) | EID-AL-FITR (MARCH) | EASTER (APRIL)

Over the next couple of months there are different festivals and celebrations and we would love to share common traditions and experiences with our children so we can continue to learn and develop awareness, understanding and mutual respect towards one another and different views and beliefs. Therefore, we would like to invite any parents/carers into the classroom to talk about any of the above celebrations. If you are interested, please get in touch through our admin@crowstreetprimary.org.uk. Thank you in advance for your time and support.

SAVE THE DATES:

- **MONDAY 2nd MARCH** – Parent Session regarding the RSHE 2026 Curriculum
- **THURSDAY 5th MARCH – WORLD BOOK DAY** – children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character!
- **TUESDAY 24th & WEDNESDAY 25th MARCH – PARENTS' EVENINGS** – more information to be sent out after half-term
- **WEDNESDAY 1st APRIL, 9.30am – SPRING SING PERFORMANCE (all classes)** – parents/carers will be invited in to watch all our classes come together to perform some Spring songs together. Please save the date and time – more information will be shared after half-term.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Mon 9th – 15th Feb** – Children's Mental Health Week
– PTA craft sessions in class
- Tues 10th Feb** – Prospective Pre-School Parent Tour, 9.30am
– Safer Internet Day
- Weds 11th Feb** – Mystery Reader, 2.45pm
- Fri 13th Feb** – **School Closes for half-term break**
- Mon 23rd Feb** – **School Reopens to all for Spring 2 Term**
- Tues 24th Feb** – Prospective Pre-School Parent Tour, 9.30am
- Fri 27th Feb** – Chester Zoo Visit RSH and 1ND
- Mon 2nd March** – RSHE Parent Consultation Session
- Thurs 5th March** – World Book Day, including dressing up!
- Tues 24th & Weds 25th March** – Parents' Evening
- Weds 1st April** – Spring Sing Performance (all classes)

For 2025-26 and 2026-27 Term Dates please [click here](#)