

Hermelin - whole school text

Writing a thank you letter



ENGLISH KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY/Word bank

blurb	A short description of the story
caption	A brief explanation for a picture
letter	A message from one person to another often over distance

Questions, prompts and sentence starters

What can we work out about the authors of the notes and adverts?

How does the question, 'Will he still be welcome on Offley Street?' make us think and feel?

Share some sentence starters with the children. E.g. I liked it when ... Hermelin was ...

Ask them whether they write at home – and what is that writing for? Could it be for fun, and because it's something they enjoy

How many mysteries had Hermelin solved at the beginning of the story?

Display one of the notes that Hermelin left after solving a case and read it with the children. Ask them: - How might X feel when they read the note? - What might they do first? And then?

Final Outcome

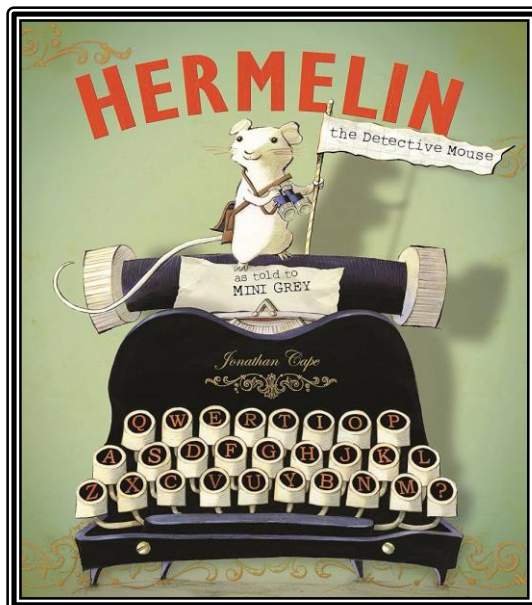
A thank you letter from one of the characters to Hermelin.

Non negotiables for this piece of work

- Letters are joined
- Sentences make sense
- Children have included creative vocabulary.
- Letters start with 'Dear' and end with 'From'
- Correct punctuation including full stops and capital letters

Stages of writing through this unit of work

- Role on the wall activity - The children will have a giant picture of Hermelin. Ask them to write or draw captions to show the things that we have found out about Hermelin's character.
- Writing a personal response to the story - Share a sentence starter with the children. I liked it when ... Hermelin was ... The children can choose their favourite pages from the story and compose sentences to practice orally with their partner. The children will then record their response to the story in their books, both what they liked and disliked.
- Provide note paper headed 'Dear Hermelin', with a space for children to write their thank you notes. The children need to include why they are saying thank you and why their item was so important to them. They can then draw a picture to finish off their letter.
- Role-play – Children will act out the scene from the story where Hermelin goes to his 'Thank you' party. They will discuss how he feels at the beginning of the party and the end when everybody is afraid of him. They will then write a diary entry in character as Hermelin describing what happened at the party.



Spellings

- Own name with a capital letter
- Write Dear and from to start and end the letter
- Year 2 Common Exception words