

**Secondary Department**  
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Dear Parents,

**Book Week at BISI - 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> March**

**The BISI Poetry Competition**

This is still running and will do so until **Friday March 25<sup>th</sup>**. Please do promote this at home so as many students as possible have the opportunity to win the trophy and be entered to overseas international poetry competitions. Last year the English Department did exactly that and pleasingly won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the 2010 COBIS Poetry Competition in the age category 11-14. It is not too late. The subject, and possibly title, of the poem needs to be **My Best Friend**.

**World Spelling Day 3<sup>rd</sup> March (and 4<sup>th</sup>)**

All KS3 students have been given user names and passwords to access a world wide spelling competition - Spelling Day in conjunction to World Maths Day. Though time will be given to students to access this competition on-line during school hours, your child can still access at home and continue to compete for up to a hundred plays. Please do support and encourage them to continue play even after school – this is fun learning and a great opportunity to test those spelling skills!

**Secondary Book Week 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> March**

A whole week is dedicated to reading and the promotion of reading. There will be a number of activities for students to enter this week both in and outside their English classes during lunch and break times:

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| <b>Monday</b>    | – | <b>Inter-house/ Book Quiz</b>   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | – | <b>Teacher Reading Champions sharing favourite texts</b>  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | – | <b>Teacher Reading Champions sharing favourite excerpts</b>   |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | – | <b>KS3 (Years 7, 8 &amp; 9) Spelling Bee Competition</b>  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | – | <b>Book Swap</b> (Please help by bringing in finished reads so students may swap books for new. Students can bring old books to any member of the English department at any time during the week) |

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March – All day Book Sale (Greenhouse)**

I am pleased to announce that Greenhouse will be in all day on the first day of Book Week selling the latest, newest and brightest books currently on the market at very reasonable prices to BISI students, teachers and parents. This is always a great day to develop our children's book shelves so please do support us and pop in to pick up a book or two or three. If you are unable to come in yourself, please ensure your child remembers their pocket money for this day.

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Fictional Character Day – Bring in 5TL and dress in costume!**

For the daringly bold secondary student (and teacher) here is an opportunity to dress up as that fictional character that you've secretly wished you were. The whole day I hope will be a stunning spectacle of hobbits, goblins, pirates and super heroes or villains going about normal lessons. For the not so adventurous and less extravert I am sure there are as equally many subtly dressed characters as there are 'in your face' ones. With just a little wash off hair dye for example you and your friends could be the Weasley family in comfortable clothes on the weekend... There are prizes for the Best Dressed and the Most Imaginative Costume. I look forward to many smiles, book chats and excellent photos of this day. Good luck to all

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March – 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Book Week will initiate a three week long Readathon where students compete to read as many books appropriate for their age as is possible. The idea for this is obviously to have our children engaged in more reading than television, Facebook and Xbox. Please do encourage by sponsoring you child per book and temporarily restricting access to such activities that might hinder their reading for pleasure or for their own good. You may, if you wish, like to buy a new book or two to help them on their way and excite them about reading. (If this is the case, don't forget the Greenhouse Book Sale on Monday 7<sup>th</sup>!)

Please remember that the best way to get your child to read more is to be seen reading yourself. So let us make March our reading month! Oh, and do remember... **The Greenhouse Book Sale on Monday 7<sup>th</sup>!**

Wishing you all a good read in March,

Russell Gunnell