

Courthill Infant School

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9th March 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are delighted to share that **2026 has been designated the National Year of Reading in the UK**. This nationwide initiative aims to celebrate the joy of reading, inspire readers of all ages, and promote reading as a powerful tool for learning, creativity, wellbeing, and connection. Throughout the year, schools, libraries, and community organisations across the country will be offering opportunities to build excitement around reading, explore new books, and help children develop lifelong reading habits.

How Our School Will Be Taking Part

To help our children get the most out of the National Year of Reading, we will be joining two key initiatives:

BCP Libraries: Library Legends Quest

BCP Council Libraries have launched a *Library Legends* challenge, running throughout 2026. It is **free to join** and designed for families to enjoy together. Children can complete a series of fun reading-themed quests linked to four Library Legends characters: Explorer, Creator, Rookie, and Faithful. Along the way, they can collect stars, character cards and, if they complete all five quests, a Library Legends medal and a place in the official league. **To take part, visit any BCP library** to pick up a booklet and begin the quest. Please see the attached flyer and link for full details: <https://www.bpcouncil.gov.uk/libraries/national-year-of-reading-2026/library-legends-challenge>

10,000 Hours: Reading for Fun Campaign

We are joining the national **10,000 Hours Reading for Fun** campaign in the Summer Term. This initiative encourages schools and families across the UK to collectively log **10,000 hours** spent reading purely for enjoyment. This could be stories, comics, magazines, audiobooks, or anything else children love. The campaign highlights that reading for pleasure is one of the biggest indicators of future academic success and helps develop imagination, empathy, and confidence. Click here to for more information about the initiative: <https://popupbookshop.net/go-all-in-10k-hours-reading-for-fun-to-raise-10k/> We will provide more details about how children can log their reading hours as part of our school's contribution.

We look forward to celebrating this special reading year with you and helping all our children discover the adventure that books can bring. Thank you for your support, encouraging reading at home.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

Mrs Logan and Mrs Wright
English Leads

