

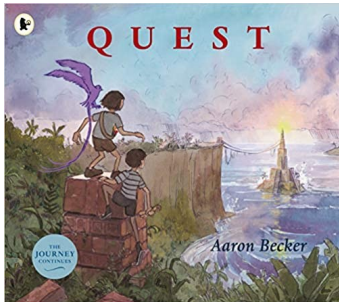


## FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Only one you

Dear Parents,

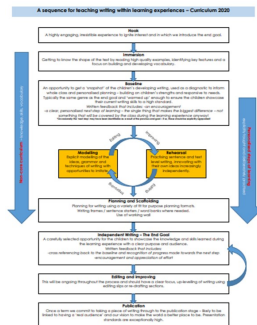
HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2022 has got off to a super-exciting start here at Fishbourne Primary with the children returning to school for a whole school learning experience called **Quest**.



Quest is the second book in a trilogy of wordless picture books illustrated by the brilliantly talented Aaron Becker who tells the story of two friends and their magical pencils. In the city park, the pair are startled by the sudden appearance of a king, who thrusts into their hands a map and some strange objects. But before he can explain, the king is captured by enemy forces and whisked back into his enchanted

world. Just like that, the girl and boy are caught up in a wild dash to rescue the mysterious monarch. They embark on a quest to unlock the puzzle of the map and, they hope, save the king and his people from darkness...

At Fishbourne, we aim to build a community of writers who write with purpose, power and pleasure. Writers are our apprentices and the steps of writing the children take are designed to enable them to communicate their ideas with confidence. We are using this book to inspire creative writing, using our sequence for teaching writing that you can read more about here: <https://www.fishbourneprimary.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=919&type=pdf>



Every learning experience begins with a **baseline** which provides an opportunity to get a 'snapshot' of the children's developing writing. It is used as a diagnostic to inform whole class and personalised planning – building on children's strengths and responsive to their needs. Typically the same genre as the end goal and 'warmed up' enough to ensure the children showcase their current writing skills to a high standard. Written feedback is given on the baseline that includes: -an encouragement -a clear, personalised next step of learning – the single thing that makes the biggest difference – not something that will be covered by the class during the learning experience anyway!

The **end goal** is a carefully selected opportunity for the children to showcase the knowledge and skills learned during the learning experience with a clear purpose and audience. Written feedback is given then which includes cross referencing back to the baseline and recognition of the progress made towards the next step alongside encouragement and appreciation of effort.

Between the baseline and end goal are a series of carefully designed steps that include immersion, modelling, rehearsal, editing, improving, planning and scaffolding that allow the children to deliberately practise their new skills, as well as opportunities for the children to work on their own personalised next steps of learning.

The whole school has used this beautiful book to inspire their story writing and, as a result, the end goals and steps of learning have looked different across our writing community—from sentence construction in year one, presentation of direct speech within

narrative in year three, through to extended writing in year six. The children have been so proud of their finished pieces which have been edited, improved and published.

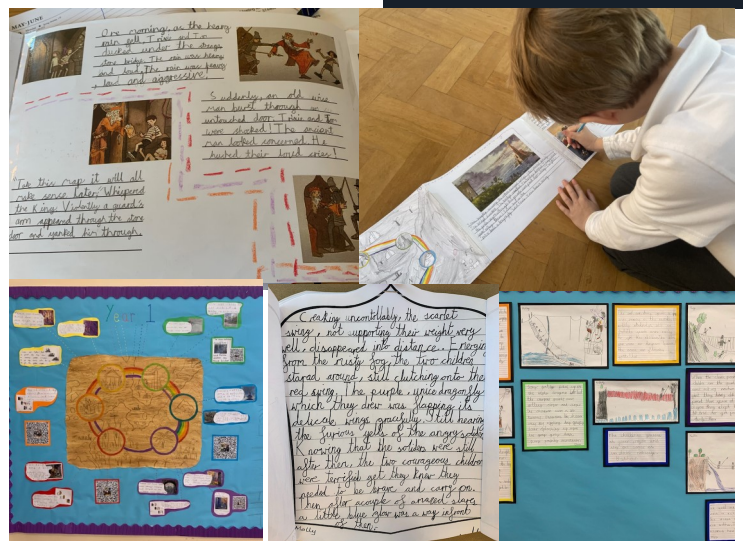
We know that writing has been one of the key areas of learning that has been most impacted by the children's experiences during lockdown and so it has been wonderful to pop in and see the children's enjoyment for writing developing. They have no shortage of ideas and a growing confidence in themselves to make deliberate decisions as authors about the impact they would like to have on their audience.

At our INSET day this week, staff took time to reflect together on the sequences of teaching and learning they had planned for their classes and looking with care at the progress that the children had made between their baseline and end goal.

The children's Learning Journals will come home this week so that you also can enjoy looking at them together and the children can talk you through their steps of learning. Please do complete the reflection and help us celebrate the children's achievements!

Aaron Becker, the author of the Journey trilogy has really inspired our children during this fortnight of learning. It was lovely to connect with Aaron through Twitter. You can learn more about Aaron, the story breather here: <https://www.storybreathing.com/free-virtual-school-visit/>

We look forward to next academic year when we will be finishing off the series with 'Return'.



'I am really proud of my writing - it's the best piece I have ever done!' (Y2)  
'This is the best piece of writing I have ever done. I loved being able to write and write and write!' (Y5)  
'I have loved coming back to this series of books - it's great writing adventure stories! I have so many ideas...' (Y4)  
'Knowing what my personalised step of learning was helped me to really work on that during this learning experience and I can see how I have improved.' (Y5)  
'I realised I didn't have many alternatives for the word 'said' so I went home to research them and have made a list to help me with my writing.' (Y6)

## Booktalk!

Book Talk noun (buk)(talk)  
1. A conversation about a book that one's read, infused with joy and emotion. Best if done daily.

We still haven't found a sponsor ... We LOVE reading and deliver reading lessons through whole class texts which are chosen especially with the unique cohort in mind. As a result, each year we hunt for a local company to match-fund a whole class texts - our wonderful FOFs fundraisers contribute £750 and this is matched by a local business. In the past, we have been supported by Humberts and Fandango Digital. **Do you know someone who might like to support us in this way?** We would advertise your company on our bookplates!

### Parent Survey:

**This week we will be sending out our Parent Survey which we would be very grateful if you could take the time to complete. It is always great to receive feedback from our families and we really value your reflections about our school. The more families who complete the survey, the more reflective the survey is of the views of our whole school family. Thank you very much indeed!**

**SURVEY**



We were delighted to hear that a new vicar has been appointed to the Parishes of Fishbourne and Apuldrum. The Rev'd Jessica Reid, presently an Assistant Curate at Brighton, St Nicholas, will take up these appointments hopefully later this month, Covid permitting. We look forward very much to welcoming Rev'd Jessica to our Fishy family and hope she will really enjoy spending time with us in school.

During our INSET day this week we spent time reflecting on the impact that our Quest learning experience has had on children's learning and exploring the ways in which we can effectively give children feedback as writers. In addition, our staff team have been pursuing their own professional reading around their own Inquiry Questions. At Fishbourne we believe there is 'only one you' and that our staff each have different talents and needs too. Our ultimate aim is for our staff to be facilitated to be classroom practitioners who consciously think deeply about their practice and who evaluate the **impact** they have on children's learning on a regular, systematic basis. Our Inquiry Questions set out to:

- challenge our assumptions and allow us to view our classroom practice through a new lens
- allow us to explore research evidence
- deliberately change an element of teaching or pedagogy
- evaluates the impact of the change for the learners in the classroom

A really wholesome day of staff development!

**INSET DAY**



### Little Fish who make our world a better place to be!



Charlie in Panther class and his Dad completed a burpee challenge during December.

This involved 50 burpees every day from 1st-25th December in aid of MacMillan Cancer Research and they raised a whopping £500!

## OUR GOVERNORS



Hello, I am Gordon Ellis and I have been a governor since July 2020. I was appointed as the local authority representative on the governing body and am now also chair of the Finance and Resources Committee. I have lived in or near Fishbourne for nearly 40 years and am a regular attendee at St Peter and St Mary's Church where I have previously been a churchwarden. I have been familiar with Fishbourne School for many years and our three children all happily attended the school. I worked as a solicitor throughout my career although have now retired and am pleased to be able to spend time supporting the work of the school.

Because of the covid pandemic this has been a very challenging time for everybody, staff and parents alike but I have been impressed by the dedication and efforts of the Headteacher and all the staff to try and keep functioning throughout this period. The restrictions have meant that it has been a strange time to start as a governor with limited access to the school and long periods of remote working last year. I certainly hope that in 2022 we will have fewer meetings over "zoom" and get back to a degree of normality.

The governors met during December and at the start of the new term this year. In addition to the regular business, we reviewed the budget for the current year which remains within plan. Looking forward we also approved a new three-year financial budget. However, in light of the new wave of Omicron infection we also carefully considered the school's risk assessment and the restrictions that should remain in place. We have been evaluating the position on a regular basis and are doing all we can to support the Headteacher and all the staff as we start 2022.

### Dates for 2022

**As with all areas of our lives at the moment, there is still some uncertainty regarding planning events. The dates below are guidelines and may be subject to change!**

**PUT THIS on YOUR CALENDAR!**

Thursday 20th January: Full Governors Meeting  
Wednesday 26th January: Fete Meeting 7.00pm in staffroom  
Monday 28th February: **INSET Day**  
Week beginning 4th April: Mid-year learning reports coming home  
Friday 8th April: Break up for the Easter holidays  
One further INSET day is yet to be set in the summer term

### ADDITIONAL SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY: 22nd July

This is the date that has been identified by the local authority to mark the Queen's Jubilee, meaning that the last day of the summer term will be 21st July.



CHICHESTER  
HARBOUR  
CONSERVANCY

### Winter Wellbeing Welly Walks

We are very excited to be offering Winter Wellbeing Welly Walks to children in Year 4, 5 and 6 after the Christmas holidays. The purpose of these walks is for our children to enjoy the harbour at two different states of tide and have time outside, enjoying the beautiful environment in which they live.

**WELLIES are absolutely essential on these sessions!**

|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Tuesday 11th Jan | Year 6 |
| Wed 12th Jan     | Year 5 |
| Tuesday 18th Jan | Year 6 |
| Wed 19th Jan     | Year 5 |
| Friday 4th Feb   | Year 4 |
| Friday 11th Feb  | Year 4 |

AT FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, WE NURTURE OUR LEARNERS TO BECOME...

