



Writing Newsletter - Term 2 2025/26



A wonderful term with a multitude of writing opportunities and experiences!

Towards the end of November, the Infants and Lower Juniors children wrote **letters to Santa** and even got to walk out to post them. Thanks to parents for supplying the stamped envelopes for this.



Author, Sue Palmer, visited the Lower Juniors on 12th November to introduce to the children her new book, *The Shell Secret*. Set in Cornwall, Sue shared aspects of Cornish life and history with a vast array of seaside and historic artefacts. With her passion for science, she talked about the biomes that can be found in coastal regions and shared her story writing techniques. Afterwards, the children produced some writing inspired by the workshop.

The Lower Juniors enjoyed a trip to the **Roald Dahl museum** early November which included a village trail and a visit to Great Missenden Library which was the setting Dahl chose for the library in the story, *Matilda*. The trip explored his early life, his time in the RAF, his homelife and his writing process. They also learnt about how Dahl edited his writing and used tools around the museum to edit some of their own.



The Upper Juniors have participated in the **Rotary Young Writers** competition this term. Congratulations to Ranya, Isla, Cuthbert, Samarpan, Alice and Emily for being selected to represent our school in this national competition. Equally, well done to our Infants children for their entries into the **Monster Design** competition. We will hear more about both of these in the Spring term.

We are very excited to announce that 10 of our St Mary's pupils have made it through to the next round of the BBC 500 Words competition from across the school. We have celebrated these children's accomplishment in assembly and will hear more about this in January.



Other fun initiatives that we have started up this term are our 'Joke Wall' in the playground and our letterbox which enables children to write letters to other children or adults in our school.



Finally over the Christmas holidays, we are inviting children to participate in our Winter Writing Bingo which will come home in their writing journals. We really hope they have some fun completing the suggested challenges.

Other English based experiences (not strictly writing!) have been our Christmas Reading Buddies and the Autumn Book Fair, which earned St Mary's another super amount of spending rewards to replenish our library.

Upcoming events after half term:

Author workshop – Upper Juniors, Maidenhead Library visit & Drama Workshop – Infants and Reception