A screenshot of a news page

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A person in a white suit

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Book Week in high school is a tough gig. There's no parades, no fun dress ups and the magic of reading seems to disappear - but not at Mayfield's San Clemente High School.

In the week leading up to Book Week, librarian Kristy Huber has been a pirate, a magician, a farmer and even the Japanese comic character, Totoro.

On Monday, August 19 she was dressed as an astronaut and plans to be a cowboy, butterfly, a chef and an alien throughout Book Week.

"I'm trying to cover a range of non-fiction and fiction characters to gauge student interest. I've even been a stereotypical cranky librarian with grey hair and oversized glasses," she said.

Coinciding with [this year's theme*Reading is Magic*](https://www.newcastleherald.com.au/story/8723683/islington-public-school-transforms-into-hogwarts-for-book-week/), Ms Huber has made it her mission to keep reading at the forefront of the student's minds.

A screenshot of a phone

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"This year's theme, people take it literally - thinking of all those fantasy themes, but I think reading is magic because of what it can do for your life," she said.

"If you can read it makes everything so much easier for you - academic achievement, critical thinking analysis and personal and social development."

She said reading can also feed into teenagers developing their indentity.

"I think by me dressing up, if I can make kids talk or get them interested or any little hook to become a reader. I'll take it," she said.

A person in a space suit holding a book

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Ms Huber started doing dress ups for Book Week in 2023 and has carried on with the tradition this year as well as decorating the library, having a staff dress up day and activities for students.

"I've been trying to build up our book week profile and some students have asked when they can dress up. If I can swing it one year... I'm hoping to," she said.

Newcastle Transport also shared in the magic of Book Week with one of their bus driver's dressing up as *The Magic School Bus*driver.

A person in a blue robe and a cartoon

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Keolis Downer manager and bus driver, Kathleen Lynch, dressed up as Mrs Frizzle from the beloved 90's book.

"Book Week is definitely a highlight for the team here at Newcastle Transport. It's always fun to see the characters and books the kids are loving each year on board our school buses," she said.

A screenshot of a computer

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