



Sandgate Primary School

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Headteacher: **Mr M Green**

Wednesday 12th February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

On Friday 28th February 2020, we will be hosting our next writing event, in which the whole school will use the same stimulus to generate a piece of writing. It is a wonderful opportunity for children to write whatever *they* choose to write, from stories to non-chronological reports. Using one resource for the whole school also offers the opportunity for fantastic collaborative writing.

For this event, we would be delighted if you or members of your family would join us in school between 8.50am and 10.00am on 28th February to begin to write with your child/children. This is a great opportunity for children to see that we're all writers, and for you to work alongside them on a piece of writing. If you're unable to make it on the day, you might wish to have a look at the resource beforehand and perhaps begin to work on something at home, ready to send into school with your child on the day.

Following your feedback on previous writing events, siblings will be able to move between each other's classes to allow you to work with more than one child at a time and the main hall will be set up as a 'break out' area if you would prefer to take your children to write there. We will also be introducing the resource to children before you visit so that you can spend your time working with them on a first draft, rather than just planning.

Our main hall will be available from 8.30am with tea and coffee so that you can drop your child off and then come straight in, ready for a short briefing at around 8.50am prior to heading to classes for 9.00am.

Our resource this time is called 'Medals.' We will be presenting a selection of historic medals in a display case in the main school corridor (photos to be posted via our social media accounts nearer the time), which class teachers will take the children to see before beginning to discuss initial ideas for writing. The priority is on encouraging children to make their own choices as an author about what *they* would like to write, using the historic medals as a starting point. Many of you may also have medals of your own or of other family members at home and if you would be willing to share them, we would be delighted if you or members of your family could bring them in on the day.

We would appreciate it if you could complete the slip below to let us know you are coming and look forward to seeing you on the day

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Evans

Whole School Writing Event – Friday 28th February 2020

Name of child: _____ Class of child: _____

I/we will be attending the writing event on Friday 28th February between 8.50am and 10.00am.

Names of attendees and relation to child: _____

The resource: *'Medals'*

Object-themed: a selection of medals presented in a display case in the main corridor.

Community invite: Friday 28th February

Useful questions to ask when introducing the resource:

- What do these look like?
- How do these look different to medals you've seen before?
- Why might someone receive a medal?
- What have you/someone you know received medals for?
- What details can you see on these medals?

Useful vocabulary:

- Award, success, completion, heroic, duty, war, campaign, peace, recognition, experience, history, historic, win, champion, legendary, legacy

Useful writing ideas:

- **Stories:** Narrative of an event that led to being awarded a medal. Portal story that transports you to... Lost and found narrative in which ___'s medal has gone missing. Quest story: to the palace to receive a medal.
- Non-chronological reports: different types of medal and how people could receive them.
- **Recounts:** Diary entry as a person or animal who has received a medal. Recount (e.g. newspaper report) of a time when ___ earned a medal or was awarded a medal.
- **Persuasion:** Persuade the Queen to award you (or someone else) an MBE for ___;
- **Explanation:** Explain how medals are made; explain how MBEs are nominated and awarded.
- **Discussion:** Should ___ have been awarded a medal for ___?
- **Instructions:** How to make a medal. How to win your first race. How to restore an old artefact to its former glory.
- **Poems:** List poems: I will get a medal when... I remember... My medal is...; Colour-themed: Gold, Silver, Bronze; Going for Gold; I am proud of...

Other useful resources:

- Books: Medal for Leroy; Private Peaceful; Dinosaur Games; Paddington Goes for Gold
- Folkestone Historic Society: <https://www.folkestonehistory.org/>
- The Old and the Bold: Medals of Honour: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVs91lJt3Cw>
- Investitures: the ceremonies at which members of the public receive their honours from a member of the Royal Family: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZinzeddAQO>
- A Medal Ceremony with a Difference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Is4tfSvoRKw>
- Jonny Brownlee helped over line by brother Alistair: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liCRrheKIOI>
- Sir Mo Farah ends British track career with a gold medal finish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EehU-zSbil8>
- Poetry: In Flanders Fields, by John McCray; Dulce et Decorum est, by Wilfred Owen; For the Fallen, by Laurence Binyon; Olympic Granny, by Kenn Nesbitt;