



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?

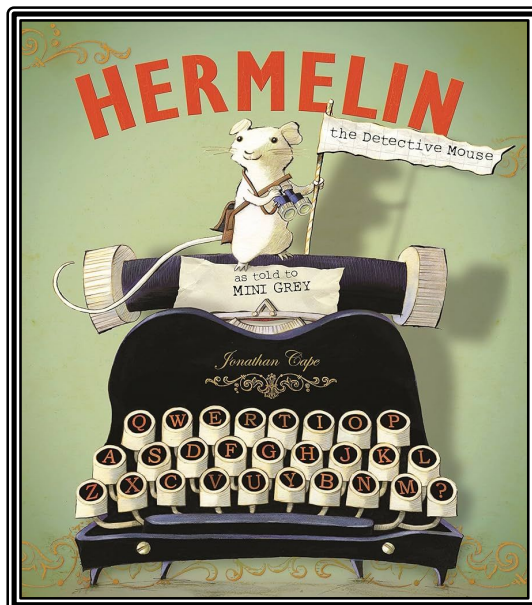
How does the question, 'Will he still be welcome on Offley Street?' make us think and feel?

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 recognisable
- Writing goes left to right (letters and words)
- Children sound out words to spell (sounds used are in the correct order for the word)
- The sentence makes sense and tells the whole idea
- There are spaces between words

Spellings

- Own name with a capital letter
- Write Dear and from to start and end the letter

Stages of writing through this unit of work

- Provide the children with a picture of Hermelin. Ask them to write or draw captions to show the things that we have found out about Hermelin.
- Share a sentence starter with the children. I liked it when ... Hermelin was ... Share relevant pages (children's choices) and compose sentences orally. Ensure children say the whole sentence. Children to record one sentence about Hermelin.
- Provide a simple title: 'Writing and Me' and let the children record their thoughts in whatever way they can, including pictures. For some children, this might be a list of types of writing they like or have completed, or a spider diagram with themselves at the centre, or a memory of a time they enjoyed writing. Some children might want to list things they would like to write about. Making their own choices about what they write and how they present it will be a focus.
- Provide note paper headed 'Dear Hermelin', with a space for children to write or draw their thank you notes. Tell them they need to write 'from' and their name at the bottom.