



DYMCHURCH PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



Executive Headteacher – Mrs Nicki Man

Acting Head of School – Miss Simmonds – Head of School – Mrs Jenny Ross

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25 SEPTEMBER 2026

Dear Families

TERM DATES

view at bottom
of newsletter



This week has been wonderful, with lots of exciting opportunities and memorable experiences for our children.

We had a lovely visit from Father Jack, who hosted a whole-school assembly to introduce himself and explain how excited he is to be working with the school and meeting everyone. The children asked great questions and were keen to find out all about his role. Father Jack will be visiting us every month, and we look forward to welcoming him back.

We also celebrated National Teaching Assistant Day. Our TAs are amazing and do so much for the school and the children, always with a smile. We are very grateful for all that they do each day to support learning and school life.

This week, we welcomed the wonderful author Greg Stobbs for a whole-school assembly. The local author spoke about how he became an author and what inspires his stories. He also got all the children involved in creating illustrations, and we saw some wonderful creations! The children thoroughly enjoyed their time with Greg.

Year 3 had a fantastic morning visiting New Hall Courtroom and jail in Dymchurch as part of their local history learning. The children explored the historic courtroom and gaol, heard stories about real local smugglers and even took part in a re-enactment of a smuggler's trial.

Reminder: The deadline to order individual and sibling photos for delivery to the school free of charge is Wednesday 30th September.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Miss Simmonds and The Dymchurch Team

REMINDERS

- ✓ You can join our FoDS Team – please enquire at the school office
- ✓ You can collect a car park permit from the school office to park in the village car park
- ✓ School Dinner's should be paid for on Arbor on the day or in advance. These are priced at £3.10 per day from September 2026
- ✗ Please do not park or drop off your child on the zig zags outside of school. It is not a stopping zone.

EVENTS

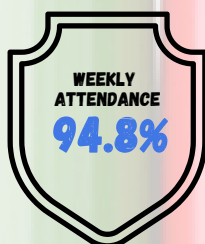
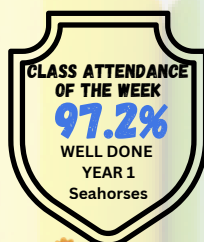
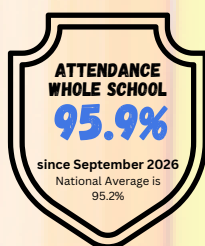
Please see full diary dates at the bottom of the newsletter.

See posters below for full dates

28th - 29th September
KiC Theatre

30th September
FoDS AGM - 6pm

1st October
CENSUS Day with special lunch



Click us to find out about
our school dinners and
latest menu



OUR COMMUNITY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
Find out more about
Our Community Multi Academy Trust

CLICK HERE

We are proud to be part of the Our Community Multi Academy Trust. Ten schools, one family, united in nurturing, inspiring, and supporting every child and member of staff.



CLICK HERE

OUR COMMUNITY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
Find out more about
Our Core Trust Documents

Census Day Lunch

Thursday 1st October

Thursday 1st October is Census Day and important for all schools.

Our funding next year will be based on the number of children who choose a school dinner that day.

Can we please ask you to encourage your child to have a school dinner on this day - feel free to send in a packed lunch as a back up if you wish!

Remember, all Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 receive Universal FREE school meals at no cost to the parent.

There is also no costs to children in receipt of Free School Meals.
All other pupils having a lunch on this day will be charged £3.10.





Miss Harding

Mrs Stone

Mrs Gibbs

Mrs Miller

Miss Reynolds

Mrs Williams

Mrs Bull

Mrs Fisher



DATES FOR 2026-2027

TERM DATES 2026 - 2027	
TERM 1	
Start:	Tuesday 1 st September (INSET)
Children begin school on	Wednesday 2 nd September
Children finish school on	Tuesday 20 th October (Wed 21 st , Thurs 22 nd , Fri 23 rd INSET DAYS)
End of Term 1:	Friday 23 rd October
October Holiday:	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October
TERM 2	
Start:	Monday 2 nd November
Finish:	Friday 18 th December
Christmas Holiday:	Monday 21 st December – Friday 1 st January 2027
TERM 3	
Start:	Monday 4 th January 2027
Finish:	Friday 12 th February
February Holiday:	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February
TERM 4	
Start:	Monday 22 nd February
Finish:	Thursday 25 th March
Easter Holiday:	Tuesday 30 th March – Friday 9 th April
TERM 5	
Start:	Monday 12 th April
Bank Holiday:	Monday 3 rd May
Children finish school on	Thursday 27 th May
Finish:	Friday 28 th May (INSET)
May Holiday:	Tuesday 1 st June – Friday 4 th June
TERM 6	
Start:	Monday 7 th June
Finish:	Wednesday 21 st July
School Closed for Bank Holidays:	
Friday 26 th March	
Monday 29 th March	
Monday 3 rd May	
Monday 31 st May	
School Closed for Development Days:	
Monday 1 st September 2026	
Wednesday 21 st October 2026	
Thursday 22 nd October 2026	
Friday 23 rd October 2026	
Friday 28 th May 2027	



DYMCHURCH DIARY DATES – 2026-2027

Term 1 - 1 st September to 23 rd October 2026		
September	1 st	INSET DAY (no children in school)
	2 nd	Children return to school
	14 th	School photos – individual and siblings
October		Black History Month
	9 th	Young Minds Mental Health Day (10 th) - Wear Yellow
	14 th	Flu Vaccinations YR-Y6
	16 th	Harvest Festival
	20 th	End of Term 1
	21 st - 23 rd	INSET DAYS (no children in school)

Term 2 - 2 nd November to 18 th December 2026		
November	2 nd	Term 2 Begins
		Secondary School applications closes Y6 pupils (midnight)
	5 th	Own Clothes Day – Dress in firework colours (bottle donation)
	9 th	Book Look for Parents – 3.15pm – 3.45pm
	12 th	Parents Evening
		Anti Bullying Week (16 th – 20 th)
	20 th	Own Clothes Day (Sweet donations for Fayre)
December	4 th	Christmas Fayre – 3.15pm - 4.15pm
	16 th	Christmas Jumper Day (normal school uniform) and Christmas Dinner Day
	14 th	KS1 dress rehearsal to school (no families on this day)
	15 th	KS1 performance to families – 2pm
	16 th	KS2 Visit to St Peter and St Pauls Church – 2pm
	17 th	Dymchurch Disco (whole school) 3.10pm – 4.15pm
	18 th	End of Term 2

Term 3 - 4 th January 2027 to 12 th February 2027		
January	4 th	Term 3 begins
	5 th	NSPCC Number Day – dress up as anything numerical £1 donation to charity
	19 th	Young Voices Concert at O2 Arena (school choir)
February	9 th	Safer Internet Day
	12 th	Own Clothes Day – Be Yourself, Love yourself (donation of chocolate for Easter Raffle)
	12 th	End of Term 3

Term 4 - 22 nd February to 25 th March 2027		
February	22 nd	Term 4 begins
March		British Science Week (5 th – 14 th March)
	3 rd	Mother's Day Gift Sale (FoDS)
	4 th	World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character. Reading with parents event in the hall at 2.30pm
	19 th	Comic Relief Red Nose Day - Wear red to school (£1)
	25 th	Easter Assembly and Bonnet Parade – Wear Easter Bonnets (normal uniform applies)
	25 th	End of Term Term 4

Term 5 - 12 th April to 27 th May 2027		
April	12 th	Term 5 begins
May		SATS for Year 2 throughout month of May
		Year 6 SATS week beginning 10 th – 13 th May
	6 th	Parents Evening
	TBC	Year 6 to Windmill Hill
	27 th	End of Term 5
	28 th	INSET DAY (no children in school)

Term 6 - 7 th June to 21 st July 2027		
June	1 st	Term 6 begins
		Multiplication Times Table Check for Year 4 from 3 rd June
		Phonics screening for Year 1 until 12 th June
	11 th	Sports Day
	14 th	Sports Day (Reserve)
	18 th	Fathers Day Gift Sale (FoDS)
	21 st	World Music Day – Dress as your favourite music icon (bottle donations for Fayre)
July	3 rd	Non-Uniform Day (sweet donations for Fayre)
	TBC	Summer Fayre 3.15pm – 4.15pm
	14 th	Bastille Day – Wear red white and blue
	15 th	Year 6 End of Year Production to families – 4.30pm
	20 th	Celebrations Afternoon 'Dymchurch Has Talent'
	21 st	Year 6 Leavers Assembly and School End of Year Awards – 9.15am school hall
	21 st	DymFest (Festival in the afternoon for whole school 1.30-3pm) Wear Festival Clothes
	21 st	End of Term 6

[CLICK HERE](#)

Parent Notice Board



[CLICK HERE](#)

Being part of the
OCMAT Family

A parent/Carers
guide.



Facebook Page

[CLICK HERE](#)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FRIENDS OF DYMCHURCH SCHOOL
(FODS) PTA AGM

FODS

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER
TIME: 6:00 PM
WHERE: DYMCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL
IN THE MAIN SCHOOL HALL

YOU ARE INVITED!
Join Us for Our
Annual General Meeting

FIND OUT about what we did last year!
VOTE for the new FODS Committee!
LEARN how you can get involved and make a difference!
SHARE your ideas for future events & fundraising!
ALL PARENTS & CARERS WELCOME!

WE NEED YOU!
Refreshments (Tea, Coffee & Biscuits provided)
Community Opportunity

Come along and support your child's school community!

FODS PTA

FREE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
BREAKFAST
CLUB

STARTS FROM
8:15

A GREAT START TO THE SCHOOL DAY!

HEALTHY BREAKFAST
TIME TO CONNECT
READY TO LEARN
POSITIVE START, HAPPY DAY!

DYMCHURCH
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BEGINS SEP 2ND 2026
EVERY CHILD. EVERY MORNING.
EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

Dymchurch Primary School
Open Days

Is your child starting Reception Class in September 2027 or do you have a child in a different year group and thinking of changing school?

Dymchurch Primary School – a seaside gem where children achieve, succeed and grow in every way.

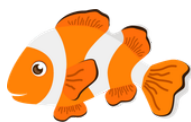
Quality of Education:	Good
Behaviour and Attitudes:	Outstanding
Personal Development:	Outstanding
Leadership and Management:	Good
Early Years Provision:	Good

Open tours begin at the timings below and are available on the following dates. No need to book an appointment. All families welcome.

Tuesday 8 th September	9.30am-10am and 2.00pm-2.30pm
Thursday 15 th October	9.30am-10am and 2.00pm-2.30pm
Wednesday 4 th November	9.30am-10am and 2.00pm-2.30pm
Friday 4 th December	9.30am-10am and 2.00pm-2.30pm

If you are unable to make the above dates, please contact the office to arrange an alternative day: 01303 872377 or office@dymchurch.kent.sch.uk

OCMAT
part of Our Community Multi Academy Trust



This week, we have been busy bees with lots of new skills explored. In maths, the children have been exploring the numbers 2 and 3. We have been learning that three is made up of 1 and 1 and another one. We made a picnic for the Three Bears and made sure there was one each of every item. The children did a super job of counting carefully and making the picnic fair and equal.

We have been enjoying the story We're Going on a Bear Hunt. The children created lovely illustrations of the bear and his cave before acting out the story in the forest. We have also enjoyed the story My Friend Bear, linking this to our PSH learning about being a kind friend and listening to other people's needs and wants. The children have shown some wonderful friendship skills and impressed Claude!

During the children's first Forest School session this week, they built bear dens using lots of three different natural materials. They also included furniture for the bear to sit on, carefully considering what their bear might need. To celebrate all our hard work this week, we threw a sounds party! We wrote dinosaur invitations, invited the mice, and collected decorations and food beginning with the sounds i, n, m and d. This gave the children a playful opportunity to listen carefully for initial sounds and apply their phonics knowledge.

In art, we drew portraits of who lives in our home and explored making large marks using chalk. We have also been investigating our senses by exploring different objects and listening to the sounds they make. The children have enjoyed sharing their ideas, describing what they noticed and finding out more about the world around them.

We wish you all a lovely weekend
Miss O'Neill and Miss Harding



Star of the Week: **Arthur** for always being engaged and ready to learn, and giving his best effort to every task.
Wonderful Work: **Sophia** for her beautiful, well thought-out illustrations of the Bear's house.



What a fantastic week we have had in Year 1!

In maths, we have been exploring the concepts of one more and one less. We have been practising finding the number that comes before or after a given number and using practical activities to help us understand these ideas.

In English, we have been working hard on using capital letters and full stops correctly in our writing. We have also started planning our character descriptions, thinking carefully about what our characters look like and what makes them interesting.

In art, we have been exploring organic shapes and learning how different types of lines can be used to create them. We have enjoyed experimenting with a variety of lines and seeing how they can be combined to make interesting shapes.

In science, we have been learning about materials and their properties. We have been exploring how materials can be grouped according to their different properties and discussing what makes each material suitable for different uses.

We are so proud of the effort and enthusiasm the children have shown this week. Well done, Year 1!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support!
Miss Maxwell and Mrs Stone



Star of the Week: **Madison** for always trying her best and approaching everything with an incredibly positive attitude.

Wonderful Work: **Elijah** for grasping key vocabulary in our science lesson and using it brilliantly when explaining his ideas.

Headteacher Award: **Blake, Arpad** and **Bella** for amazing writing about a tiger

Year 2

Ray Class



[Click here to view Year 2 Curriculum Map and Termly Topic Web](#)

We have had a busy and exciting week full of learning, creativity and lots of hard work!

In English we have been planning and writing our own retell of Prince Cinders. We have worked hard to make sure our sentences make sense and remembered our capital letters and full stops. We then became editors, using our green pens to check, improve and make our writing even better!

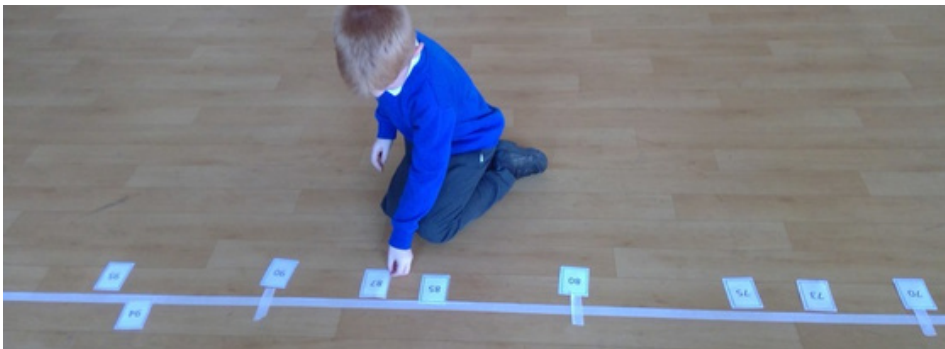
In Maths we have been working with number lines, counting in 10s and 1s, and practising estimating. We also learnt how to compare numbers and objects, remembering to look at the tens first and only check the ones if the tens are the same.

In RE we explored the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector, and thought about what his story teaches Christians.

In Science we investigated how humans change as we grow. We measured body parts from Reception, Year 2, Year 6 and adults and compared our findings.

Finally, we enjoyed a fantastic interactive author and illustrator workshop with Greg Stobbs, using our imagination and creativity to design our own characters. What a week!

Have a lovely, relaxing weekend!
Miss Lavender and Mrs Miller



Star of the Week: **Amanda** for her beautiful manners, fantastic attitude and consistently doing the right thing!
Wonderful Work: **Harvey** for his fantastic retell of Prince Cinders, with beautiful handwriting, excellent punctuation and lots of detail!

In English, the children finished, edited and began publishing their Kitty Cask diary entries. We have been incredibly impressed with their writing and how confidently they have used descriptive features to bring Kitty's adventures to life. We then launched our new writing unit: a non-chronological report about smuggling on Romney Marsh. To immerse ourselves in the topic, we visited New Hall Courtroom and Gaol, where the children reenacted a smuggler's trial, explored the historic gaol and gathered lots of fascinating local facts ready for their reports.

In Maths, we continued our Place Value learning by exploring number lines to 1,000. We practised positioning and comparing three-digit numbers before developing our skills in estimating where numbers belong on partially labelled number lines.

In History, we investigated why Romney Marsh was ideal for smuggling. The children then put their knowledge into action with our Smuggler's Journey game, working as gangs to transport their contraband from Dymchurch to Canterbury while navigating the opportunities and dangers faced by real smugglers. Another brilliant week, Sharks!

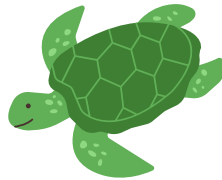
Wishing you all a lovely weekend
Miss Rawlin and Mrs Storti-Gates



Star of the Week: **Lottie** For showing wonderful enthusiasm for her learning and always putting great effort into everything she does.
Wonderful Work: **Amia** for showing fantastic effort across all subjects this week.

Year 4

Turtle Class



[Click here to view Year 4 Curriculum Map and Termly Topic Web](#)

This week, Turtles have had another fantastic week.

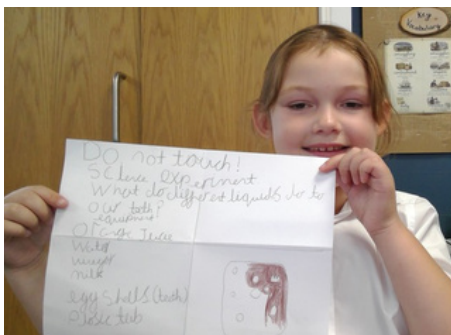
In Maths this week, we have been comparing and order numbers to 10,000. We have been using our place value knowledge to compare the digits of numbers in order to do this. We have also enjoyed learning more about Roman Numerals to build on our knowledge from last year.

In English this week, we started the week by planning the adventure stories we are going to write. The children thought of some amazing idea for their stories, including interesting characters, problems and ambitious vocabulary. Our class book - The Land of Roar - is reaching an exciting climax and we can't wait to see how the author chooses to resolve the story. Will Grandad be saved?

In RE this week, we learnt about how Jewish families celebrate Shavuot. We learnt that it is celebrated by reading the Torah, going to the synagogue and through various foods. The children then thought about which way of celebrating was the best way and why they thought that.

Today's Science lesson involved setting up an experiment to investigate the impact of different drinks on our teeth, by using egg shells with a range of drinks, including milk, orange squash, fizzy cola and water. The children all had different roles to play to set up the experiment and are already eager to do a daily check of the progress of the experiment. Enjoy the photos!

Have a lovely weekend
Miss Barrett and Miss McGlone



Star of the Week: **Abigaile** for always working hard in all lessons.
Wonderful Work: **Henry** for excellent work when comparing numbers in maths.

We've had a fantastic week in Penguin class.

In English we've been learning about adverbs and fronted adverbials. We have been learning how adverbs can give more detail about place, time and manner. We used these skills to create a short adventure story later in the week.

In maths, we have been learning about addition and subtraction. We have been learning mental strategies and related facts. For example: if we know $4 + 5 = 9$ we also know $40 + 50 = 90$. We've also been practising our arithmetic skills and it's been great to see how motivated the children are when they improve their test scores.

On Wednesday, we had lots of fun in the Forest school area. The children had to make self portraits using natural materials. We discussed facial features and how we can use different materials to represent the different parts of our face. The children showed great team work when building dens and had lots of fun using the slackline and rope swing.

In topic, we have been learning about recycling. We learnt about where plastic is recycled and some of the advantages and disadvantages of using plastic.

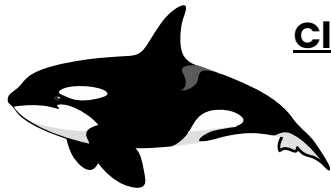
We hope you have a great weekend,
Mr Marsh and Miss Reynolds



Star of the Week: **Lex** for making great discoveries and observations when pond dipping.
Wonderful Work: **Eligijus** for having great ideas and good leadership skills in Science.

Year 6

Orca Class



[Click here to view Year 6 Curriculum Map and Termly Topic Web](#)

It has been a busy and enjoyable week in Year 6, with lots of interesting learning and creative activities taking place.

In English, we have been writing diary entries based on our book, Cogheart. We have been trying to include emotive language and relative clauses to make our writing more engaging and detailed. We also recapped how to use parenthesis to add further information and detail to our writing.

In maths, we have been learning about factors and multiples and using these to solve problems. We also looked at prime, square and cube numbers, developing our understanding of their properties and how to identify them.

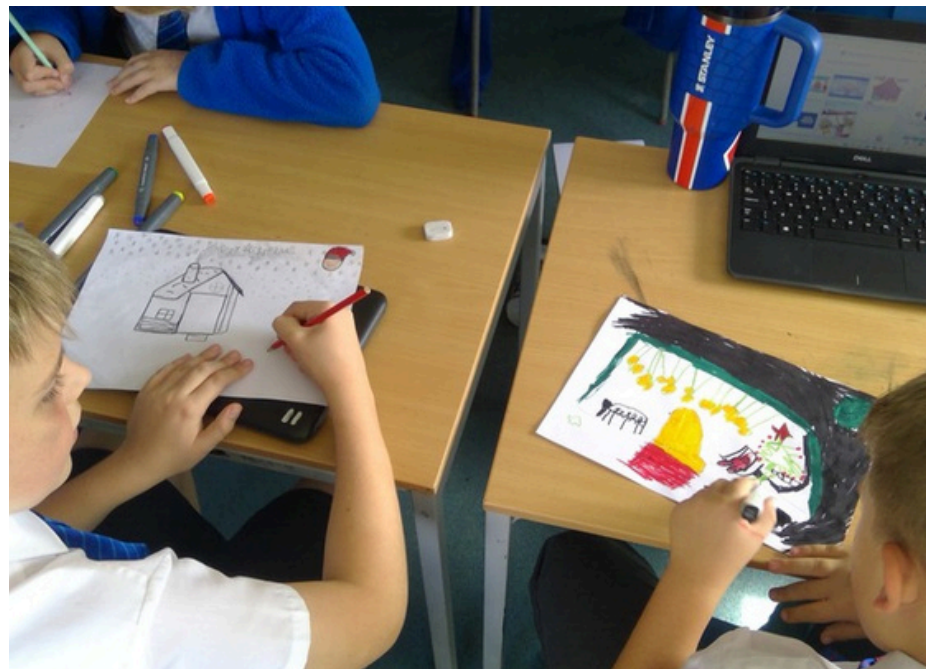
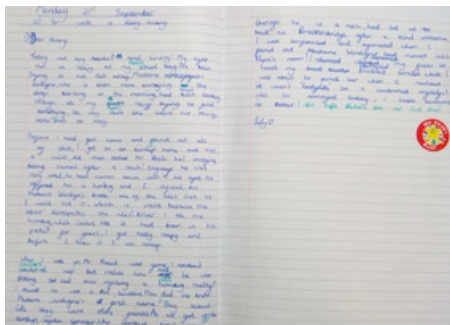
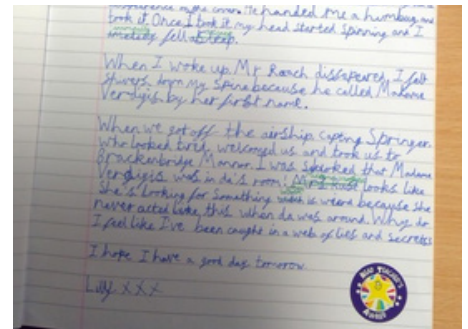
In science, we explored how animals have adapted throughout time to ensure that they fit into their environment. In topic, we investigated class divide and considered how life was very different for poor and rich people during Victorian times.

In art, we completed our designs for the KIMS Christmas card decorations. The winning design will be published, so there was lots of enthusiasm and careful thought put into the children's work.

In PE, we practised shooting in netball before playing small games. This gave us the opportunity to apply our skills, work as a team and develop our understanding of the game.

We also had a visitor on Tuesday. An illustrator spoke to us about how he learnt to draw and shared some of his experiences. The children then had a go at designing their own character for a child's book. They enjoyed thinking creatively about their characters and considering how illustrations can help to bring a story to life.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend!
Mr Plummer and Mrs Williams



Star of the Week: **Rudi** for always being so polite and friendly to everyone
Wonderful Work: **Poppy** for showing a great understanding of factors and multiples in maths
Headteacher Award: **Alyssa** and **Stevie** for writing amazing diary entries