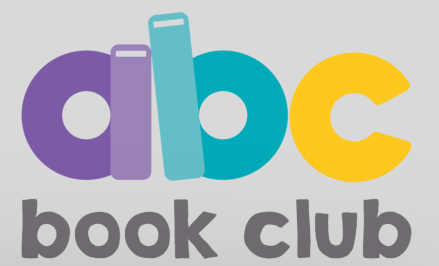


# ABC Spring Update

Quarter 1 2026



## Q1 by numbers

26

Primary schools and organisations supported

13,050

Books donated

8,540

Children given access to books

It's been a busy quarter for ABC. With 5 library launches, a BookFest for schools fundraising challenge, and ABC's very first Gala Dinner all taking place in the first 3 months of 2026



Howard Primary School - Croydon



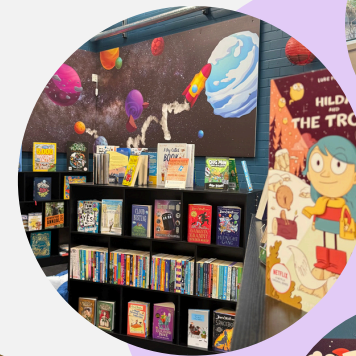
Plumcroft Primary School Plumstead



Heathfield Primary School Croydon



Rachel McMillan Nursery Deptford



Vigo Village Primary - Vigo, Kent



The Reading Space

## ABC's Gala Dinner

In an ABC first, we recently held a fundraising event to raise funds to support our work in schools. The idea of two of ABC's new trustees, it was something we had never considered before and we were completely overwhelmed by the success of the event.

Our Gala Dinner - which was held at The Bull's Head Hotel in Chislehurst was a complete sell out, with a sit down 3 course meal for 113 guests, the largest event the venue had ever seen. We had a live auction, a silent auction and a raffle, with prizes generously donated by local businesses and charity supporters. We completely smashed our fundraising target and raised enough money to support the build of 8 brand new reading spaces in schools and enough books to fill 10 libraries.

Special thanks to Equity - the school travel people - for sponsoring the event, and thanks to The Acorn Group and James Removals as well as everyone else who bought tickets.



## BookFest 2026



World Book Day in March saw over 1000 pupils at schools in SE London and Kent take part in ABC's Book Fest - a celebration of reading and stories.

Pupils at seven primary schools - all of whom have received an ABC library - undertook a variety of sponsored challenges to raise money for their school and for ABC. The generosity and hard work of the schools, the children and their families means that enough money was raised to enable ABC to donate books to hundreds more children living in some of our most deprived boroughs. We can't thank everyone involved in taking part enough for their support.

Thanks also this quarter to The Hedley Foundation, The Siobhan Dowd Trust and Investec for their funding support of ABC.

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