

Gorleston youngsters have novel way to celebrate book heroes

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10 March, 2018 - 09:22



All manner of wacky costumes were worn by pupils and staff at Ormiston Venture Academy for World Book Day. Pictures: Ormiston Venture Academy

A Gorleston school celebrated all things literary by holding a book fair, setting reading challenges for pupils and giving youngsters the chance to dress up as their favourite book character.



From Batman villain Joker to David Walliams' The Boy in the Dress, Ormiston Venture Academy saw a huge range of fictional characters take over the school with Chewbacca, Clark Kent and Minions seen stalking corridors.

Friday's event also saw the academy launch a 16 before 16 classic novel challenge. It encourages students to read titles from Steinbeck, Orwell, Bronte and many more.



Once they complete the challenge they will receive a bespoke badge to attach to their blazer which says #booklife - all to promote the importance of reading.



Amy Fordham, leader of literacy and English teacher at Ormiston Venture Academy, said: "Seeing so many of our students walking around the academy clutching a new novel tight to their chests fills me with pride.

"This is especially true of some of our young males, who would sometimes shy away from reading, but today have purchased novels which they can't wait to read tonight.



“Many of our students have really outdone themselves with their outfits and are so excited to tell their teachers and peers all about their favourite book characters.



“Its not just the students who have dressed up, but their teachers too, in order to really spark those positive conversations around reading.”

Simon Gilbert-Barnham, principal of Ormiston Venture Academy, said: “At Venture, we work tirelessly to instil a relentless love of reading into every child that walks through our doors - be this a comic, a lengthy novel, or short story. We love seeing our students read as we know it opens the door for them to achieve so many successes in their future lives.”