



The Wall in the Middle of the Book By Jon Agee



'A book that celebrates freedom of movement and thought'

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn term! For the first week back at school, we will be using a whole school book called 'The Wall in the Middle of the Book'. During the first week, lessons on writing and a variety of foundation subjects will be based on the whole school book. Maths lessons will still continue daily. Music, PE, Spelling, Reading, Handwriting and Spanish will continue as normal. After our Inset day later in September, you will receive the usual curriculum letter for what each year group will be learning for the rest of the term.

Maths

The teachers will be assessing where the gaps are and using the ready to progress criteria. They may begin the place value unit of work.

English

Writing will be based on the book.
Spelling and Handwriting lessons will begin
Daily class reading will begin

**The Knight thinks that the wall in the book will keep him safe from the dangerous side of the book.
But is he right...?**

Geography & History lessons may include:

- Exploring the location of some of the world's most famous walls. Plotting them on a map, using atlases or google earth to visit them.
- Looking at the function of these walls – what is the relationship with the physical environment?
- Focus on one wall and pupils have to research it. Creating fact files/Non-chronological reports or creating presentations.
- Examples: Great Wall of China, Western Wall (Jerusalem), Lennon Wall, Hadrian's Wall.
- Exploring cities in the UK that have walls. What was the purpose of them? Who built them? When were they built? York, Chester, Conwy, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Tenby, Canterbury.
- Exploring walls with particular historical significance – Berlin Wall, Hadrian's & Antonine Wall, Walls of Constantinople.



PHSE lessons & discussion topics may include:

Exploration of walls and the division/separation that they create. How they can divide and separate. Is this good? Bad? What does the knight learn about 'the other side of the wall'? What do we mean if we say that someone has 'put up walls' around them? Discussions around rights and equality. How would they feel if there were walls in the playground separating year groups, classes, phases?

Using the idea of the wall as a metaphorical wall. What could the divide actually 'be'? Bullying? Equality? Kindness? Education? Diversity? Children draw/write what a world with and without that would look like.

Discussions on:

- Pre-conceptions and making prior judgements.
- Challenging stereotypes – ogres/knights
- Exploring feelings. How does the ogre feel when the knight is saying that that side of the wall is not safe?



Whole School Book Newsletter

Writing lessons may include:

- Continuing the story – what happens next? Using the mouse as a stimulus (is it running from something?).
- Writing a description of the other side of the wall.
- Retelling the story in the first person as the ogre, knight, rhino, duck or mouse
- Poetry.
- Bringing the story to life by writing play-scripts - acting it out.



Other lessons may include:

Art: Sketching walls (perspective, shade, tone), doing etchings/rubbings of different walls, looking at graffiti on walls – recreating them, looking at famous walls of graffiti and the artists who have coloured them.

DT: making moving pictures with the knight sliding up and down the wall, making puppets to perform a version of the story as a puppet show.

RE: Looking at walls that have religious significance.

Computing: Making an animated version of the story.



Links to Rights:

- **Article 13** (freedom of expression) Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.
- **Article 29** (goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.
- **Article 31** (leisure, play and culture) Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities

Key Dates

Monday 9th September	Y4 Meet the Teacher at 9.30am Zoom
Tuesday 10th September	Y2 Meet the Teacher at 9.30am Zoom
Tuesday 10th September	Y3 Meet the Teacher at 9.30am Zoom
Wednesday 11th September	Y5 Meet the Teacher at 9.30am Zoom
Wednesday 11th September	Y6 Meet the Teacher at 9.30am Zoom
Thursday 12th September	Y1 Meet the Teacher at 9.30am Zoom
Friday 13th September	INSET DAY

Other Information

PE Kit needs to be worn on PE days
Book bags need to come to school every day
Children should bring a named water bottle daily