



SPRING

If you would like to renew a book, or have any comments/ queries, please don't hesitate to contact us at library@newsteadwood.co.uk

Happy reading! – Miss Mullins, Miss Walker, and Miss Henry



Access our library software from any device, anywhere, using this URL: <https://uk.accessit.online/nws00>

To log in, click on the blue button that says, 'Login with School Details,' or enter your school email address in the Borrower ID field and your school password in the password field. Use Accessit to view your loans; reserve books when you're unable to come to the library; search the library stock; write book reviews, and more.

Follow us on Twitter/ X:
 @NWSLibrary

Follow us on Instagram:
 @nwschoollibrary

See what we're reading on Storygraph:
<https://app.thestorygraph.com/profile/newsteadlibrary>

View our Amazon Wish List:
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/31UREQLV3HCI?ref=wl_share

Orpington Library's Younger Teens Reading Group

Do you enjoy reading?
Enjoy talking about books?



Would you like to join the
Younger Teens Reading
Group at Orpington Library?

If you would like to join, please contact us by
email: orpington.library@gll.org

Meetings are once a month on a Monday from
5:30-6:30pm, during term time, for ages 11-
14 years

We look forward to seeing you!



On This Day... Wilkie Collins was born 8th January 1824

Wilkie Collins, born in London on January 8th, 1824, was an important English writer who became one of the earliest masters of mystery and detective fiction. The son of a landscape painter, Collins showed a talent for storytelling from a young age, inventing stories while at boarding school. His first published work was a memoir about his father, but he soon turned to fiction, writing novels such as *Antonina* and *Basil*, which stood out for their realistic characters and dramatic plots. A key moment in his career came when he formed a close professional friendship with Charles Dickens in the early 1850s, an influence that helped Collins develop strong characters, humour, and suspenseful storytelling, while Collins himself influenced Dickens's use of complex plots. Collins gained major fame with *The Woman in White* (1860), a highly successful novel known for its suspense, multiple narrators, and memorable villains, which helped define the sensation novel and later detective fiction. He continued to build his reputation with popular works like *No Name*, *Armada*, and *The Moonstone*, the latter often considered one of the first true detective novels in English. Later in his career, Collins used fiction to explore social issues, such as unfair marriage laws and animal experimentation. By the time of his death in 1889, Wilkie Collins was widely recognised as a pioneering author whose innovative storytelling had a lasting influence on mystery and crime literature.



The Woman in White by Wilkie Collins

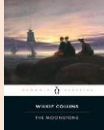
This novel distinctively blends melodrama and comedy with realism; and in part from the power of its story. Yet *The Woman in White* is more than just a classic thriller, and contemporary critics have found in it a feminist parable for our times.

The Moonstone by Wilkie Collins

The Moonstone, a yellow diamond looted from an Indian temple and believed to bring bad luck to its owner, is bequeathed to Rachel Verinder on her eighteenth birthday. That very night the priceless stone is stolen again and when Sergeant Cuff is brought in to investigate the crime, he soon realizes that no one in Rachel's household is above suspicion.

Drood by Dan Simmons

In 1865 Charles Dickens, the world's most famous writer, narrowly escapes death in the Staplehurst Rail Disaster. He will never be the same again. A public hero for rescuing survivors, he slowly descends into madness as he hunts the individual he believes to be responsible for the carnage: a spectral figure known only as Drood.



National Word Nerd Day on the 9th January

Humans have communicated since the earliest days of our existence, but early language was very simple compared to the complex systems of words we use today. As humans evolved and their lifestyles became more advanced, they needed better ways to name objects, share ideas, and express thoughts, which led to the development of richer language. For many centuries, however, words were mostly shared through speech because reading and writing were considered luxuries during the medieval period and were usually limited to the wealthy or powerful. Storytelling and theatre allowed people to enjoy language, and writers like William Shakespeare expanded English by inventing hundreds of new words. By the mid-1700s, education became more widespread, making reading and writing accessible to more people and creating the need to

organise and define the English language. This led Dr. Samuel Johnson to publish his famous dictionary in 1755 after seven years of work, a book that remains one of the most influential in English history. Today, National Word Nerd Day celebrates the long and important role words have played in shaping human communication, culture, and civilisation.



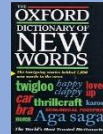
The Art of Language Invention: The Words Behind World-Building by David J. Peterson
From master language creator David J. Peterson comes a creative guide to language construction for sci-fi and fantasy fans, writers, game creators, and language lovers. Peterson offers a captivating overview of language creation, covering its history from Tolkien's creations and Klingon to today's thriving global community of conlangers. He provides the essential tools necessary for inventing and evolving new languages, using examples from a variety of languages including his own creations, punctuated with references to everything from Star Wars to Michael Jackson.

Away With Words by Sophie Cameron

Set in a world where words appear physically when people speak, AWAY WITH WORDS explores the importance of communication and being there for those we love.

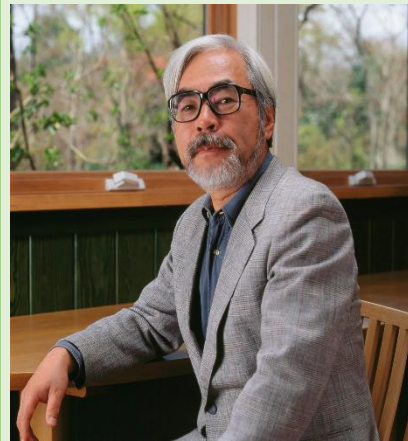
The Oxford Dictionary of New Words by Elizabeth Knowles

New words are the footprints of time. To recite some of the phrases that have become popular in the 1990s—Generation X, Prozac, road rage, shock-jock, voice mail—is to fast-forward through our recent history. Now, in the second edition of *The Oxford Dictionary of New Words*, readers can savor a smorgasbord of new words and phrases that have been coined—or popularized—in the last ten years.



On This Day... Hayao Miyazaki was Born 5th January 1941

Hayao Miyazaki, born on January 5th, 1941, in Tokyo, Japan, grew up during the difficult years of World War II, which forced his family to move to a safer city, an experience that later influenced the themes of his films. The son of an aviation engineer, Miyazaki developed an early interest in creativity and storytelling, especially after discovering manga during his school years, a passion that stayed with him even while studying economics and political science at Gakushuin University. After graduating in 1963, he began his career at Toei Animation, where he worked on several animated films and steadily developed his skills as an animator, scene designer, and storyteller. Seeking greater creative freedom, he later moved to A-Pro, where he continued to refine his craft and gain recognition. Over time, Miyazaki became known for creating imaginative, emotionally rich films such as *Porco Rosso*, *Princess Mononoke*, and the award-winning *Spirited Away*, which earned him international praise. Although,



he announced retirement more than once, he returned to direct major successes like *Howl's Moving Castle*, *Ponyo*, and *The Wind Rises*, while also contributing as a screenwriter on other projects. Through decades of work, Miyazaki established himself as one of the most influential and respected figures in animation history, admired for his creativity, storytelling, and lasting impact on film worldwide.

Black Jack Vol 1 By Osamu Tezuka

Black Jack is a mysterious and charismatic young genius surgeon who travels the world performing amazing and impossible medical feats. Though a trained physician, he refuses to accept a medical license due to his hatred and mistrust of the medical community's hypocrisy and corruption. This leads *Black Jack* to occasional run-ins with the authorities, as well as from gangsters and criminals who approach him for illegal operations.



Get 2026 Started with National Vision Board Day on the 10th of January!

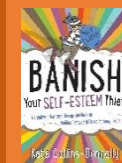
National Vision Board Day was created to encourage people to act toward their goals by visually representing their dreams, helping them imagine and work toward the life they want. Initiated by Kellan Lutz and Ryan Daly and made official in June 2015, the day grew out of a goal setting gathering where friends created boards filled with images and words representing their future hopes. Celebrated each year on the second Saturday in January, the day is based on the "Law of Attraction," which suggests that focusing on positive goals helps draw those outcomes into your life. Vision boards, also called dream boards, are used to break big dreams into smaller, achievable goals and can cover many areas of life, such as relationships, careers, travel, art, and personal growth. They are often made using magazine cut-outs,



photographs, drawings, and other creative materials, allowing people to clearly choose and visualise what they want. The founders believed that seeing these goals every day would help people stay motivated and make better decisions to turn their dreams into reality, a practice that has been supported and popularized through examples from writers, public figures, and documentaries over the years. Have a go at creating yours this weekend to celebrate Vision Board Day!

Banish Your Self-Esteem Thief by Kate Collins-Donnelly

Look out - the *Self-Esteem Thief* is on the prowl! He's the crafty character who keeps stealing your positive self-esteem from your Self-Esteem Vault, leaving only negative thoughts and feelings about you behind. But the good news is you can banish him for good and this workbook will show you how! Packed with activities and real-life stories, this imaginative workbook will show you what self-esteem is, how it develops, the impact it can have and how all this applies to your own self-esteem.



Exam Attack: A Practical, Positive Guide to Exam Success and Beating Stress by Nicola Morgan

Exams are stressful and most people don't love them! This book can't remove all your exam nerves and, anyway, a certain level of stress can help you perform well. Instead this book aims to help you avoid bad stress and have the greatest chance of doing your best when exams arrive. It will give you the tools to control your body and mind during this challenging phase. And the tools will help you at many other stressful times of life.

