

# Literacy News

February 2015



As *springtime* approaches and the better weather is starting to warm us up again, this edition of the Literacy newsletter brings you some suggestions for *half-term opportunities* to embrace literacy in your homes and beyond.



*Year 9 enjoying their Shakespeare workshop.*

## Shakespeare Festival

Year 9 took part in a *Midsummer Night's Dream* workshop during their Festival class in February. Led by Miss Cassidy and Miss Faloon, they explored why we still study Shakespeare today and had a go at using some Shakespearean insults!

You could ask your daughter about which scene she will be performing for the *Shakespeare Festival House Competition* and help her to rehearse her lines.

## Cosy Corner

On **VALENTINE'S DAY** you could try some of these 'lovely' activities together...

- **Discuss** your opinions on the verses inside the Valentine's cards that you send and receive;
- Have a go at **writing your own love poems** or love letters for each other;
- **Research** the story of St Valentine and the first Valentine's cards.

*See page 2 for more Half-Term Literacy activities...*

## Training and Information Opportunity

A representative from the **Northern Ireland Dyslexia Association** (affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association) will be coming to school on the evening of **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** to talk to parents about **strategies to support students** with Dyslexia and Literacy Difficulties. Invitations and further details will be sent to you shortly; please reply as soon as possible as **places will be limited**.



# HALF-TERM LITERACY ACTIVITIES

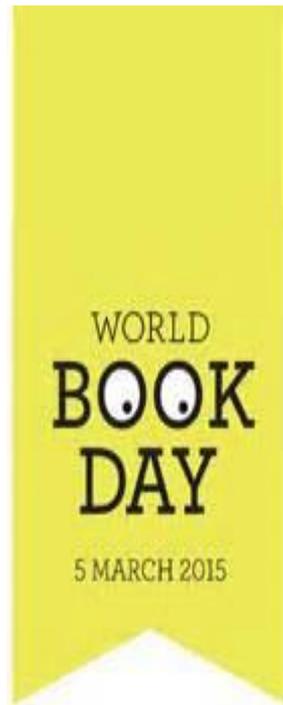
**Out walking together?** Take time to observe the changing landscape and develop your daughter's *descriptive skills* by challenging each other to come up with the best descriptions of what you see, hear and smell on your journey.



## WORLD BOOK DAY

This year World Book Day is celebrated on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. As always, each pupil in the school will be given a **book token** which they can exchange for one of the special £1 books published in March or to get £1 off the cost of any book (the £1 books are available from most large supermarkets and bookshops). Further information is available online at [worldbookday.com/books/](http://worldbookday.com/books/).

In the College we will be celebrating the day during a **special assembly** for Years 8 & 9 and will be running several competitions before and during the day. The following week we will also be hosting **our annual Book Fair** in the library, which will give pupils the opportunity to purchase a book of their own.



## And finally...

BBC Radio 2 has launched the *2015 '500 words' short story competition* – you can read more about entry details online at [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk).

Entrants have to be between 5 and 13 years of age, stories should be no longer than 500 words and there are **prizes for winners!** We would like to encourage all Junior School pupils to take part.

