

St Mary's News



Hi everyone,

Welcome to a brand new St Mary's News and in this edition we will tell you what is happening around the school and around the world. You can see a sample of all the wonderful writing that you have been doing and find some recommended books for your year group. You can also find out about Mrs Lillywhite's reasons behind the stamps reward system in 'Why, How and When? (Stamps Edition!) There is a recipe for you to try and enjoy, as well as some fun activities to keep you busy. We hope you enjoy reading this edition of St Mary's News!

Mrs Gill

Jessica Trotman

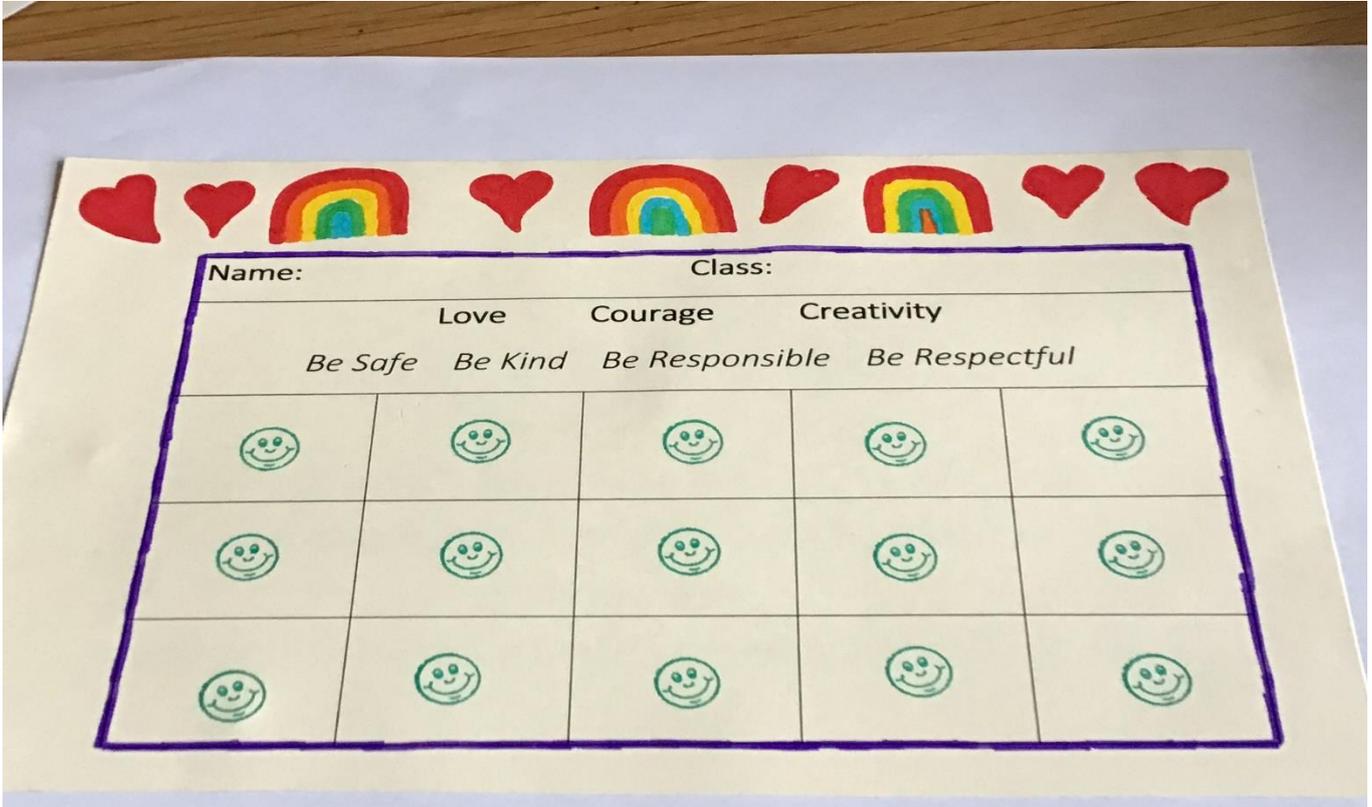
Hattie Kendall

Josh Lawrence

(St Mary's News Team)

Mrs Lillywhite's Why, How and When? (Stamps Edition!)

Year 6 assistant editors (Jessica Trotman, Hattie Kendall, Josh Lawrence) decided they would like to interview Mrs Lillywhite about her decision to start the stamps reward system.



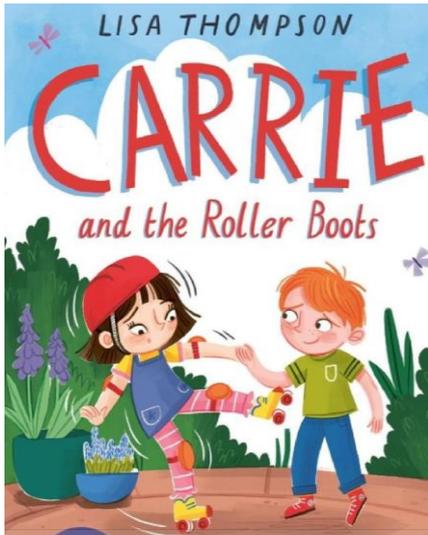
Why did you introduce the stamps? - "I introduced the stamps to recognise and reward people who always work hard and try their best."

How did you get the stamps? – "To get the stamps, I asked my kids what they think you would like. After that, I went onto amazon and bought all they suggested."

When did you think of the idea/when did you start it? - "I can't actually remember when I thought of the idea and it was released on 4th of September 2024."

Mrs Lillywhite's reward system has been very successful with some children achieving more than one full reward card! It is great to see our values being demonstrated and rules being upheld around the school by most children – keep up the great work!

Super Book Recommendations

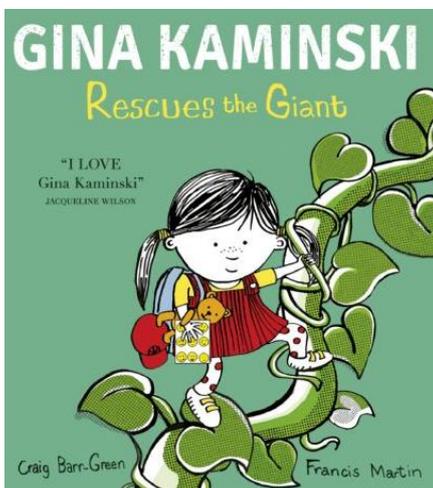


Year 3 (Ages 7–8)

Book: *Carrie and the Roller Boots* by Lisa Thompson

Illustrator: Jess Rose

Synopsis: Carrie dreams of performing a roller-skating routine at her school assembly. However, there's a catch—she's never roller-skated before! This delightful, illustrated chapter book explores themes of friendship and perseverance, making it ideal for young readers, including those who are dyslexic or reluctant readers.

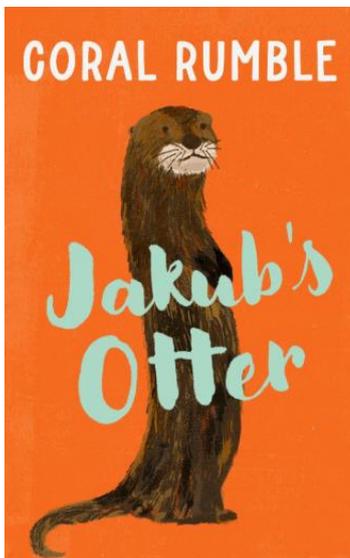


Year 4 (Ages 8–9)

Book: *Gina Kaminski Rescues the Giant* by Craig Barr-Green

Illustrator: Francis Martin

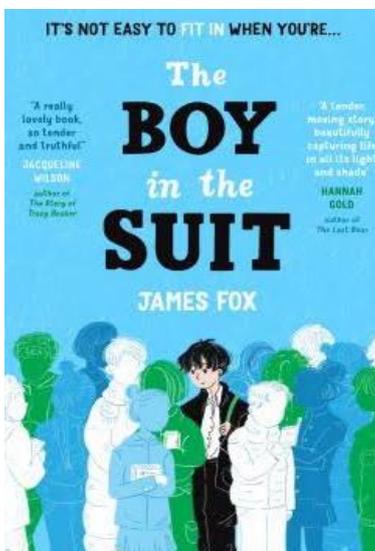
Synopsis: In this modern twist on "Jack and the Beanstalk," confident, autistic protagonist Gina Kaminski devises a plan involving no magic beans but plenty of cake to correct the original plot. This empowering story encourages children to take control of their narratives and is perfect for fans of fractured fairy tales and character-driven stories.



Year 5 (Ages 9–10)

Book: *Jakub's Otter* by Coral Rumble

Synopsis: Ten-year-old Jakub cares for his mother, who has multiple sclerosis. When family friends take him to Italy for a break, he can't stop worrying about his mum. With the help of a wise woodsman, Jakub discovers a new side of himself through storytelling and poetry. This distinctive and original story explores themes of self-discovery and the connection between humans and nature.

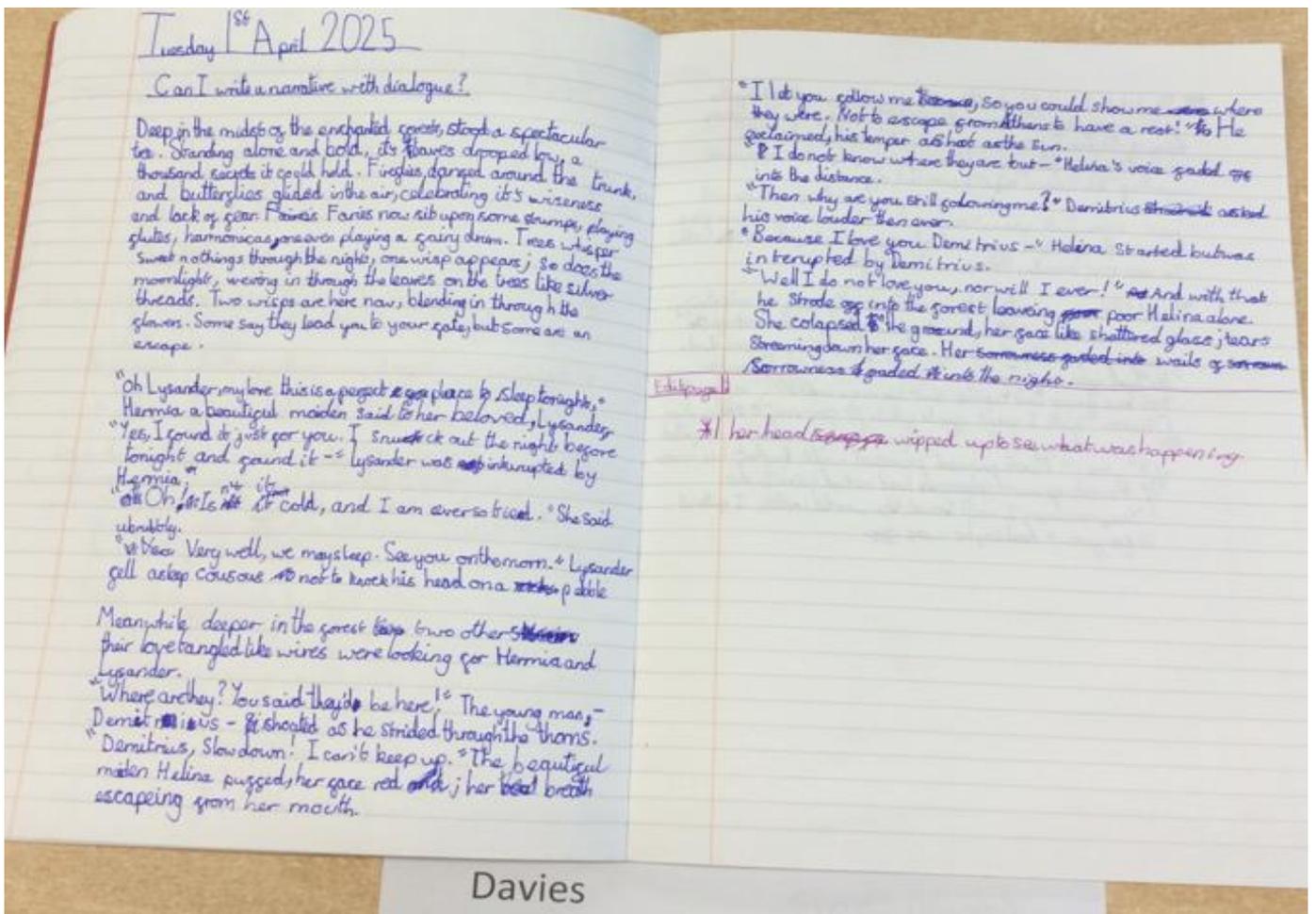
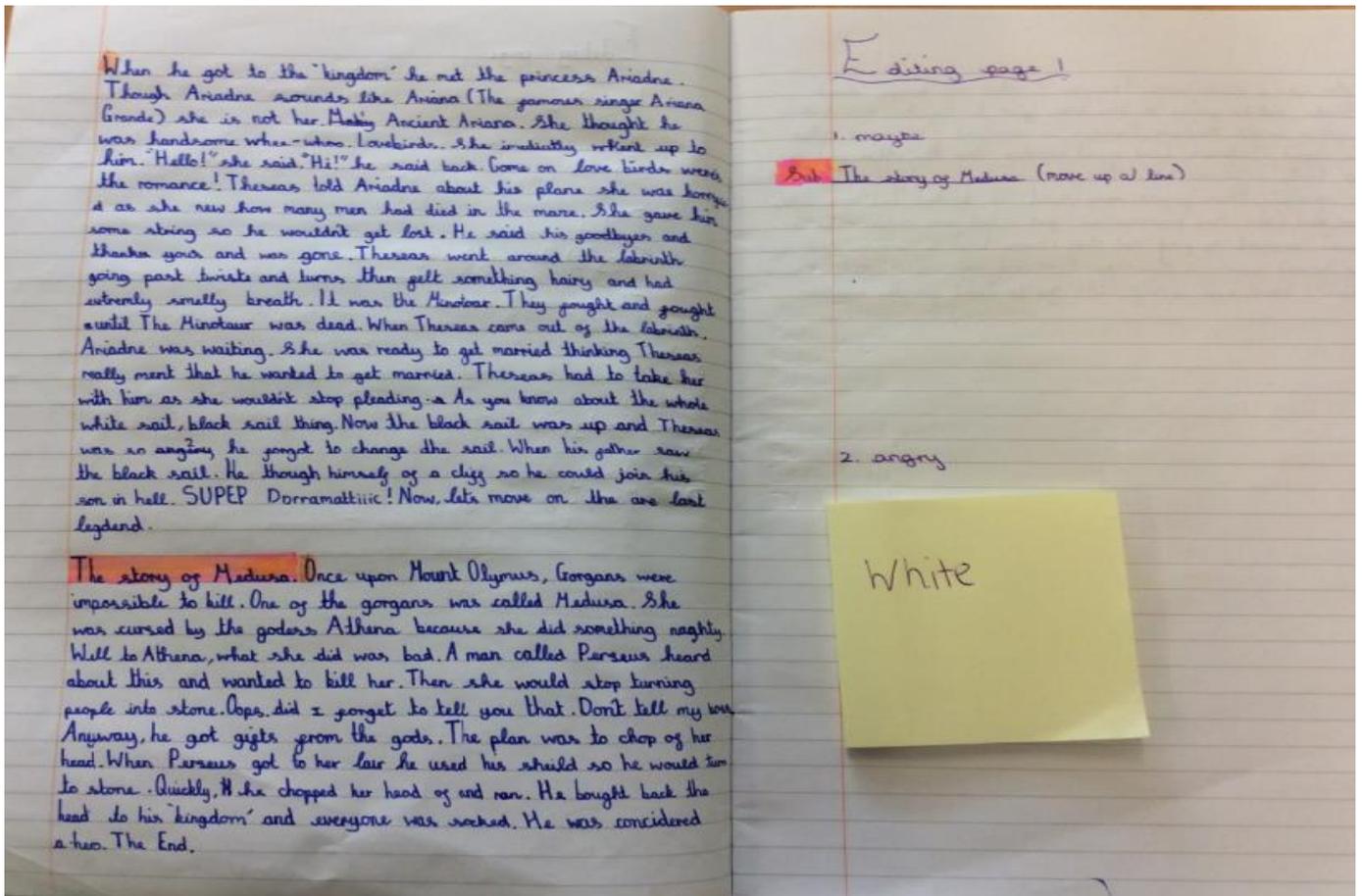


Year 6 (Ages 10–11)

Book: *The Boy in the Suit* by James Fox

Synopsis: Solo, a ten-year-old boy, navigates poverty, his mother's mental health challenges, and social stigma. This touching novel addresses empathy, kindness, and community support. Solo's journey, from attending funerals to a heart-wrenching search for his mother, culminates in a hopeful new beginning with his father. It's a poignant and convincing story of resilience and love.

Your Amazing Writing



Wednesday 7th May

Can I write a paragraph on
advertising for Mr. Botise

Looking for a new pair
of shoes. Get Mr. Botise's
advertising for a pair of shoes
that are also unique, magical
shoes throughout this world.

Has he got bright colors
to get them before they
are sold? Nothing you have
seen so get them quick!

That is a ^{*}sole on internet
stop.

You will be said to you
miss out so get them now!

* limited

Austen

Monday 23rd March 2025

Can I plan what my reader will see and get?

The sky began to darken and a thick cloud
drifted slowly overhead. Me and Trino
saw ~~only~~ ~~clouds~~ clouds drifting in the grey
sky. Me and Trino were ~~under~~ the light sky
since it is up high. Me and Trino felt
so scared. I ~~think~~ we had to get away.

We ran to the harbor where the air would
be better. Me and Trino climbed into the boat
and hugged up with covers on our
laps. Me and Trino were on a ~~strong~~ old
boat. Me and Trino looked into the sea so
we could look at the ship.

~~Birds~~ of our kindness, we fell asleep.
Sometime later we awoke looking back
we could see Pompeii and Mount Vesuvius
erupting. Trino and I were near Pompeii. Mount
Vesuvius was erupting everywhere then Trino
began to choke. I looked at Trino and I
~~to~~ ^{know} he was going to help because he ~~was~~ ~~helped~~
and smiled ~~at~~ everything and everyone we had
ever loved was destroyed.

This is an amazing piece of writing
Harper! You have used lots of
amazing expanded noun phrases.
well done. (top) (smiley)

Conan-Doyle

Friday 2nd May 2025

Can I write a survival guide?

~~Shelter~~ Shelter

Have you ever wondered how to build a
shelter if you were stuck in a forest in a life or
death situation? If you do this book is for you.
I will teach you how to build a warm sturdy
shelter and how to start a fire. This will
provide the necessary things to survive in the
jungle. By the end of this book, you will
be able to make a cozy and comfy shelter
to rest in and how to make a fire.

Materials

Some materials are in plain sight (like
some leaves to waterproof the roof.)
A resourceful and interesting material is mud
because you can use it like cement and
it can also help your den camouflage if you
put leaves on top ~~as well~~ as well.
Sticks branches and sticks can a tree can
help to add support and make a structure.
It will make the shelter more ~~long~~ durable so
it can be gone in the harshest of
weather?

Location

finding the perfect spot is all
about time, and as surprising as it

Mitchell

is, this could save your life! Finding a good
to start your shelter is very crucial, as you could
die if an unhealthy tree fell on you. You want
find a location where there are resources like
wood ~~and~~ as because ~~at~~ a river (water) can
hold food. Unfortunately, some people die because
their shelter was too near an ~~and~~ unhealthy tree
and they can fall on you in your sleep out
of ~~at~~ nowhere. Be ~~as~~ A life saving thing to do is
not place your shelter too near water in case
of a flash flood.

Tuesday 1st April

Can I write the beginning of the adventure and the problem?

Divi didn't think it was fun, but it was... exceptional. So the next day, they went off again. Flea guided Divi through the rowdy streets to a hushed boat boat with the name written on in bold. It was pale blue and was impeccable for Divi and Flea. They snuck on into the captain's cabin. It was a small room with a single bed and an archaic bag. They slunk under the bed for a nap. Whilst they were sleeping, the craft set sail.
great start, good words choice

Soon Divi woke up to the sound of the sea and the choppy waves. She pawed & Flea until he awoke. They ran out of the cabin ~~was~~ shaking from head to toe in terror. In a few minutes the boat stopped rocking like a horse but became as still as a great oak. The door swung open and in came the captain, thunderstruck to see Divi trying to help the terrified Flea. The captain who's name was Ben went out of the cabin and called the dog warden. They came straight away and took Divi and Flea away. They threw them into a cage and left.
Spring

The next day they awoke from a drowsy sleep to find themselves on a cell floor. It was cramped but the walls and floor felt clammy. It was a comfortable surface to lie on. Divi ~~was~~ howled in grief. She was scared and
comfortable

Wellington

wanted to lollap away. Whilst she cried, Flea was ambling around the cell thinking up a plan to escape. Divi didn't grasp what Flea was doing so she kept on howling. The howling made Flea realise a plan to escape. He went over to Divi and ~~comforted~~ comforted her. Slowly Divi calmed down and looked at Flea with tears in her eyes. Divi told her to ~~calm down and~~ Flea told her to start to dig down so Divi did. She dug down, down, down and kept going until her head popped out of the hole into a tunnel... Divi was so enthusiastic that she dashed up the stairs to tell Flea the good news. Then after that everything ~~had~~ happened really fast. ~~to~~ quickly but they jumped down the hole and sprinted faster than light to the light at the end of the tunnel. The ground was rough and slippery but they kept going.

At the end of the tunnel was something they recognised. It was the Eiffel Tower! They ran to it full of excitement. They lived just round the corner but Flea couldn't remember which way to go. They looked and looked and looked ~~in~~ in the end they edged towards a boat called Juliette. After they jumped on, the boat stirred and moved gently to the ~~right~~ other side of the tower and stopped. Flea was so afraid that they'd fall off that he ~~jumped~~ leaped off, soon followed by Divi. They wandered round a corner and you would have not be

They wandered round a corner and you would not believe what they saw. Divi's home! They could not believe their eyes. It was Divi's home it really was. She recognised the walk she recognised the gate.

Wellington

Monday 21st March 2025

Can I write dramatic narrative?

Staring out into the dark lines, Arricity thod there were only things her size, but in was actually many times bigger in this world. There was a bridge the size of a dinner table. It felt like you were smaller than an ant. Everything was bigger than her and her father Pod, but they weren't there to have a look around they were looking for something important. Sugar!

So they got to work. Pod slid down and Arricity followed, but suddenly a human the size of the Eiffel Tower. Arricity froze in fear, but to make it even worse there was a cat! Pod and Arricity had their jaws open they wanted to go back but they needed sugar.

"Father what are we going to do?" said Arricity in a worried voice.

"We will go around them," replied Pod.

"On through?"

"They did well for a while but they clipped Pod caught Arricity while holding onto a handle.

"Good bye Arricity," said Pod in a gravelly voice.

"No!" shouted Arricity. Pod plummeted to his death.

Brunei

Friday 2nd May 2025

Can I write speech using the correct punctuation?

"Ouch!" Jeff yelled in pain. As he rubbed his head.

"Watch where your going!" shouted Olivia angrily.

"I didn't mean to bump into you," Jeff said defensively.

"By the way what is your name?" asked Jeff critically.

"My name is Olivia. What is yours?"

"My name is Jeff."

"Wait a second minute, there is a flower stuck in your hair!" Olivia exclaimed. Olivia surprised.

"What you like it?" asked Jeff shyly.

"Sure," exclaimed Olivia happily.

"Would you like to go out with me?" asked Olivia Jeff.

"I thought you'd never ask!" replied Olivia in happiness.

-Parlet

Monday 31st March 2025

Can I write the problem for Dina and Flea?

Dina did not think it was gun by but it was... exceptional.

When the pair traveled around the corner, Dina saw the calm, peaceful River Seine and water of the river they saw beautiful, white boats that were sailing through the river. Then, in front of them they saw a long staircase going down and down and down. Dina was shocked. It was dark, very dark at the end of the staircase. Also it was rising and very crowded. Dina did not know what to do.

1.25 In front of them they saw a blue, shiny train. "Let's get on it will be great!" suggested Flea with a smile. Dina was aware but she still went. Suddenly the black doors closed. Flea it was inside the train but Dina was not. Dina was scared. Dina was alone as well as Flea was. Flea shouted Dina but Dina did not hear there was no answer.

2.25 Dina didn't know what to do. The train was about to go! Dina started to panic. Flea was worried but then Dina got an idea. She thought about it but she had no time. Dina had to show courage. So Dina did. Dina quickly jumped on the blue, shiny train that Flea was in. Dina did it, she was proud of herself. The train started to go. Dina wanted to jump off but she didn't. When the train stopped, she jumped off to see Flea. The black doors opened and Flea saw Dina! They were so happy to see each other! "Thank you for helping me!" Dina said. "It's OK," replied Flea.

So the pair traveled back home. Across the River Seine they saw the beautiful brown Notre Dame, Father, and their way home they saw the tall Eiffel tower. "Oh! That's the Eiffel tower that can cut clouds in half!" said Dina.

Nelson

4.9.25

"Yes," said Flea. "It's a..." Flea said again. As the pair were about to leave they said to each other "We are never going to leave each other again." For a minute there was silence. No one said anything. Flea was gun. "Said Flea. But next time lets go to the Eiffel tower!" suggested Dina. Of course, Dina Flea let the train go. But for now sometimes Dina and Flea were playing in Dina's house and sometimes planning further adventures together, and that is the tale of Dina and Flea.

Success criteria - Dina and Flea

To be successful in my writing, I need to include:	Example of this:	Tick if I have included this:	Teacher will tick:
Non-negotiables	Full-stops, capital letters, spellings for high-frequency words.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consistency	In the story ALL written in the past tense? (SPEECH CAN BE IN A DIFFERENT TENSE) Write some examples of past tense verbs used. was, replied, noticed, saw, started, stopped.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Different sentence types - write an example from your text.	Simple: The rovers moved rapidly around the crater. Dina was alone as well as Flea was. The train started to move. Compound: FANBOYS Dina tried the point was difficult and their mission would take a long time. Dina wanted to jump but she didn't. Flea shouted Dina but there was no answer. Complex: AWHITBUS Dina, experiencing the terrifying meteor shower, the rovers continued their mission bravely. When,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Prepositional phrases	Using prepositions to explain the relative positions of places during their adventure. Write an example below. Across the River Seine they saw the beautiful brown Notre Dame and more.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paragraphing	Paragraphs are centred around one theme and are demarcated by a blank line.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Challenge: Is there an example of speech, correctly punctuated	Blue, now panicking, moved closer to his friend and shouted: "I will save you!" "Fleece!" "Yes, I'm OK." "Let's get on it will be great!"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Monday 17th March '25

Can I create setting and character?

Mist sprinkled itself across the vast, magical forest. The subtle, muted twilight sky, shone over the verdant foliage of the lavender-scented fog. The ground was crumpled as it was full of perfect pebbles. The hush of the deep bushes, blended with the Nightingales soft hum. The soporific humid mist soaked into the deep blue skin of the fairy king. Gold stars drift across the black, hot dark sky. Lethal woodrocks awaited for the unlucky person to die. The forest gleamed in to the dark forest foliage.

In the dark ebony of the forest, almighty Oberon emerged from the verdant foliage followed by proud Titania, Queen of the deep magical forest. Stubbornness was written across her lapis blue face, their relationship has been shattered and argumentative for the past few weeks. Oberon went pale as his emerald green leaf color rustled to the beat of the wind.

"Oh my proud Titania, please do not go. Just give me a fair" but his wife had boredom, a face of indifference for her husband. As silence took over, Titania exclaimed in anger, "What don't you understand you nonchalant dead-head, you jealous dead monkey."

Edging Page 1/2

Oberon was shocked, while Titania was judgemental over the kings face. Oberon was crestfallen among hearing these words. The king slumped his shoulders and walked away from the opening in the mysterious forest.

~~And with that said we shall continue~~

✓ Fantastic description of setting and character.

Russell

Monday 22nd April 2025

can I write a diary of my Gilbert White Trip?

Dear Diary, when we got there one of the things we did was Art. We made a paw print with mud! and we got a flower pressed in on the paper and the paper turned yellow. After that we got some grass and also smuggled it on. It was so cool!!!

We also learned about the life cycle of a plant. You need water, warmth and light to grow a plant. Also we all got seeds and we had to match up with one or two people. After that we got in more groups and we looked at seeds that were in soil but we took them out. I sat with @la, Isabel and Rosie = think and me.

There were stuffed animals ~~where~~ where we were sitting. They were once real but then they got killed and then got stuffed. They looked so real!!! They looked as if they were still alive!!!

- Dickens

Wednesday 2nd April 2025

Can I write a diary entry?

12th November 1619
11.07PM

Dear Diary,

Throughout this day of nightmares, I have been enraged with fury. Could it have even gone worse? My day began as usual, floating around the forest of dreams. Glistening drops of sunlight blazed down onto my toes, coating me in colour and light. It was a beautiful day, ready to be enjoyed, bound to be enjoyed. Then, I saw something that made me regret smiling, my love Oberon. He is still convinced that we are in a love-love relationship, but we aren't even friends. He harasses me over the glenhead indian boy he desires from his fairy kingdom. If you can't even consider him one, he is more like a troll but anyways he is convinced he is no more than a slave. However, that put the nail in the coffin, I still can't wrap my head around it! The method in his madness has never appeared successful. I & there are no positives about the boy, why would he want him for his own! He clearly doesn't try to hide his stupidity whatsoever! The boy was born to be a king, a ruler of a kingdom for his own. He has the most incredible and delightful green eyes the world has ever seen, he is certainly one of the care givers. Oberon has a lot of cheek saying that there is nothing good about the child, the only good thing about him is... I um... wh... NOTHING! What have I got to appreciate about him? He is horrible to me. He doesn't respect me at all so why should I respect him.

Nightingale

What's in the News Around the World?

AI Helps Predict Extreme Weather in East Africa

Scientists from the University of Oxford and the United Nations World Food Programme have developed a new system that uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to predict extreme weather events like floods and droughts in East Africa. This technology helps communities prepare for disasters before they happen, saving lives and protecting homes. By analysing weather patterns, the AI can provide early warnings, giving people time to take action. This innovation is especially important as climate change makes extreme weather more common.

Think About It:

- **Why is it important to predict extreme weather events early?**
- **How can technology like AI help communities stay safe?**
- **What other ways can we prepare for natural disasters?**



Summer Recipe

Sunshine Smoothie!

A fruity, fun and refreshing drink you can make at home with just a few ingredients.

Ingredients (Serves 2):

- 1 small banana, peeled and sliced
- 100g strawberries (fresh or frozen), hulled
- 100g mango (fresh or frozen), chopped
- 150ml low-fat natural yoghurt or dairy-free alternative
- 100ml semi-skimmed milk or oat/almond milk
- A few ice cubes (optional)
- 1 teaspoon honey (optional, for extra sweetness)

Instructions:

1. Put the banana, strawberries, mango, yoghurt and milk into a blender.
2. Add a few ice cubes if you want it extra cold.
3. Blend until smooth and creamy (about 30 seconds).
4. Taste it — if you want it sweeter, add the honey and blend again.
5. Pour into cups or bottles and enjoy!

Top Tips:

- Swap fruits for whatever you like — blueberries, peaches, or pineapple work great too!
- Freeze any leftovers in lolly moulds for homemade smoothie ice lollies.
- Add a handful of spinach or oats to make it even healthier — you won't even taste it!



Word Search

Summer

l w s u n g l a s s e s
q e l h o l i d a y b l
c j s o j f r i s b e e
o d w b m b c w a t a o
s e i u m a a m n s c n
u c m t o r m e d n h p
n k m t l b p h c h r o
s c i e c e i p a r q r
h h n r n q n p s s t w
i a g f c u g i t z d q
n i p l l e d r l s r b
e r g y s b i f e p j j



holiday
deckchair
sunshine
frisbee

beach
barbeque
camping
swimming

sunglasses
sandcastle
butterfly

Trivia Quiz (answers at the end of the last page).



1. What is the highest mountain in the UK?

- A) Snowdon
- B) Ben Nevis
- C) Scafell Pike
- D) Helvellyn

2. Which British scientist developed the theory of gravity after watching an apple fall from a tree?

- A) Charles Darwin
- B) Stephen Hawking
- C) Isaac Newton
- D) Alexander Fleming

3. The Tower of London was originally built during the reign of which king?

- A) Henry VIII
- B) William the Conqueror
- C) Richard III
- D) Edward the Confessor

4. In which UK country would you find the Giant's Causeway?

- A) Scotland
- B) Wales
- C) England
- D) Northern Ireland

5. What is the name of the sea between Great Britain and Ireland?

- A) North Sea
- B) English Channel
- C) Irish Sea
- D) Celtic Sea

6. Which famous UK writer created the detective Sherlock Holmes?

- A) Charles Dickens
- B) Arthur Conan Doyle
- C) Agatha Christie
- D) Enid Blyton

7. What flower is the national symbol of Wales?

- A) Thistle
- B) Rose
- C) Daffodil
- D) Clover

8. Which part of the UK has a dragon on its national flag?

- A) Scotland
- B) England
- C) Wales
- D) Northern Ireland

9. Which UK city is famous for the annual Fringe Festival, celebrating theatre and comedy?

- A) London
- B) Cardiff
- C) Edinburgh
- D) Belfast

10. What was the name of the ship that famously sank after hitting an iceberg, and was built in Belfast?

- A) HMS Victory
- B) Queen Mary
- C) Britannic
- D) Titanic

Quiz answers – Check Your Score!
1. B) Ben Nevis
2. C) Isaac Newton
3. B) William the Conqueror
4. D) Northern Ireland
5. C) Irish Sea
6. B) Arthur Conan Doyle
7. C) Daffodil
8. C) Wales
9. C) Edinburgh
10. D) Titanic