

BOOK WEEK AT ST. PETER'S IN THANET C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL



We have had a fun-filled week at St. Peter's this week! Year 3, 4 and 5 have read 'The Varmints', linking their lessons to this beautifully illustrated text, with a powerful theme of hope.

The children have produced written pieces, linked to the picture book. Some of these are on display outside the drama studio on our reading display.

They also produced a piece of drama. Some chose to perform cho-

ral speech, while others used movement and dance styles. Some of these creations were shared in a celebration assembly on Friday.

Year groups also looked at the illustrator Marc Craste and made pieces of art using his style and themes. Year 5 looked at the contrast of light and dark, and the theme of hope while year 4 looked at his use of nature. Year 3 created their own Varmints!

"We have shared reading days, we've shared enchanted nights, it's a never ending story that together we did right."

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

On Monday, we kicked off our book week with some well rehearsed drama from our after school and lunch time drama clubs, which the children had performed at the Thanet Festival that weekend. The children shared their rendition of 'Jellicle Cats', using movement a choral speech. Another group shared 'Quoting Shakespeare', a choral speaking piece about the use of Shakespeare in our every day language. Both groups were a credit to the school both at the Thanet Festival and in assembly.

Mr Irwin read the children a section of 'George's Marvellous Medicine' in Monday's assembly—one of his favourites. We will be hearing from other teachers, throughout the rest of the year, read sections of their recommended reads.

On Friday's assembly, drama decoder shared two more pieces with us all about reading! The first took us through the importance of reading, the doors reading opens for us, and the places it takes us. The second, through song and dance, shared some of the wonderful reading experiences the children had been exposed to in their career at St. Peters with the message that reading is a part of us: "a

never ending story that together we did right. Reading books together: making our dreams come true."

Each year group also shared one of their drama performances they had been working on in class—linked with our book week book: 'Varmints'. In class, we were so impressed with the way in which children produced and directed their own drama— using a variety of drama techniques they have been taught. They were all of a really high quality: it was very difficult to choose just one for assembly!

Year 6 had a fab time re-enacting 'Shackleton's Journey' this week—the reading book they have been reading in class! They used physical theatre to bring the story alive—including a dress up day— dressed as one of the crew members.





Winners of Storytelling week competitions.

STORYTELLING WEEK

Book week isn't the only thing we have celebrated this term: 2 weeks ago, we celebrated storytelling week!

All classes from year 3 to 6, looked at the storyteller and well-known poet, Michael Rosen.

In assembly, on the Monday, Mr Hunter-Whitehouse showed us one of his performance poetry pieces he had recorded and put on his website. We loved the repetition and could even join in with some of it by the end!

Throughout the week, Mrs Seeney set the school a challenge: to perform one of Michael Rosen's poems. Each class would need to find a class winner, who would compete in a year group heat. The winner of the year group heats would get to perform their work in assembly! Each year group winner won a book bundle and a certificate.

Mrs Seeney also set us a challenge for home—to send in pictures of us reading in 'strange places'. There were so many entries for this competition and it was so hard to choose. The school council took a long time deliberating over the winner: Emelia B in year 6! She wrote out the word 'Books' in the sand and read inside one of the letters! She also sent in some other pictures of her reading alongside. Well done Emelia and thank you to all that sent in pictures. You will see them on display outside the drama room on our reading display, which the arts leaders and reading ambassadors are going to be working on over the next month.

World Book Day:

We had some fabulous costumes for world book day. We always look forward to the costumes at St. Peter's, where everyone makes such an effort to dress up! I'm sure you will have seen some of the costumes on our newsletter!

Readathon

Each year group took part in a class readathon this year. Classes had dedicated days for a day of reading! This included listening to a variety of books by lots of different teachers. Some classes gave time for the children to read their own books and talk to each other and their teachers about recommendations, others visited different classes and teachers and heard lots of books read aloud. The children (and children) love this day: to celebrate our shared love of reading.

