

GOSFORTH EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



**Autumn Term 1
2026**



Brought to you by Press Club

WELCOME BACK!

Summer Holidays—A Distant Memory

Welcome back everyone! Although you may be sad that the summer holidays are over, we can still remember the good times we had during the holidays. Whether you went abroad or relaxed in the sun, I'm sure you had a great long break off from school.

Some people might've spent their holidays similar to Jacob B who went on holiday with family and liked playing with his cousins who came over to his house. He also said that he like riding his bike. Others may have been like Aerin and done something more outdoors, like camping, which she did, where she saw alpacas and had hot chocolate every night!

By Oscar C.



A New Academic Year, A New School Photo



As you may know, the school photos have been taken recently and people have mixed opinions about the experience.

Evelyn said it was short and she wasn't too happy to do it.

I also asked Jacob who said that he liked it but the flash was quite startling.

Finally, Rosey said she didn't like how you have to tip your head and said that doing it was annoying.

By Oscar C

SETTLING INTO GEMS



For those of you Y5's getting used to new schools like GEMS, it could be quite hard like it has been for me. I'm a year 5 and I'm struggling a bit too, many of you might not be struggling and having the time of your life, some of you might just feel like you're in the middle.

Anyways I'm settling in quite well but still not the best of times. In my opinion its really hard to fit in or be perfect but you don't have to be perfect and I am just excited that Halloween is almost here. I hope you've started choosing your costumes, also I'd love to hear some of your choices. This Autumn term hopefully there's many huge crunchy leaves, I love the sound of leaves crunching in the Autumn.

Bye for now, have a great autumn and a HAPPY HALLOWEEN.

By Jacob B Y5

HAVE YOU HAD A HIGH FIVE FOR YEAR FIVE?

THIS IS A SHOUT OUT TO ALL YEAR FIVE'S - WE NEED TO KNOW!

HERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO HAVE:

(A High Five for Year Five is when year 8s approach you in the corridor and enthusiastically demand a high five to welcome you to the school)

"I've had ten billion and it's really annoying" Nydia T

"I have had three" Alana T

"I had one, but I don't really mind" Sally F

"What's this? I've never had once of those... I want one!" Jacob B

By Evelyn S



NEW ACADEMIC YEAR, NEW PRESS CLUB MEMBERS

Hi my name is Alice and I am a new member of Press Club. I am excited to be writing the school articles.

What I love about GEMS: My favourite lessons in this school are History, Food Tech and English I love the school but can be a bit noisier. It is a lot different from my old school.

Moving In: Now I am settling into my class [5KR] and love this school like my old one.

Meet the other Press Club members....

I am Oscar, I have been in Press Club since year 6. Press Club is good because you can write about things that are happening in school.

I am Ella, I am in year 5 and I am tired because my class have been chatterboxes today. My friends say I am a Minecraft genius but I don't agree with them. Can I go to bed now?

I am Evelyn, I am in year 5. Sometimes I go up in mountains in the lake district with my family and out of school I do ballet and swimming for clubs.

I am Aerin, I am in year 7 so you might have seen me around school. I love writing and drawing. I like telling scary stories with my friends and I like gaming too.

I am Alexa and I am in year 6 and I have been in Press Club before. I came back because it's too good to leave!

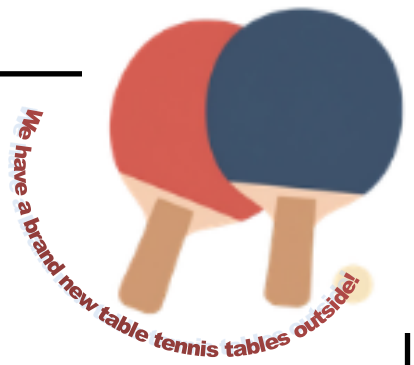
My name is Jacob, I'm in year 5 and am new to Press Club. I love the ocean because I love sharks, starfish and seahorses. I want to be an astronaut or a boxer when I grow up and eat lots of golden sushi.

My name is Ava and I am a member of Press Club. I am in year six and also did Press Club in year 5. My favourite lesson is English. I do contemporary dance which I have done since I was 4.



By Alice. R

OPAL!



Outdoor OPAL is outdoors. It encourages you to play outside – even if it is raining or cold!

Play You have got so many cool things to play with like scooters, football nets, footballs, the Teletubby hills, tree climbing, the elastic band bouncy thing (no one knows what to call it!) and so much more!



And ...stuff?

Learning Opal is brilliant! You get to learn about so many fun topics in classes but so much more outdoors! OPAL allows us to learn to share and how to work together. It helps you to develop your imagination and confidence.

By Jacob B y5

Taking Lessons Outside

We were using compasses in our lesson but they were going funny because they use a magnet and the electricity in school was getting in the way. Our teacher decided to take us outside so we can learn how to use them properly.

By Amelia, Louie and Poppy Y5



SPORTS NEWS

American Football



The Minnesota Vikings organised an event to promote the sport of American Football in the UK. GEMS came 2nd out of the whole of the region and also had the opportunity to meet NFL players. Congratulations to Joel W who won defensive MVP (Most Valuable Player) out of the whole of the North East.

We play 2 games every week to see who the regional champion is.

We won the first two games!



Football – Year 7 Girls

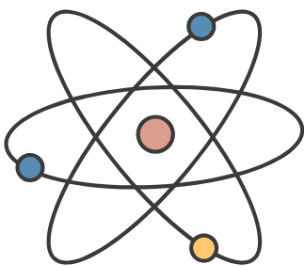
We competed at West Jesmond for the Football Trials. The first match we won 10-0 against Benfield. The 2nd Match was against West Jesmond and the score was 2:2. The 3rd match was against Gosforth Central and they won 4-2. We have another one in November to see where we



are in the leaderboard. We haven't been told yet where we currently sit on the leaderboard. It's fun and nice to play with your friends. By Olivia B Y7

STEM FEST TRIP

STEM FEST took place on 10th October at the Vertu arena.



The children that went on the STEM trip really enjoyed it. There were lots of engaging activities

for them to try out and lots of employers they engaged with about careers. There was a human sized robot and a robot dog that they were in awe of.

The pupils were a real credit to the school and

their behaviour was faultless. Two boys stood up on the metro to let 2 elderly people have a seat with no prompting from me. I will be rewarding the children who came on the trip.

By Miss Pink



A Special Guest- A TOUCHDOWN EVENT!

Our school was privileged to have the astonishing idol of... drum roll please... **ANTONIO FREEMAN!**

Ava and I (Alexa) had the very special task of taking photos and interviewing our special guest and his marketing team.



The Interview – Maria (Marketing)

Alexa- “Who do you think is the best dressed player?”

Maria- “Christian Watson.”

Ava- “Who is the funniest player on the team?”

Maria- “Carrington Valentine.”

Alexa- “Why do you think there isn’t an NFL Women’s League?”

Maria- “I think because everyone always thought that it was a boys sport but now, they are realising that girls can play too and love football so maybe there isn’t one yet but hopefully one day there will be one.”

Ava- “What do you do on your day off?”

Maria- “On my day off I like hanging out with my friends and playing with my dog.”

THE BIG INTERVIEW- ANTONIO FREEMAN

Ava- “What made you want to play football professionally?”

“What made me play football professionally? I really thought I was going to play basketball, but an opportunity came to play football and I really had to give a lot of credit to my high school friend he was really good at football and I was his best friend he kept telling me to come out for the team, come out to the team and I worked really hard because I wasn’t good, I wasn’t strong so I had to work and work and I became one of the best.”

Alexa- “What’s the best piece of advice a coach has ever given you?”

“Don’t stop until you hear the whistle. In football the whistle means the play is over. So, one of my most famous catches it went till the whistle.”

Ava- “What is your favourite food to eat after a game?”

“Probably ice cream. Before the game you eat all this healthy stuff to get more energy. And then you use all that energy, and you just want something soothing and relaxing like ice cream.”

Alexa- “Who had the best locker room playlist?”

“To be honest I never listened to anyone else’s music, and mine was all east coast tracks, so mine is the best.”



The Game (that our friends played outside led by Antonio Freeman)

The game had a great atmosphere and some awesome players that will go far in NFL. They were enjoying the experience and encouraging each other. They are all fast players and have some very good dodging skills.



It was a privilege to interview Antonio Freeman because he is such a legend in the NFL world and I thought it was so interesting to hear his answers and it was just a great experience. Ava

It was a once in a lifetime opportunity that will last forever! Alexa



Alexa and Ava, Press Club

Check out the news article on The Chronicle Website:

www.chroniclive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/north-east-school-hosts-american-34712720

The Staffroom



Every school has a staffroom but they're only for the staff not the children. No one ever knows what goes on in there, but I do....

What do pupils think happen in the staffroom?

Aerin "I think it's going to be old and really boring. There will be old tv's because new ones are too expensive!"

Ella "I went in my old school's staffroom and there were loads of coke in the fridge."

Alexa "In my old school we got a new building which was going to be part of the school, and we got a tour from our teacher, and we got to go in the staffroom. There was a massive jar of cookies."

Rosie "I think they have a fridge full of drinks and food. I also think that they will have massive parties after school. On training days, they will be no training just partying!"

"It's full of murders!" Nydia said narrowing her eyes suspiciously.

I am going to reveal the truth... from teachers' perspective.

Miss McFall "It's like the Room of Requirement from Harry Potter. Sometimes it's Willy Wonka's chocolate factory with a chocolate river. Other times, there are beds for you to have a nap, it just depends on what you need or how you're feeling."

Miss Gill "I don't spend much time in the staffroom as I am always busy doing jobs. Its quite bland and basic."

Mr Hodgson "It's full of chat and fun. There is a lot of cake and biscuits. Mr Adcock gives us tea and coffee."

The office "Office staff don't go in much but at break and lunch lots of staff go in. Every Monday morning they all have meetings. There is a lot of biscuits and cakes. There are governors' meetings in there and big announcements happen like Mr Stout leaving.

All this time you might be thinking why I haven't told but now is the time.

The staffroom is a place with all the basics. There is biscuits and a place where you can make tea and coffee. There is a notice board and blue, comfy chairs with a big table around it. The milk is always empty.

By Ara U



FIRST IMPRESSIONS



Winners and Runners-Up:



Pupils were tasked with creating an eye-catching poster using a gripping opening sentence from a book of their choice.

Each winner won a £5 gift voucher to spend at the Book Fair. Runners-Up received a chocolate lolly. Everyone received a certificate and house points!



WINNERS

Nydia

Max

Lucia

Emily

Amelia

Runners-Up

Jacob

Freya

Sumayyah



Autumn Book Fair



It's that time of year again! Our Autumn Book Fair arrived on 14th October and stayed with us for a whole week and was open every lunchtime. It was outside the assembly hall doors. Stationery and wonderful books for everyone were sold. There were loads of different genres of books including comics, fantasy, mystery and crime, thriller, romance, graphic novels, football and loads more choice. Books were £2 and over. I hope that you came along to experience the atmosphere and have a look at all the amazing books! It might have been our busiest book fair yet!

By Ava U



Arran Trip

Recently, people in year 8 went on a trip to Arran, so here are some facts about Arran:

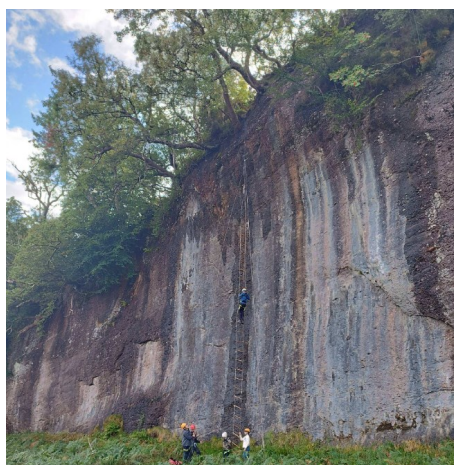
- There are four mountains on the island, with the highest of them being Goatfel which is 874 metres or 2,868 feet tall.
- It is known for having squirrels, deer, eagles, seals and otters
- It was actually Viking land but it eventually became part of Scotland.



Since there are so many interesting facts about Arran it must be a fun trip, but if that doesn't convince you that it's great, here is what the people who went thought:

It was a really good trip. We got to go abseiling, gorge walking up a river and all the way up Goatfel. The hike up Goatfel was a whole day trip. It took around 8 hours in total. It was much quicker and easier on the way down.

Where we stayed there were dorms, lounge rooms, games and table tennis. We watched James Bond one night. There was also a pillow fight in one of the lounge rooms. We also went rock pooling and saw about six seals. We spotted whales on the Northern coast.



The Journey

We took a detour on the way there and what should have been a two hour trip turned into a NINE hour journey! We ended up getting a completely different ferry because the one we went to get was cancelled. On the way back it was much quicker and we saw a pod of dolphins!

By Oscar Y7, Toby R and Ethan K Y8



KS2 ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLIES



Every Thursday morning, KS2 pupils come together for an achievement assembly, where certificates are awarded to recognise children who demonstrate one of the five R's: **Resilience, Respect, Resourcefulness, Relationships and Reflectiveness.**



KS2 TALENT

Are you an actor, dancer or a magician?

KS2 assemblies take place every Thursday morning. Mrs Donnelly has opened the floor for pupils to showcase their talents at the end of each assembly. We even have signs that tell us to 'clap' or 'dance' which is really fun – it feels like being at the theatre. So far we have had:

The Roaring Bears: Lilly, Oscar, Emily and Sally F

The Roaring Bears performed 'Sweet Child O' Mine' by Guns N' Roses

Lilly sang 'How Far I'll Go' from Moana

Oscar sang 'Ordinary' by Alex Warren

Emily sang 'Titanium'

Sally sang 'We Go Together' from Grease

Mila played 'Welcome the King' on the Piano

Lily sang "Elizabeth Taylor" by Taylor Swift

We need more people with talents! Are you an actor, dancer or a magician? (We haven't had a magician yet... we need one!! If you have a talent, tell Miss Donnelly in classroom 14.



HOUSE CAPTAIN ELECTIONS

On Monday 12th October, the Year 8s who were signing for House Captains delivered their speech in front of their House. Darling was in the Dining Room, Stephenson in the gym, Robson in the Art Room and Davison in the hall. Then the audience got to vote for ONE candidate from THEIR HOUSE ONLY. The votes were collected and counted up to reveal one captain and one vice captain for each house.



The Results:

Stephenson

Captain Emma W

Vice Aliza K

Darling

Captain Sam B

Vice Oscar J

Robson

Captain Chloe C

Vice Sam A

Davison

Captain Sahib D

Vice Graysen D

Environment Competition

This term, Terry, who is a volunteer from 'Friends of the Earth' kindly came into our school to talk to us about the environment and introduce a poster competition.

"Thank you Gosforth East Middle School for inviting me to join you in activities leading up to your half term. As many of you know I am a volunteer from Friends of the Earth, a charity concerned about the decline in the natural world and the environmental breakdown. We want to help create a better world and I am sure you do as well. The good news is that there are lots of things we can do to protect nature on land and in the sea. There are many things we can do as well to lessen the impact of climate change on our lives. Many of the things we can do seem quite small but just imagine children and their families from all over this country and in other countries too taking small actions. Putting those all together can bring about huge changes to the world we live in."

As Greta Thunberg says, 'No one is too small to make a difference'."



The Poster Competition

Terry introduced a poster competition. "Some of those posters will be displayed in Gosforth Public Library over half term. Later on look out in the school for a display of these."



Many pupils used the library at lunchtimes to create their posters while others made theirs at home. Lots of pupils had the opportunity to make posters in their science lessons too.

"Prizes and certificates will be awarded before Christmas. We would have liked to have given all students prizes but we can't do that. However, we have donated two large books about the sea to the GEMS library. We want to encourage you to find out about nature and the environment and the threats to it."

CLIMATE & NATURE TALKS

Terry visited every Wednesday for three weeks to talk to us about environmental concerns.



Week 1—The Oceans

**Week 2—Our Natural World and
Wildlife**

Week 3— Extreme Weather Events

“It was great that we were able to obtain 13 Young North East Naturalist Journals from the Natural History Society of Northumbria. If you were fortunate to be given one of these when we talked about nature, we hope you are enjoying being a young naturalist and are filling in your journals. They are for you to keep and maybe to look back at later on in your life.”



Children playing ‘Tipping Point’ - an environmental game created by Terry -in the library.

“Our oceans are beautiful, mysterious, powerful and help keep us alive.

**IF WE LOOK AFTER OUR OCEANS
BETTER THEY WILL LOOK AFTER US.”**

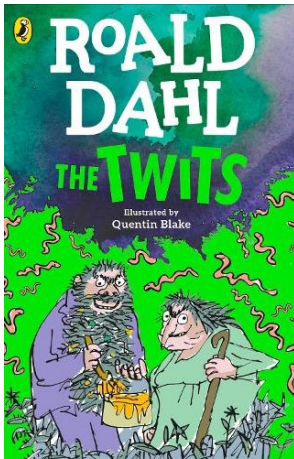


**You can be a nature protector or
young naturalist!**

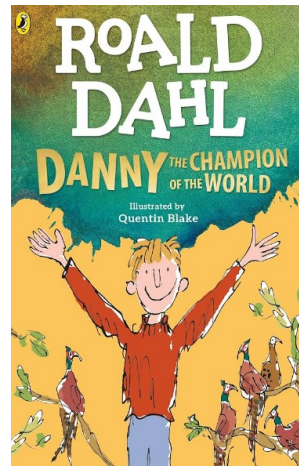
A huge
**THANK
YOU**

to Terry for visiting our school, donating books, taking the time to listen to our ideas, and organising an exciting poster competition to raise awareness, inspire creativity and get people thinking!

What are You Reading?



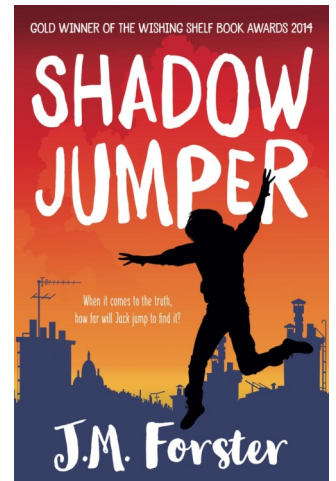
5SS Form Class



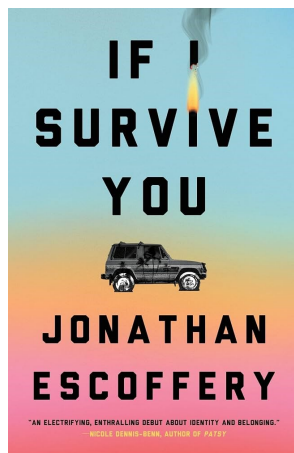
5TR Form Class



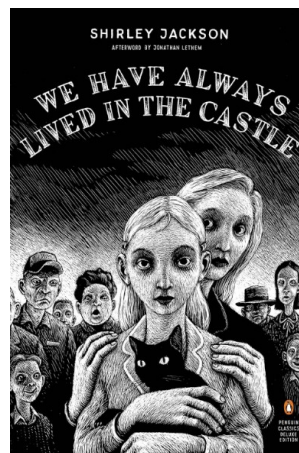
6NG Form Class



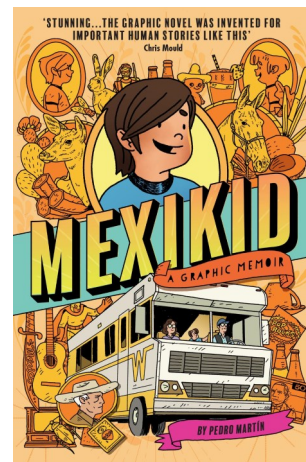
8MW Form Class



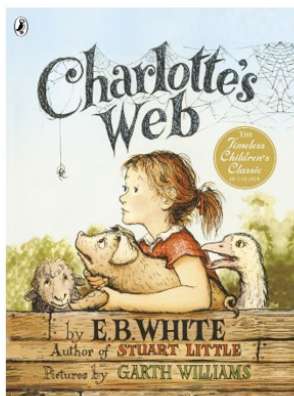
Mr Williams



Miss McFall



Mrs Gill



Charlotte's Web

I recommend Charlotte's Web because it's a true story of friendship and what a real friend should be like. I rate it 4 and a half out of 5.

Escape Room

Hi my name is Ella and I love to read. If you are looking for something to read, I would suggest ESCAPE ROOM. It is an adventurous book about five strangers trying to survive.



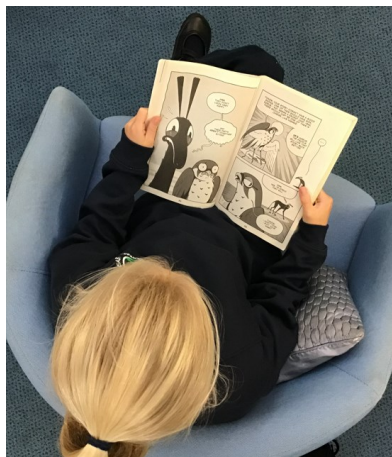
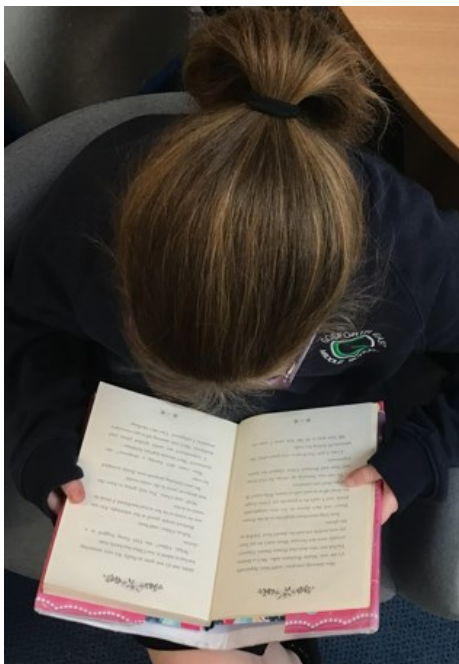
What Type of Reader are You?

Press club members

Evelyn is a slow reader, uses a bookmark and is reading the Fudge [Judy Blume] series.

Ella is a fast reader uses any flat junk for a bookmark and is reading War Horse by Michael Morpurgo.

Ava is a fast reader uses a bookmark and is reading I dare you by Tasmin Winter.

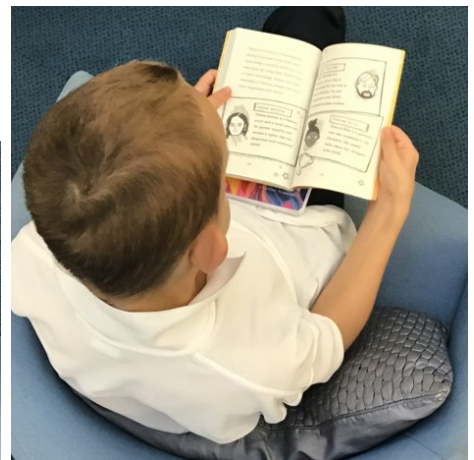


Teachers

Mrs Bhatt used to fold the corners but never realised she was damaging the books until someone bought her a bookmark and she said it is very beautiful, so she uses it now.

Mr Smith uses a bookmark but will use a train ticket or something flat. Mr Smith will not use a timetable again because once he used one and couldn't find it anywhere!

Miss McFall has a lot of bookmarks but sometimes uses whatever is nearby, maybe a receipt or something close to a bookmark.





This year Spark returns for its seventh year in a row. For those of you who don't know, Spark is a book award competition which sprawls over a number of categories, from Picture Fiction and 7+, to 11+ and Non-Fiction. It's quite simple, here are the key events:

September 28th: Deadline for joining the shortlisting panel (teachers only).

Autumn Term: Over 50 books in each category are longlisted down to 12.

December: The '12 Books of Christmas' in each category are announced.

Spring Term 1: The 12 books in each category are shortlisted down to 4 by the panel.

May: Voting commences (children only).

Late June: Awards ceremony. Winning books are announced.

🦇🦇🦇🦇🦇 GUESS WHO 🦇🦇🦇🦇🦇



Guess who is reading based on what they are reading!

*** HINT: There are clues dotted around school on classroom doors! ***





GUESS WHO





**Who Let
the Ghosts
in?**





A Tale of Autumn Leaves...



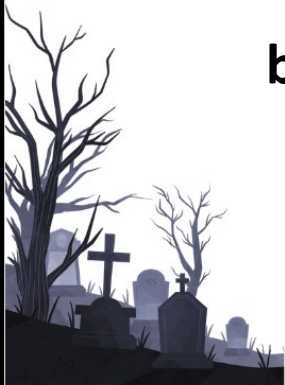
Melba was a small, plucky girl. At school she had no friends. She would sit on a swing every break and munch on a small pork pie her father had whipped up during his free time at the Fumbleton bakery. He was a tall, gentle man who you would trust quickly. He was like the barber you could talk to about anything, except he was a baker.

Her mother however was not a piece of cake. You would think of mothers that the toughest they got would be a lecture in the form of a yell, but this mother was completely wild. She would come home every fortnight, just before Melba's father blew out the last candle in the small cottage. Smothered in nature's carpet, she barely spoke English and would pin someone down if they called her by name at the very least. Small and stubby as she was to most people she was something from another world.

One night, Melba saw her father pacing in the small, rustic kitchen. 'She's coming again, isn't she. Papa?' He froze, staring at the shadowy trees which seemed to be telling him something fascinating. 'Melba, upstairs now.' 'But it only just got dark- 'she paused and stared into the darkness as well. Melba ran upstairs. She had seen her mother once, in a wedding photo, but her father had hidden it for all her life.

A thump came from outside. Wood on metal. On flesh. The door opened. 'Melba isn't asleep' the bakers voice trembled at the robust entity which growled before him. Mouse and cat. A groan. A slice. A thud. There was a lethal silence, which was a force to behold. Splinters rained on the carpet like debris from an atomic bomb. The inevitable sound of misfortune.

by Aerin H



Back to School Wordsearch

R X A C Q B Q Y K B
O D S O R T H I C O
U Y C B B A A M D A
C I I P A Y Y B P R
B C S E C G Z O L D
R H S N K B L R N E
E A O C P O D U P M
A I R I A O N L E J
K R S L C K G E N E
R T P K K X N R W P

backpack

crayon

break

book

scissors

pencil

chair

table

glue

board

ruler

pen

By Oscar

Mr Cheeseam's Joke of the Month

What cheese do you use to disguise a horse?



Mascarpone!