



St Mary's



Achieving more together

St. Mary's News



Summer Edition 2023

A message from the editor...

Hi everyone,

As the year draws to a close, it has been lovely spending time with our classes and getting to know our new ones, taking parts in fun activities and exciting writing. The weather has been good and this has meant that we can spend more time playing and learning outdoors. What has been your favourite outdoor activity this term? We are also looking forward to the new school year ahead. How can you make next year even better than this one? Remember to speak to someone if you have any questions or worries about next year.

In this edition of St Mary's News, we have a cooling recipe for the warmer days ahead, a quiz and other fun activities for you to try. Each year group has an exceptional piece of writing for you to read and in Teacher Talk, you can find out about the hobby or interest of one of your teachers. It might inspire you to give it a try too! Try one of the books recommended for your year group and include it your Summer Reading Challenge. Enjoy the rest of the year and remember to be the best you that you can be!

Mrs Gill

A Cool Summer Recipe by Mrs Gill

For those hot summer's days, there is nothing more refreshing than an ice cold drink. Strawberries are sweeter than ever this year so give this thirst quenching recipe a try!



Equipment

Blender

Ingredients

550g fresh strawberries stems removed

200ml lemon juice freshly squeezed

100g sugar (add more if you prefer)

940ml water chilled

Ice cubes to serve

A few fresh mint leaves to garnish

A few strawberry slices to garnish

Instructions

In blender jar combine strawberries, sugar and lemon juice.

Blend until everything gets pureed.

Strain the mixture using a strainer to remove the fine seeds of the strawberries.

Transfer the strained pulp mixture to a large pitcher.

Now add water and mix well.

Let the lemonade chill before serving.

Serve with ice cubes and garnish with a few mint leaves along with a sliced strawberry.

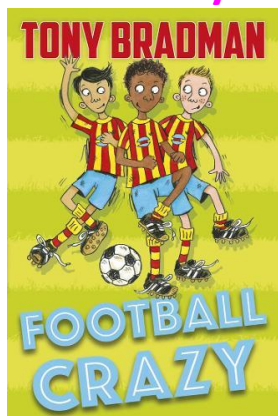
You could even freeze it in ice lolly moulds.

Enjoy!

This Edition's Book Recommendations

Year 3

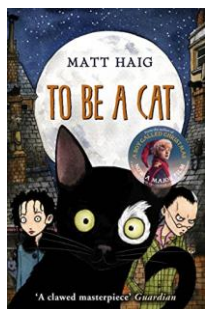
Football by Tony Bradman



Danny and his mates Jamil and Lewis are over the moon when football legend Jock Ramsey agrees to coach their team. For the first time ever the Rovers might have a chance of winning something! But Ramsey's a tough coach. They train every night, and Saturdays too. It's a lot of pressure for lads who just like a kickabout in the park. Can Danny, Lewis and Jamil survive the pressure and stay football crazy - in a good way?

Year 4

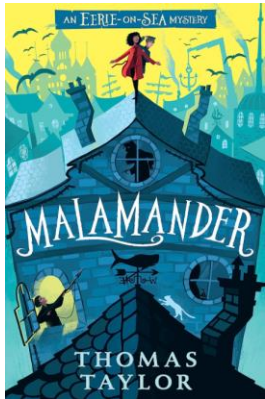
To Be A Cat by Matt Haig



What if I told you that tomorrow you'd wake up as a cat? That's right. You heard me. A cat. Whiskers, fur, four paws, a tail - the real deal. You might not believe me but really, you should be thanking me. Most people don't get any warning you see. It comes as a complete shock! Just like it did for Barney Willow...

Year 5

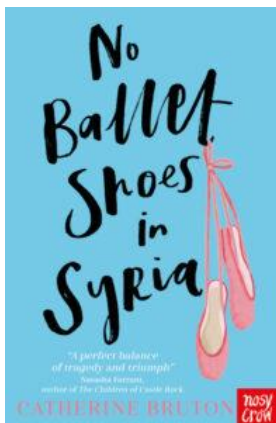
Malamander by Thomas Taylor



Herbert Lemon, Lost-and-Founder at the Grand Nautilus Hotel, knows that returning lost things to their rightful owners is not easy – especially when the lost thing is not a thing at all, but a girl. No one knows what happened to Violet Parma’s parents twelve years ago, and when she engages Herbie to help her find them, the pair discover that their disappearance might have something to do with the legendary sea-monster, the Malamander. Eerie-on-Sea has always been a mysteriously chilling place, where strange stories seem to wash up. And it just got stranger...

Year 6

No Ballet Shoes in Syria by Catherine Bruton



A superb read. This is a gripping and thought-provoking story exploring the experience of an eleven-year-old girl fleeing conflict in Syria. Aya’s tale is told with such compassion that takes the reader on a real empathic journey. *No Ballet Shoes in Syria* is an important story that is beautifully told with warmth and compassion.

TEACHER TALK by Mrs Gill

A Chorus of Birds in My Garden

In my garden, a delightful avian spectacle unfolds every day. As I sit and observe, I am captivated by the diverse array of feathered visitors that grace my garden. Wrens, rooks, finches, jackdaws, blackbirds, robins, blue tits, and pigeons are regular attendees, with the occasional pheasant making a grand appearance. The ducks, lured by the nearby ditch, join in the feast, drawn by the abundant natural food the current weather provides.

During the winter months, when food is scarce, I set out suet balls and mealworms, much to the delight of the robin, who eagerly indulges in this special treat. These moments have become my treasured mornings and evenings filled with the joy of observing these beautiful creatures in their natural habitat.



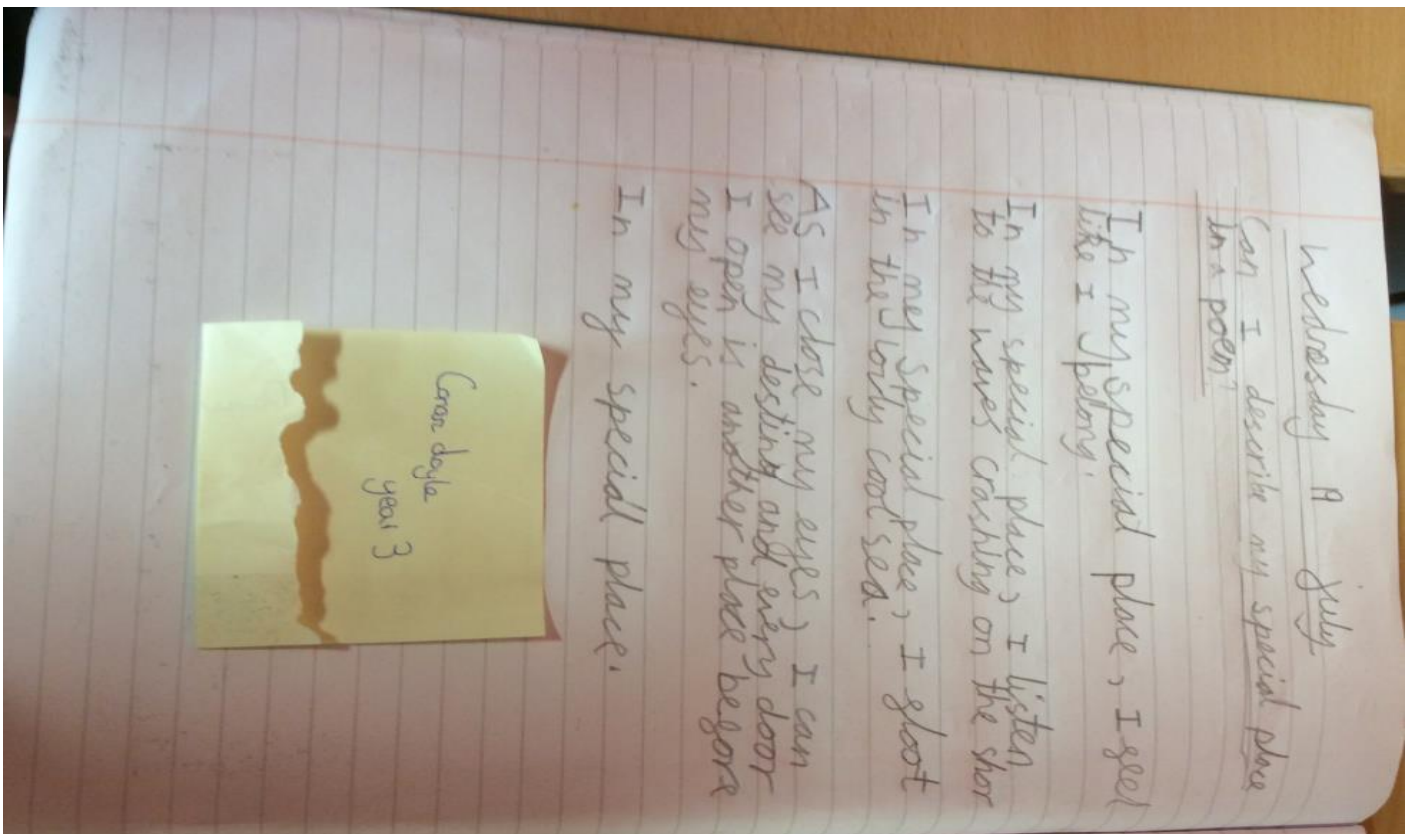
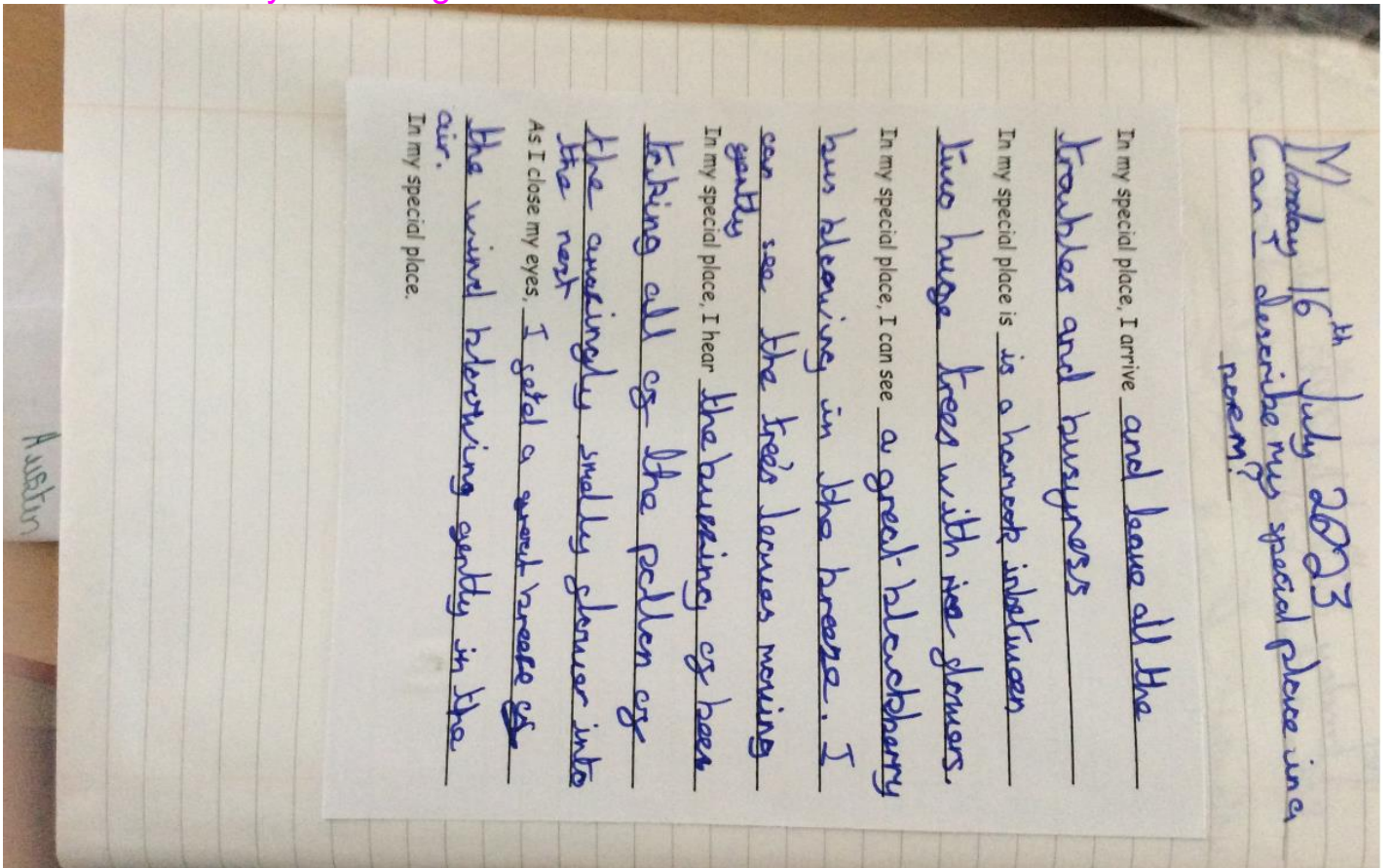
I wonder, do you have the pleasure of birds visiting your garden? If so, which one is your favourite? Can you name some of the species that grace your space? Here's a challenge: Can you identify a bird by its unique birdsong? Listen closely, for each bird has its own melodious voice that adds to the symphony of nature.

The world of birds is waiting to be discovered, and our gardens provide a gateway to their enchanting realm. So, let's embrace the beauty and wonder of these winged visitors and marvel at their colourful plumage, melodious songs, and graceful flight.



Wonderful Work Gallery

A celebration of your writing this term...



Friday 5th May 2023

Can I draft a flash back narrative?

Relaxing, sitting in my comfortable armchair, I am there staring in the distance, thinking deeply about my childhood. It has started. Memories come flooding back into my mind and once they come, they will never leave. They surround me like a swarm of angry bees. I have to go, I have to go ~~into~~ ^{back} into the past.

While my back aches, my weak legs have got enough strength to hold myself up. Taking small steps, I walk towards the creaky staircase and hesitate. It's time I say to myself. Most emotions spread. A shiver up ~~my spine~~ ^{my spine} and down my spine. Although it's difficult, I use all my might and finally I made it. I'm proud of me, stands through door.

My pale, white face, my heart pounding, my trembling hand reaches out against and opens the ancient door. Darkness everywhere. Giving myself courage, my memories are right there against of me and they will never ~~turn~~ ^{turn} back. Cobwebs and dust fill up the ~~dark~~ ^{dark} room but I ignore, I only think about what sits down in the old, floorboards awaiting to be ~~past~~ ^{past} memories, childhood.

Taking one more step, I tell myself to not hesitate so I take a deep breath in and I begin to open the dusty wooden box. As I reach in, I feel it, I see my memory trapped inside, but not anymore. ~~It's gone~~ ^{It's gone} now stuck in my brain forever.

"C'mon lets go!" they said excitedly while entering the room with big smiles on their faces. I took one step and thought I know I would be ~~great~~ ^{great} as I've done it before.

my friends and I

but as ~~and~~ ^{and} my friends took a step we ~~were~~ ^{were} unstable, and fell into "Ow!" I cried. Although it hurt I got back up, tried again and had a the best time. As a result, ~~it was~~ ^{it was} my one and I was a natural. ~~Laughter, happiness, it was the best but it was~~ ^{Laughter, happiness, it was the best but it was} the end. There's more. Smiling, we all wanted to get good because.

Back in the office, I placed the photos back in the box and then I realized there were more. A box full of decorations, bread and ball balls but there are that stands out. That one decoration (a ball ball) made myself remember. Memories with my family all happy, with massive smiles saying "Thank you" and taking pictures. Tears rolling down my face, I wish I had more could be like that this year but no. Instead, I spent to done.

"On my god, you thank you so much I wanted this so badly!" exclaimed my sister. "Thank you thank you thank you!"

"No problem!" said my mum. I have had all and receive the gifts of our dreams we all can't wait for next year.

Sadness brought itself upon me as I sat, staring at the ball ball wishing I never came up. Smiling, I took it in the box and left it there for next time.

With a glimpse of light ~~the~~ ^{the} glimmer against the boxes, I struggle towards another which holds a ~~hooket~~ ^{hooket} but it's not ~~any~~ ^{any} just a ~~memory~~ ^{memory} it's my old leaves ~~stuck~~ ^{stuck}. Memories come flooding back once again. Blinking hard, I ~~my~~ ^{my} memory ~~just~~ ^{just} keeps on coming. Children giggling and teasing fun, we realize that are memories have moved. Excitement filled the room. ~~They~~ ^{They} they cried as the teacher hands you.

Darwin

them out one by one. Just then, this one memory turns into more as I remember the best times in Year 6 like Colshot. Chatting, we were all very busy dragging our large heavy suitcases into school as we wait for the coaches. When they arrive cheering was all you heard. About an hour later we arrived. "Woo-hoo!" we cried as we had made it. Everyone was bursting with joy ready for the fun activities and very busy week ahead of us.

As the memory disappears, ~~back into the~~ ^{back into the} I ~~think~~ ^{think} wish I could ~~re-live~~ ^{re-live} relive it. Turning, leaving my memories behind, I use all my strength to walk slowly back down stairs. Back in my comfy chair, I stare at the plain wall still thinking about all my memories that flooded back into my mind.

Superb Flash back narrative!

Darwin

Bear and the Wild Wood

The campfire crackled contentedly as the bears sat silently pondering around it. It had been their first day in England and it had already started to feel like home. The neighbours, a family of compassionate badgers, had been so welcoming and understanding they had even showed them a lovely clearing they could call their own. The clearing, which they were camping in, was a small area amongst a dense forest like the one they lived in back in their home country of Ukraine, except this one hadn't been demolished. Realising the fire was hungry, the little gather asked the little cub to collect some more wood. Springing up like a young rabbit he joyfully bounded into the forest.

The glimmer and warmth of the cosy campfire faded away as he strolled deeper into the shadowy wood. A reminder of the lifeless swampland, decayed leaves littered from the previous autumn littered the swamp-like ground. Creaking vines strangled innocent trees, swallowing their lively spirit as a carpet of mist gathered around Bear's feet, resting on the dark soil. Ennerness glided in the air, filling up

Wednesday 2nd July June 2023

Can I write my woodland story?

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An excellent opening paragraph!

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as he started feeling symptoms of absolute fear.

As Bear tried to remember why he was into the this frightful place, he started to run.

His foot hit something.

A young, screaming, into his body one sharp pain dug into his foot, rooting him to the ground. In the dim light, he looked down and saw his foot stuck in a small trap falling to the ground. He cried out in immense pain. He felt his body was weakening every minute and the cold of the night was sinking in. The someone putting their eyes appeared in the darkness, getting closer and closer. Please don't hurt me, I'm a bear, I'm a very, big rabbit, replied a gentle voice. Rabbit? questioned Bear. I'm not a rabbit.

Well you're in my rabbit trap, said a childish voice. Hearing closer, Bear realised it was a young fox cub about his age.

Please, let me out... shrank Bear, almost losing some consciousness.

Bear, said fox, darting forwards and pressing a paw on the trigger, not to bear's hand. I released his foot and showed only a few major cuts. Grabbing a nearby log, fox stopped him.

Don't forget to add a character!

Pruned
Year 5

Monday 15th May 2023

Can I write a good ghost story or narrative?

Sitting on the cosy chair, a small blanket laying over me, up to 5th floor a cup of tea as they one using sprinkles as them, run all over the place. Until they slowly begin to sleep. "Gosh, can you please get us some toys from the attic?" I pause for a moment.

I pause for a moment. I had not been to the attic in what felt like ages. As I pull the blanket away with my blanket hand I finally reply. "Of course my darling, I will be just a moment." I slowly turn my light myself from the chair as I head to the hall.

Walking over to the left hatch hatch, I can hear their excited cheers echoing through the halls. It reminds me of when I was young and carefree like then. Approaching the left hatch, I ascend my hand towards, as I can just about reach it. My fingers clung around the rope dangling rope, as I tug on it with all the strength I have left. I step back slowly, as I ladder comes tumbling down quicker than I had remembered.

I grip the bars as I pull myself up, step by step, bar by bar. As I finally reach the top.

Standing alone in the attic reminded me of how long it's been since I had been here; the room is darker than I remember with a sad single stream of dim lighting. Cobwebs hang from the walls as I creep along the creaked floorboards. -7

Russell

We found a wall that had been replastered so we broke the wall down it had a door that had been unopened. We broke it and it was a doorway. We unrolled the wall still there, it said in the Tutankhamun we unrolled the wall still in track we unrolled it, I was scared that there were snakes and snakes but it was a snake that represented the sun. Then we had had to move all the items out of the tomb then we smashed down the wall and then the sarcophagus of Tutankhamun we took the top of the sarcophagus and it had like there was lots of layers. There were some in the sarcophagus like R. uphys. We took away the layers of off and there he was lying at the center of the sarcophagus it was over, they had sent it to the museum. It was the day we opened the museum, it had been a significant day and everyone was asking us lots of different questions about the Tutankhamun.

It was all over the newspapers and on the radio it was amazing and now we got more and more people coming to see more and the crowd was becoming. Then the crowd got so big that people nearly broke we down so we got people please to come so we down and wall with not break but it was really inches so all we saw was thousands of people in the crowd but it was amazing and days, days and days had got past and then that was how I discover the amazing intelligence Tutankhamun. I hope you enjoyed listening to when I discover the wonder of Tutankhamun. It was a great discovery and if Hauer had not found the tomb of Tutankhamun or I would not have had to stop digging.

Wellington
year 4

Thursday 13th July 2023

Can I write a descriptive account?

VF
OIE
LW
Today I went to a very important place in Egypt.

Today I went to a very important place in Egypt, the Valley of the Kings. On Saturday 4th 1922, I had to go to the Valley of the Kings because I had to serve water to the garden. I arrived on my donkey with three bowls of water, I dug in the sand then put the bowl in one bag one but suddenly I saw a bit of wood, I ran to Howard Carter and his crew. Then Howard Carter exclaimed "Over there".

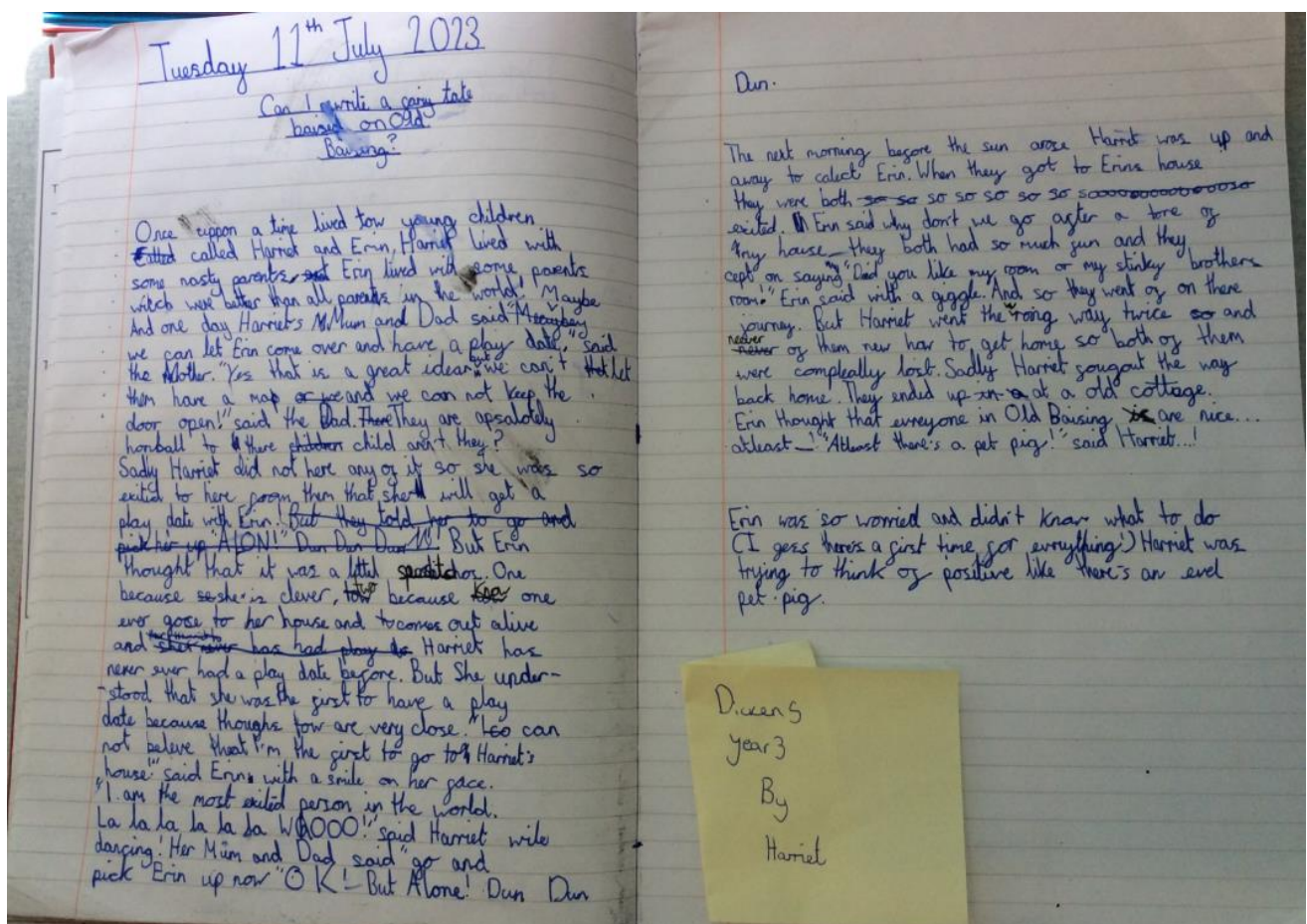
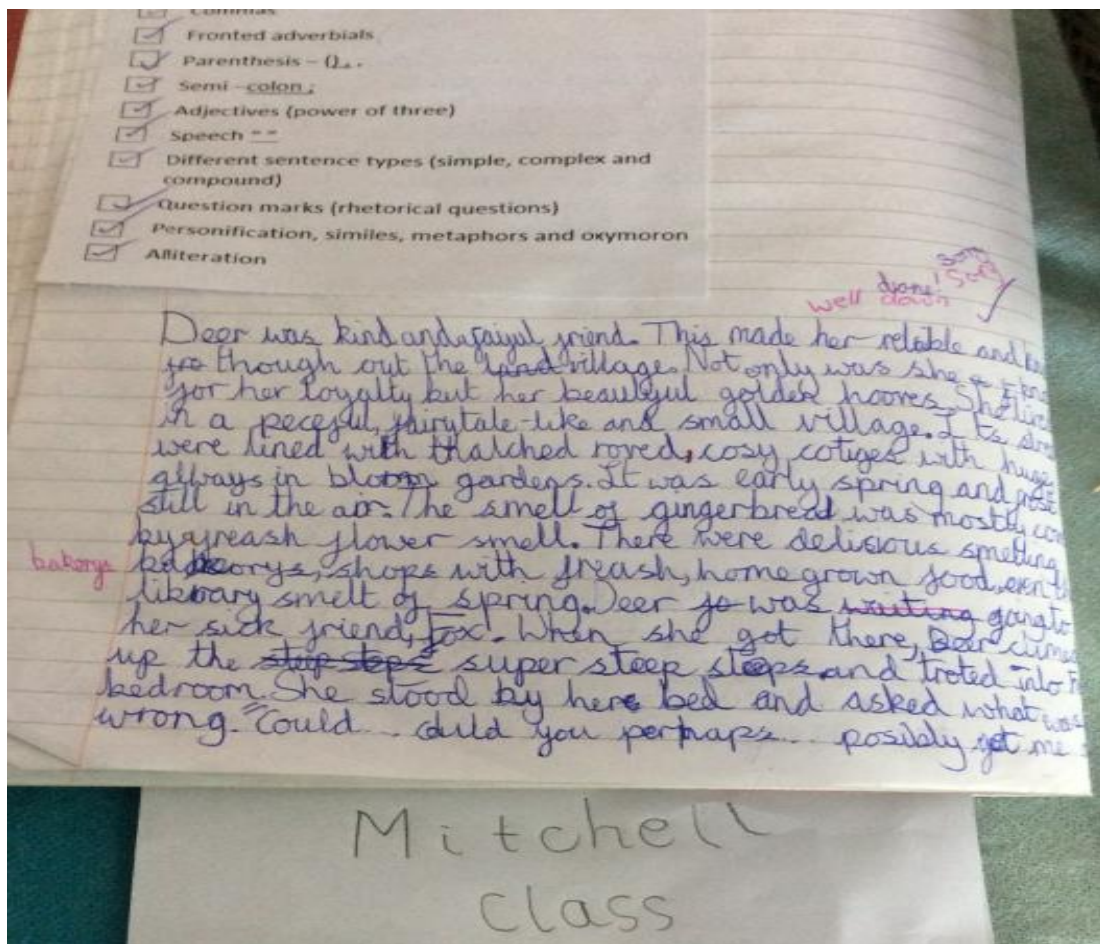
The Dig took days, but finally I saw something it looked like a... I don't know but we still had to dig. After a couple more days I saw it an ancient stair-case it was full of rocks and debris. We dug a bit more and we found a big wall. Carefully he broke a hole suddenly he saw gold, golden pots and animals.

Sadly
Howard Carter still couldn't find Tutankhamun's tomb but after a year of not being in the tomb he finally found it. It was gleaming with gold so they carefully they hammered the first layer with all their might.

then hammered the 2nd layer, the face was so creepy it had no eyeballs. After that they hammered the 3rd one it took longer than the 2nd and 1st but they got through it. The last layer was so beautiful it had light green, rich red and shiny gold.

Nowadays in 2023 this discovery may be old but this discovery will always be legendary.

Paula
year 4



Friday 7th July 2023

Can I write a descriptive report?

I was Saturday 4th November 1922. Stotting in the
heart of a very muddy Hussain^{ke} was digging holes in it
some to the muddy in spots doing that because he was a
muddy boy. I remember he put a hard smooth smooth stone
in the sand. So he called me over. I played looking at
the smooth stone at that moment I realised it was different
from loam. I was extremely excited to find out if it was
from Tutankhamon Tutankhamon's loam. I made
one team start digging. After a while we found it was
an entrance to a loam. The next day working quite a stream
while I was pushing down the dust and stuff. At the end of
the slope there was a big stone door. The stone door was
covered in hieroglyphs.

Suddenly I realized there was a hole in the wall
 I thought it was not noticed - I hope my gun to catch me
 a security driver I made a small hole to look through I got
 a match and put ^{my} ^{finger} ^{over} ^{it} through. I saw ^a ^{hint} of gold
 at that moment my heart slept. I am now ask can you
 say anything I realize this ^{was} ^{amazing} ^{miraculous}. After a
 painful ^{night} ^{of} ^{thought} I opened the door down. it was amazing sight
 that made my eyes that day after looking at everything we
 decided to clear the room it took us almost a year to
 clear it there was so much stuff in that room there was ancient
 statues and ^{all} ^{kind} ^{of} ^{gold} there was pictures, packages
 for the right life. At the end of ^{clearing} ^{the} ^{room}
 I realized there was a gray door shaped but on the back wall

1-2

[illegible]

Nelson

What's in the News Around the World?

Record temperatures are being recorded in Europe as an "unbearable" heatwave is making its way across the continent. More high temperatures are expected in Europe next week as another heatwave approaches. The European Space Agency (ESA) says Italy, Spain, France, Germany and Poland may see extreme conditions.

In Italy, temperatures could reach as high as 48.8C (119.8F), which is as hot as the hottest temperature ever recorded in Europe. A red alert warning - which means there's a danger to life - has been issued for 16 Italian cities, including Rome, Bologna and Florence.

Is Europe getting hotter?

Yes. Global warming is driving average temperatures up around the world every year, and heatwaves like this are becoming more frequent, more intense, and last longer.



The highest temperature recorded in Europe was in Syracuse, Sicily in August 2021 at 48.8C

It has been reported that a 44-year-old man has died in Italy, as a result of the heat. Italian politician Nicola Fratoianni tweeted: "We are facing an unbearable heatwave," and urged residents to stay out of the sun when it is at its strongest. Authorities are also advising people to drink at least two litres of water per day to stay hydrated.



People and pets are doing what they can to stay cool

The Cerberus heatwave - named by the Italian Meteorological Society - has been sweeping across parts of southern Europe and north-west Africa in the past few days, and the Met Office says temperatures will peak on Friday.

Did you know?

The heatwave is named after the three-headed dog in Greek mythology that guards the gates of the underworld.

However, the hot weather is expected to stick around over the weekend, and even when Cerberus dies down, another heatwave called Charon will be arriving shortly after.

Cerberus has hit Europe just after the UK saw its hottest June on record, and other countries across the world are facing issues due to extreme heat.

What's causing this heatwave?

The hot weather is being caused an anticyclone. This is an area of high pressure, which causes cool air from higher up in the atmosphere to sink, where it is then warmed again and rises.



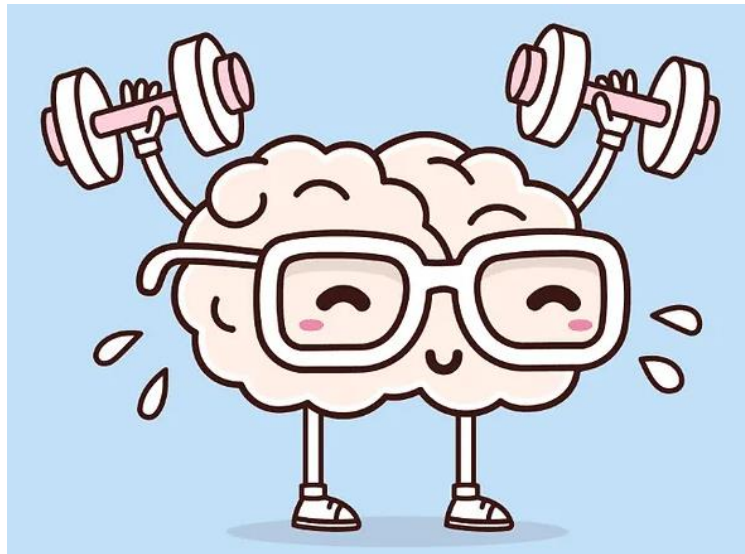
Anticyclones happen all year round, but there are other factors causing the heat to become extreme Anticyclones happen all the time though.

Why is this anticyclone causing such extreme heat?

There are a number of reasons. One is that we're in a period called El Niño, a weather system that makes temperatures around the world hotter. It happens when water in the Eastern Pacific Ocean heats up more than normal, and creates unusually hot and stormy weather.

Quiz time by Mrs Stephens

Brainteasers!



1. What gets wetter the more it dries?
2. When you look for something, why is it always in the last place you look?
3. A cowboy rode into town on Friday. He stayed in two for three days and rode out of Friday. How was that possible?
4. One night, a king and a queen went into a castle. There was no one in the castle, no one came into the castle, and no one came out of the castle. In the morning, three people came out of the castle. Who were they?
5. What has to be broken before you can use it?
6. Lives in winter, dies in summer, and grows with its roots upward. What is it?
7. It starts out tall, but the longer it stands the shorter it grows. What is it?
8. What belongs to you, but is used more by others?
9. What goes up and never comes down?
10. How can a man go eight days without sleep?
11. I'm full of keys but can't open any door. What am I?
12. What has a thumb and four fingers but is not alive?

ANSWERS ON LAST PAGE

Something to keep you Busy!

Summer Code Breaking



4



6



3



8



1



2



9



7



5

Example

In the number



, what is



worth?

60

1. In the number



, what is



worth?

2. In the number



, what is



worth?

3. In the number



, what is



worth?

4. In the number



, what is



worth?

5. In the number



, what is



worth?

6. In the number



, what is



worth?

7. In the number



, what is



worth?

8. In the number



, what is



worth?

Summer



s u n g l a s s e s y t q o
 o a s h o l i d a y r u k e
 u m n u v e c i t s l o s z
 t e g d n d e c k c h a i r
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 z i g n i l l e v a r t a g

sunshine

June

July

August

swimming

outdoors

sandcastle

sunglasses

travelling

holiday

ice cream

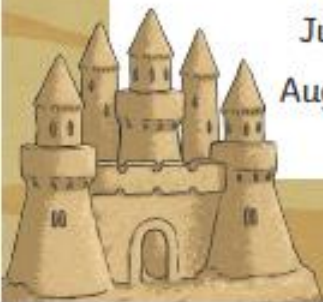
deck chair

solstice

summertime

suncream

picnic



Answers to quiz

1. A towel.
2. Because when you find it, you stop looking!
3. Friday was the name of his horse.
4. The knight (night), the king, and the queen.
5. An egg.
6. An icicle.
7. A candle.
8. Your name.
9. Your age.
10. He only sleeps at night.
11. A piano.
12. A glove.