



The St Ed's Echo

December 2023

How it all started! By Amelia and Natalia

One Friday afternoon, Amelia Weekes had the idea of making a silly newspaper on card. When she made it at lunch she showed it to her friend Natalia Logowska.

Then they said they could work together on different newspapers. For Amelia's newspaper Natalia was the illustrator.

Amelia was flippant about it but Natalia was serious, it was amazing. After that they decided to show their teacher that day. This is quoted from Mrs McDowell. "It's amazing, I love it!"

The next day Mrs McDowell spoke to Mrs Copeman about the newspaper club and if it would be okay to start a club.

And then it became a club.

**Our reporters,
designers,
journalists,
photographers,
editors and
cartoonists.**

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Letter from our editors

We would like to make everyone aware that the red squirrel is in danger of extinction, which is sad. They used to be common but now they are only found in a few places because of their declining population. They are very pretty animals as they have a beautiful coat.

This brings us to our next point. Most of you have probably heard about the King's new

coins. They have animals or plants on one side and the King's face on the other. The animals and plants are all from the British Isles. The 1p is a hazel dormouse, the 2p is a red squirrel, the 5p is an oak tree leaf, the 10p is a capercaillie bird, the 20p is a puffin, the 50p is a salmon, the £1 is two bees and the £2 has

flowers that represent England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Keep your eyes peeled for them, as you will start to see them in your change from the end of 2023!

By Clara and Sidney



The new coin collection



A red squirrel

News from around St Edmund's



'Dave' The school squirrel

One day, during a Year 6 PE lesson, Mr Cashford, the caretaker, was seen with a sweet baby squirrel on his shoulder.

"I think he must have lost his mum and he seemed to want me as his dad." Mr Cashford told Amelia Selfoss and Genevieve D'Mello, the reporters at the scene.

The young squirrel was apparently homeless but now he loves it at St.

Edmunds.

Before taking the squirrel somewhere safe Mr Cashford named him "Dave".

And that is the story of Dave, the baby squirrel.

Remember that it is important we look after the wildlife and nature we share our school with but we should never handle them.

By Genevieve and Amelia S

CHALLENGES!

In the Abbey Gardens there is a lot of British wildlife. Why not see how many squirrels you can find?

Draw a picture of a squirrel. It might get featured in our next issue!



The squirrel climbing up Mr Cashford's leg

Grab every opportunity just like Penny

Penny Post didn't like football, at least that was what she thought, until one year on her birthday she tried it and realised that she really enjoyed it. This is a lesson for us all, don't knock it until you try it!

Now every other Sunday she goes to Park Run with her family to train both to be a dancer and an international footballer. GO PENNY!



Penny Post in 5N



Emma Podar in 3OM

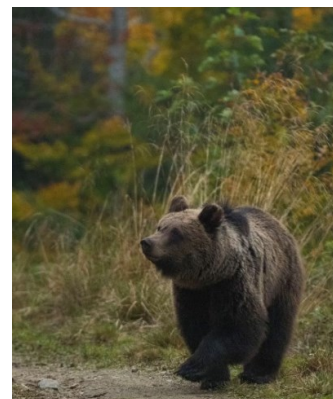
Remember transition day all the way back in July - before the summer holiday. Well for Emma Podar that was her first experience of St Edmund's because before that she went to school in Brandon.

After transition day she went on holiday to Romania and while she was there she saw a bear. Emma said "it was a baby bear on a mountain side and someone tried to scare

it away."

Imagine seeing a real life bear.

We hope you have settled into life at St Edmund's Emma.



European brown bear

Words from the school and eco council

The school councillors have been talking about...

respecting rights. There are lots of jobs that the School Council have had to keep up with: for example making sure there is a display in every class, printing and laminating signs for every area of the school to highlight all the rights and updating the rights' posters.

Hopefully this work has all contributed to the process of renewing our rights respecting school award.

At the time of printing we are awaiting the announcement of the outcome but we all have our fingers crossed.



A school council meeting with Mrs Martin

The eco councillors have been talking about...

house plants and how they help the environment. They remove around 95% of toxins from the air around them in 24 hours.

Spider plants and peace lilies specifically are very good at this. As a result the eco council thought about planting one for every class and encouraging them to look after it and help it grow.

So, a few weeks ago, they planted some in pots and brought them around the school to each class.

This is how you look after yours:

- Make sure it is somewhere bright but not in direct sunlight or near drafts.
- Give your spider plant water about once a week.
- Once you have watered it, make sure the top layer of soil is dry before giving it more water.

And that's it - easy right!



The eco council planting the spider plants.



Henri and Ariella in Year 1 watering the spider plants.

Pets corner

Whose pet do you think this is?

This rabbit belongs to one of the adults who works at St Edmunds.

The rabbit's name is Aggie. Aggie lives with another rabbit because it is important that rabbits live in pairs to keep each other company. However

Aggie is the more sociable rabbit and likes to be cuddled more.

We think this rabbit is so sweet.

Who do you think owns this gorgeous rabbit? Find the answer on page 6.



In the next issue we will have another pet for you to guess. Whose pet will it be?

Career Column

Have you ever wondered what job the adults at St Edmunds have done before working in school?

We interviewed Susie, who works at preschool and afterschool club, to find out.

In a previous job Susie worked as a photo journalist, and worked for many newspapers.

This is what she told us about her old job.

Her first experience of being a photo journalist was during work experience at school. In her first week she had to go and take pictures

for the closing cattle market in the town centre. She also had to go to a jet show and actually got to go in one of the planes and we have got a picture of her in the plane.

We asked her if she enjoyed her old job she said that she loved it as it was very exciting. Susie said "you never knew what was coming next. Every day was different."

Susie also photographed some famous people as a photo journalist. For example, the Prince of Wales, now King Charles III and Margaret

Thatcher. However Susie said that after having children of her own she realised that what she really loved was working with children and that is how she has ended up working at St Edmund's.

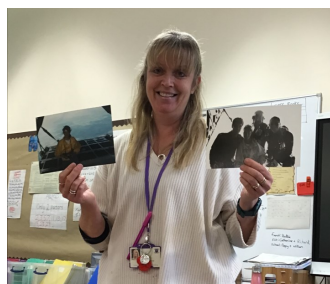


Susie with King Charles III

Next issue we will tell you about another job someone at St Edmund's has previously done.

And if there are any parents out there who would like to tell us about their chosen careers we, at St Ed's Echo, would love to hear about it.

By Evalina, Hattie, Sophia



Susie on board a fighter jet

Strictly for Come Dancing fans



For all you budding dancers out there who have been hooked on Strictly Come Dancing—here are some fun dance facts for you.

The Tango is a dance with a partner that originated in the 1880s along the Río de la Plata, the border between Argentina and Uruguay. The tango was born in the poorer port areas of these countries.

The Cha – Cha – Cha is a dance from Cuba. It is a Latin dance and was

originally danced to music from Latin composer and violinist Enrique Jorjín. It was first danced in 1953.

The Pasodoble means *double step* in Spanish and originated as a fast-paced Spanish military march. Its speed allowed troops to go from 60 steps per minute to 120 steps - hence its name. This military march gave rise recently to a modern Spanish dance and a genre of instrumental music often played during bullfights.

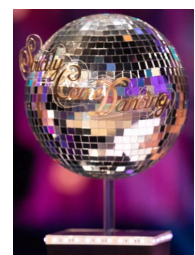
The Quickstep like many ballroom and Latin dances began with working people in poorer areas innovating and experimenting and so it had no formal definition, it was loose and care free. The core of quickstep comes from humble beginnings: dancehall bands would often speed up an older version of the modern foxtrot. As the immigrant communities of New York began to love this new dance, it eventually found its way onto public stages

and glamorous ballrooms.

There we have the origins of just a few of the dances on Strictly we see every week.

We are very excited about the grand final on Strictly this Saturday 16th December.

Who do you think is going to win?



The glitter ball trophy

✦ Emma's recipes to be relished

Oaty Fruit Crunch

320g oats

320g plain flour

320g butter (unsalted)

280g sugar

1 tin apples (or fresh)

1 tin strawberries (or fresh)

Mix all ingredients together except the fruit. Press half the mixture into the tin as a base. Spread the fruit on. Sprinkle the remaining mixture on top.

Cook for 30mins at 160c.



Charlie making his oaty fruit

What did you like about school dinners when you were a child?

I always had packed lunch at school. When I was at upper school I liked the biscuit from the tuck shop.

What is your favourite meal?

On this menu, probably sausage roll or fishfingers. Outside of school, Mexican.

What would you have as a school snack? i.e. favourite fruit or vegetable?

I really like the peas – there're really crunchy. Satsumas and pears too. Oh and bananas!

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to go running and walking my dogs. I also enjoy volunteering at junior parkrun on Sunday morning.

Why did you choose the recipe?

This is my favourite.

It's delicious hot with custard, cream or ice cream and it's just as good cold.

By Charlie Jackson



Emma getting ready to cook our delicious meals.

Riddle answers:

1. The future 2. A book 3. A hole 4. A staircase 5. Your name 6. A candle 7. Anything that can jump 8. There are no stairs. It's a bungalow 9. A cold

Pet corner: Aggie is Mrs Whyatt's pet rabbit.

Book quiz:

Zog - 1. fly, roar, breathe fire, capture a princess, fight 2. Princess Pearl 3. Princess Pearl 4. green 5. Sir Gadabout the Great 6. Sir Gadabout and Princess Pearl become doctors and Zog becomes their ambulance

Snail and the whale - 1. see the world 2. a humpback whale 3. a storm 4. he gets stuck on the sand 5. save the whale 6. they called the fire engine to keep the whale cool and then they push him in the sea.

Percy Jackson - 1. Grover and Annabeth 2. Sally and Poseidon 3. Gaia 4. Riptide 5. A dagger 6. Kronos 7. blue jelly beans 8. Black 9. Tyson 10. Celestial bronze 11. Athena 12. Grey 13. Scythe 14. Backbiter 15. Minotaur 16. Dragon 17. Gabe Ugliano/Paul Blofis 18. Jackson

News from around the Universe

By Catherine Cunningham

We find space and the universe so fascinating and thought that maybe you would to.

- Did you know? In the middle of the milky way there is a giant gas and dust cloud that has a chemical that gives raspberries their flavour.

It is called ethyl formate.

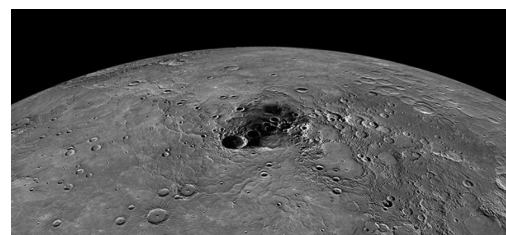
- On Mercury a day is very long and lasts for 55 Earth days, but because Mercury orbits the sun very quickly a year on Mercury only lasts for 88 Earth days. This means that two years

on Mercury lasts for three days.

- The universe is expanding and objects are moving away from each other so there are stars that we will never be able to see.



A model projection of the surface of Mercury.



Environmental news

Polar bears are in trouble by Catherine Cunningham

Because polar bears are an endangered species we thought we would help to inform you and give you some interesting facts.

- Polar bears are considered to be a vulnerable species because of climate change.
- The sea ice habitat on which they depend melts earlier in the spring and forms later in the autumn requiring them to live longer on land.
- Polar bears are the largest species of bear and land carnivore.
- Polar bears can weigh between 300-800kg, the same weight as a giraffe.
- Polar bears live in Arctic regions like Canada, Alaska, Russia, Greenland and Norway.
- Polar bears can live up to 20 or 30 years.
- As polar bears spend more time onshore, they come into contact with humans more. Unfortunately, this sometimes ends badly for humans and



Wild polar bear cubs are most often born in December.

bears in Russia, Alaska, Greenland, and Canada.

- Keeping polar bears separate from people is better for both, since polar bears that wander into communities pose a risk to people, and



people often respond by killing the bears.

Let's hope things improve for polar bears.

➤ Christmas traditions from around the world

In this article you will learn about some international festive traditions that you may, or may not have heard of.

First we start with some Spanish traditions.

Christmas starts on December 22nd and ends on January 6th. On New Year's Eve, people eat 12 grapes on the last 12 seconds of the year to guarantee good luck for the coming year. You wait for Tio de Nadal instead of Santa.

Now it is time to learn about some Portuguese traditions.

Portuguese families gather on the night of December 24th for dinner, in which the traditional dish is boiled cod or octopus cooked with potatoes and Portuguese cabbage. On December 25th, the tradition is to have stuffed turkey.



Christmas at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris

Next we travel to France.

In France, Christmas dinner might feature a variety of foods including oysters, foie gras, roast meats like duck or turkey, and a range of cheeses. Dessert often includes a traditional Yule log cake called "Bûche de Noël."

Now we're off to Iceland.

Most Icelanders celebrate Christmas Eve with an impressive home-cooked, multi-course dinner with family. After dinner, people open their presents. After opening the presents, some people go to a midnight Mass, where they meet their neighbours and friends.

Italy next.

In Italy they celebrate the Feast of the Seven Fishes on Christmas Eve. The feast includes seven or more traditional fish and commemorates the wait for the midnight birth of baby Jesus.



La Befana visiting children in Italy the night before Epiphany— when the Wise Men visited baby Jesus.

La Befana is an elderly woman who visits children on the eve of Epiphany - the night of January 5th - and leaves them gifts.

In Australia Christmas is very different as it happens in the middle of Summer. So eating prawns, having a Boxing Day barbecue and street parties is the norm.

Some American traditions.

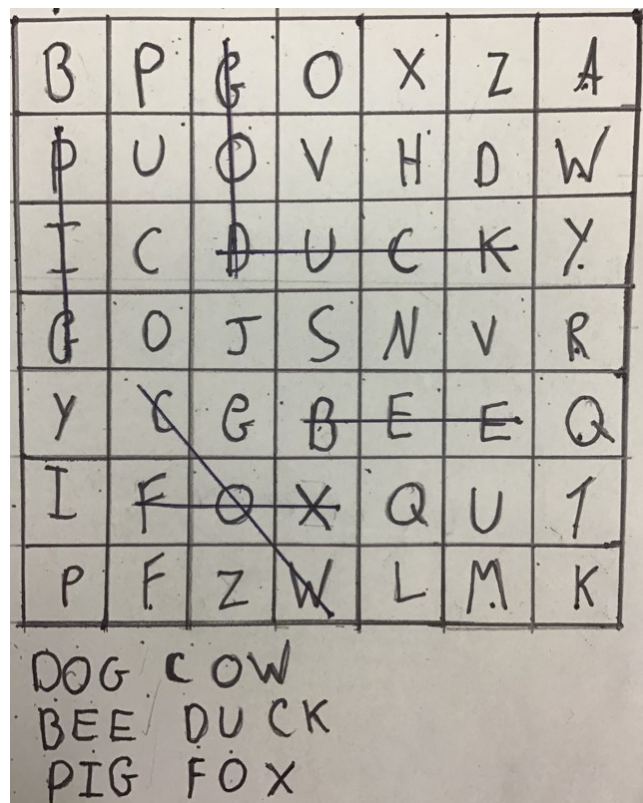
American traditions will be most recognisable to us in the UK. American houses may be decorated with a Christmas tree and a Christmas stocking hung on the mantel piece. Cookies will be left for Santa.

These are some International Christmas traditions.

Merry Christmas And
A Happy New Year!



Word search - answers



Jokes

1. Where do you find a cow with no legs?

Right where you left it.

2. Why did the Oreo go to the dentist?

Because he lost his filling.

3. Yesterday I saw a man spill his scrabble on the road.

I asked him "what's the word on the street".

4. What did one traffic light say to the other?

Stop looking! I'm changing!

5. What did the shark say when he ate the clownfish?

This tastes a little funny.

6. What do you call two ducks and a cow?

Quackers and milk.

7. Why was 6 afraid of 7?

Because 7, 8, 9.

8. What is a fish without a eye?

A FSH.

9. Why don't they play poker in the jungle?

Too many cheetahs.

10. I tried to catch some fog.

But I mist.

11. What did the policeman say to his belly botton?

You're under a vest.

12. What is a fake noodle?

An impasta

13. What's a cat's favourite colour

Purrr-ple

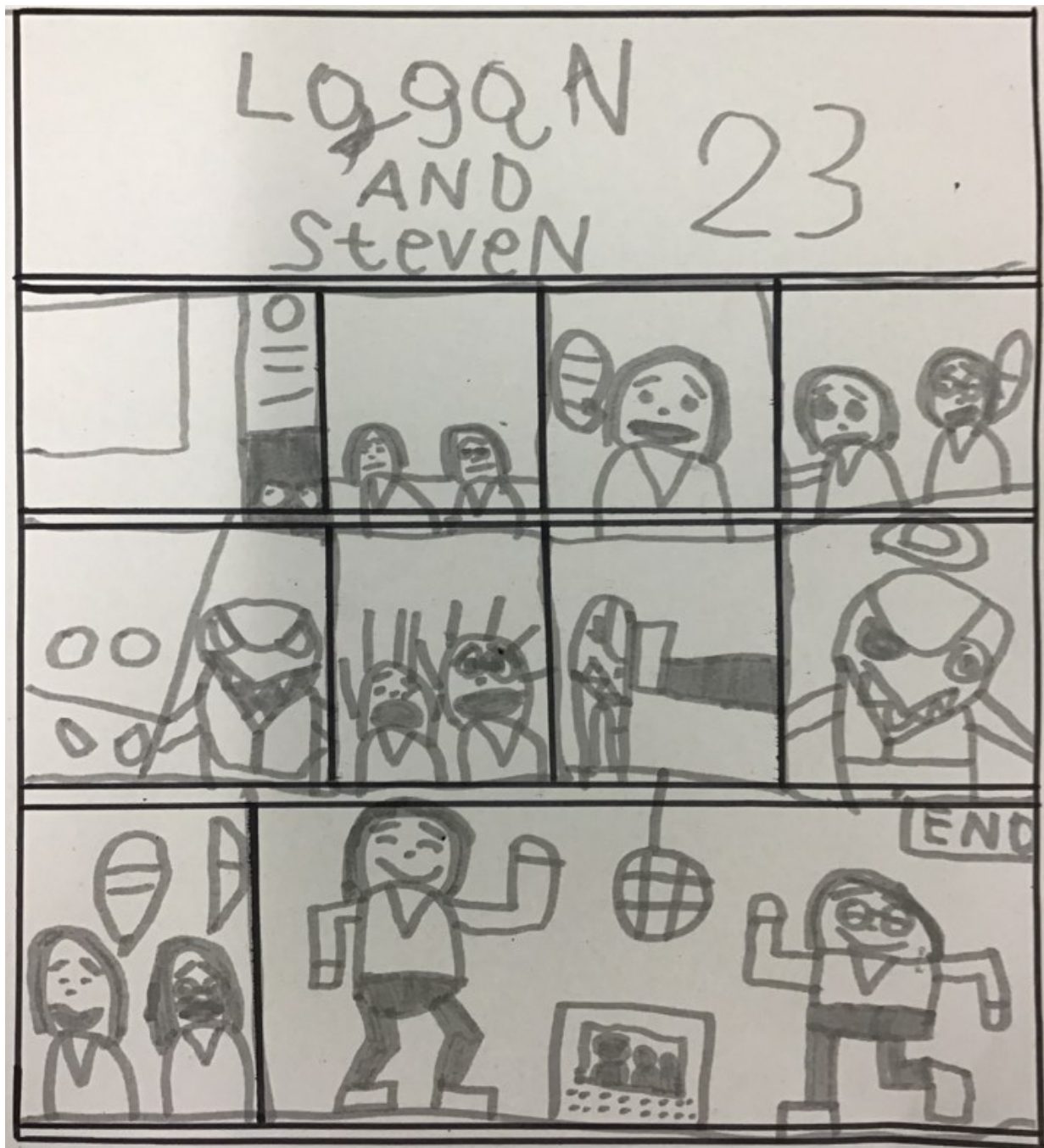
14. What do you call a Frenchman in sandals?

Phillipe Floppe

Cartoon By Brock

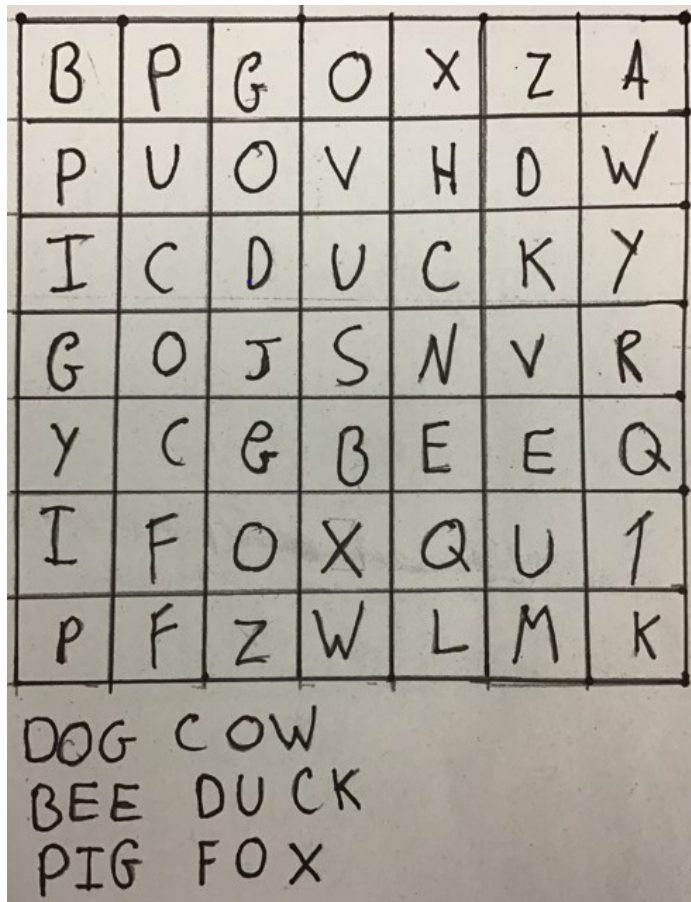


Cartoon By Logan and Steven in Owl Class



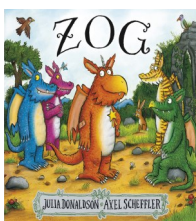
- Logan and Steven were watching television when Logan said "Whose eyes are those?"
- Suddenly a Gormiti jumped out of the TV.
- Logan and Steven screamed and were very scared, so Steven pushed the Gormiti over.
- The Gormiti became very dizzy and confused.
- Logan and Steven were so happy they had a disco dance party. The End.

Word search



Answers on page 9

Book quiz by Genevieve and Amelia S



- What do the dragons learn in each of their lessons?
- What is the girl that helps Zog called?
- Who does Zog capture?
- What colour is Madame Dragon?
- Who does Zog fight?
- What agreement do Zog and his friends come to?

Zog book
quiz

Book Recommendations

Stuck on finding a new book ? Here are some suggestions.

Ks2

- . Harry Potter and the cursed child by J.K Rowling
- . Percy Jackson series by Rick Riordan
- . Skandar and the unicorn thief by A.F Steadman
- . Alex Rider series by Anthony Horowitz

Ks1 – Ks2

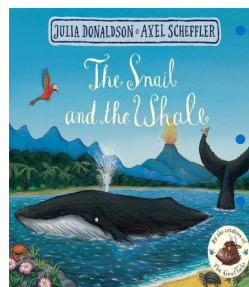
- . Tom Gates by Liz Pichon
- . Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
- . David Walliams book

Christmas Books

- . The Christmasaurus by Tom Fletcher
- . The Christmasaurus and the Winter Witch by Tom Fletcher
- . The Christmasaurus and the Christmas Carol by Tom Fletcher
- . The Christmasaurus and the Naughty List by Tom Fletcher

- . The Christmas Pig by J.K Rowling

We hope you enjoy these recommendations!



- What does the snail want to do at the beginning of the story?
- Who does the little snail meet?
- What weather do the snail and the whale encounter?
- What happens to the whale at the beach?
- What does the snail write on the black-board at the school?
- How do the people in the town save the whale?

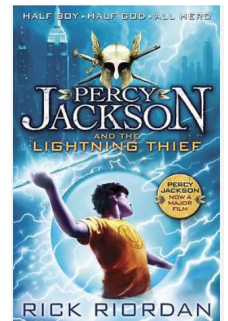
Snail and the
Whale book
quiz

➤ Book quiz by Sidney Astle

Percy Jackson book quiz

1. Name Percy's two best friends?
2. What is Percy's parent's names?
3. Who is Kronos's mother?
4. What is Percy's sword called?
5. What is Annabeth's favourite weapon?
6. Who was Chiron's father?
7. What is Percy's favourite sweet?
8. What colour is Percy's hair?
9. Who is Percy's half-brother?
10. What is the most common metal used for half-blood weapons?

11. Who is Annabeth's mother?
12. What colour is Annabeth's eyes?
13. What is Kronos's infamous weapon?
14. What is Luke's second sword called?
15. What is the first monster ever killed by Percy?
16. What animal guards the golden fleece once it is at camp half-blood?
17. Who is Percy's stepfather?
18. What is Percy's surname?



➤ Riddles Answers on page 6

1. What is always in front of you but cannot be seen?
2. What has a spine but no bones?
3. What can you put in your pocket, whilst it still being empty?
4. What goes up and down but doesn't move?
5. What belongs to you but other people use it more?
6. I'm tall when I am young and I am short when I am old?
7. What jumps higher than a building?
8. There is a one-story house in which everything is yellow, yellow walls, yellow doors and yellow furniture. What is the colour of the stairs?
9. What can you catch but not throw?