



**Coleham Primary School
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Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to let you know about a number of reading initiatives that are happening this term at Coleham.

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 1st March and we are hoping that, as last year, as many children (and staff) will dress up as their favourite book character as possible. You will receive a letter about this nearer the time. A group of children are visiting Briarfields Care home to read with the residents. This builds on last year's visits which were greatly appreciated by the residents, staff and the children involved.

Fiction Express will be launched throughout KS2 and in Year 2. It is a reading resource made available through the Schools' Library Service and will be used alongside our existing school banded book system. The resource can be accessed online and every child will be given an access code. It will be used in a variety of ways for example as an ongoing class read, as part of guided reading sessions in school, as an individual read or as a home reading task. In addition to the quizzes and tasks which children can undertake, the most exciting aspect of Fiction Express is that there are 'live' books which are written in response to children's votes. Whilst nothing will replace the experience of handling a real book, we believe that this resource will enhance the children's reading experience.

We realise that not everyone will have access online but some resources can also be downloaded. If online access is an issue for you, please get in touch with your class teacher.

Year 5 children are currently involved in reading books nominated for the Bookfest Big Book Award 2018, the winner of which will be announced at an award ceremony at Theatre Severn in April. In the Autumn term, a group of Year 5 and 6 children were involved in the shortlisting process and it is great to see that one of their favourite books has made it through to the final six. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to read brand new literature and to have a real say in choosing the winner. For this reason, we will delay giving Year 5 children their Fiction express codes until after the Bookfest deadline in the middle of March, so that they can focus on the Bookfest books.

If you have any further queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on the school number, by e-mail wharram.l@colehamprimary.co.uk or at the end of the school day.

Kind regards,

Mrs Brazier