# Big Smiles & Big Stories: Our World Book Day Visit!

Hello everyone, I am a Year 8 from Oxted School and today me and some others visited St Mary's Primary School for World Book Day! It was absolutely lovely listening to the Year 3s reading their books to us, and some had even written their own short stories in their English books. Considering the fact that I'd never set foot in that school before, I was pleasantly surprised to see how polite and eager they were to read and show me their own writing.

And honestly, seeing how excited they were in their costumes and knowing how enthusiastic they were to see visitors really made this trip a treat for me. All the children were so polite and some of them even reminded me of myself!

It was a very enjoyable experience for me as I've always liked interacting with younger children (including my sweet younger siblings), and I have also loved both reading and writing for quite a while now.

With reading, I used to feel as if it was a chore when I was little, but I grew to discover my love for books as I became older and I ended up realising that the only thing stopping me was that I couldn't find one that I was interested in. My advice for kids, both younger and older than me – whether you flat-out refuse to pick up a book of just can't find one that catches your eye – is to explore different genres.

I am currently loving mysteries and thrillers, but I know that is definitely not for everyone. And as a recommendation, it's hard to go wrong with Harry Potter despite your age. Even if you don't read them in order (though I've always despised skipping straight to the last book in any series), it's still fairly easy to understand without prior knowledge of the storyline.

As for writing, I've been writing stories for as long as I can remember. My handwriting hasn't always been the best, but whether you prefer typing stuff up or putting pen to paper, writing will always take you far in life. I highly recommend it, no matter your age!

Both are extremely useful skills to have, and they can have many mental benefits such as better memory, reducing stress, and gaining a wide variety of vocabulary.

Thank you for reading,

Written by Tyra H, a student of Oxted School.