



Tuesday 15th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once upon a Twist Week' at St Joseph's - Tuesday 3rd & Friday 6th November 2026

We are delighted to announce that our next **whole school English WOW Week** will be all about **STORYTELLING, Traditional tale style!**

We are incredibly excited to welcome the author and illustrator **Bethan Woollvin** to our school for a special author visit. Bethan is well known for taking traditional tales we all know and giving them a clever and unexpected twist. Throughout the day, children from **EYFS to Year 6** will explore storytelling through the eyes of a real author, exploring the process of creating a character through craft, drawing or story sequencing. This will then feed into their English lessons through the rest of the week.

Our week will finish with a special **live stage performance** from a professional production company on Friday, bringing one of Bethan Woollvin's stories to life, Rapunzel.

To provide this experience we are asking for a £5 contribution per child. This includes both experiences, which is a bargain as the show alone sells in local theatres for more than this. This can be paid via Parent Pay anytime from now. If all payments could kindly be made by Friday 30th October that would be greatly appreciated.

The Big Story Challenge - Competition time

We would love every child to take part in our exciting home challenge. Choose a traditional tale that you know and then change something!

 **What if...**

 The wolf was actually the hero?  The princess rescued the prince?  The witch was the good character?



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Executive Head: Mr J M Devlin

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🐻 Goldilocks got caught? 🏰 Rapunzel didn't want to be rescued? 🐷 The three little pigs became friends with the wolf?

There are no right or wrong ideas — we want to see YOUR imagination!

Your entry must:

- ☒ Be based on a traditional tale
- ☒ Include a **BIG TWIST**
- ☒ Show your child's own ideas and creativity
- ☒ Tell a story
- ☒ Be handed in to school by Friday 6th November 2026

Parents and carers can help with **ideas, materials and encouragement**, lots of examples below, but we want the children's own creativity to shine through. There will be a prize for each key stage: EYFS, KS1, LKS2 & UKS2. We can't wait to see the wonderful, wacky and imaginative stories our children create! **Let the storytelling begin!** On Monday 9th November, after school, we will showcase of all entries in the school hall for you parents to come and see📖✨

Meet Bethan Woolvin for yourself!

Bethan will be in the school hall at the end of the day, on Tuesday 3rd November, with some of her best selling stories for you to buy and take home. Here she will sign them making them even more special for your children to treasure.

Over the past couple of years these themed WOW weeks have been extremely inspirational and highly motivating for everyone involved. We hope you can support us to continue this amazing St Joseph's tradition and get involved.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Blenkarn

(Elder Class Teacher, English & EYFS Lead)

**Believing in God,
ourselves and others**



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Ideas to try at home.

ONCE UPON A TWIST
THE BIG STORY CHALLENGE

Choose a traditional tale.
Give it a twist!
Then bring your new story to life!

Get creative at home! Here are some fun ways to share your twisted tale...

MAKE A MINI BOOK
Create your own mini picture book.
THE BRAVE LITTLE PIG

DRAW A COMIC STRIP
Tell your story in pictures and speech bubbles.
Little Red rode through the woods... but the wolf was the one who got lost! He asked her for help! They became good friends.

MAKE PUPPETS
Use socks, paper bags or craft materials to bring your characters to life!

CREATE A STORY MAP
Show the beginning, middle, twist and ending of your story.
Once upon a time... [house icon] [trees icon] [wolf icon] [question mark icon] [Red Riding Hood icon]

WRITE A NEW VERSION
Change the characters, setting or ending!
The Three Bears... But not as you know it! Once upon a time, three bears went for a walk in the woods. When they came home, a girl was sitting in their chairs... but it wasn't Goldilocks. It was a little bear! She had been living in their house while they were out!

WRITE A DIARY OR LETTER
Write from a character's point of view.
Dear Diary, Today something very strange happened. A frog turned up at the palace... but he didn't want to be a prince!

MAKE A STORY SCENE
Build a scene using boxes, craft or toys.

USE COLLAGE
Cut, stick and collage your story.

PERFORM IT!
Act it out, use puppets or record a video.

TURN IT INTO A NEWSPAPER
Write a newspaper report about your story.
The Fairy Tale Times
WOLF SAVES THE DAY!

WRITE A SCRIPT
Create a play script and bring it to life!
RAPUNZEL - A NEW SCRIPT
RAPUNZEL: What's there?
THIEF: It's me!
RAPUNZEL: I don't need saving, I have a plan.
THIEF: Really?
RAPUNZEL: Watch this! (She climbs down using her hair!)

MAKE A POP-UP OR FLIP BOOK
Add moving parts for extra WOW!

REMEMBER...
✓ It must be based on a traditional tale.
✓ You must include a big twist!
✓ Be creative and have fun!
✓ Present your story as your best work.

ONE WINNER FROM EACH KEY STAGE • EYFS / KS1 / LOWER KS2 / UPPER KS2 • AMAZING PRIZES TO BE WON!

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR INCREDIBLE TWISTED TALES!

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ONCE UPON A TWIST

THE BIG STORY CHALLENGE

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Give it a TWIST!
Then bring your new story to life!

Get creative at home!
Here are some ways to share your twisted tale...

MAKE A MINI BOOK

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Create your own mini picture book.

DRAW A COMIC STRIP

Jack climbed the beanstalk... but the giant was afraid of Jack!
He asked for help... They became best friends!

Tell your story in pictures and speech bubbles.

MAKE PUPPETS

Use socks, paper bags or craft materials to bring your characters to life!

NEED A TALE TO TWIST? HERE ARE SOME IDEAS...

The Three Little Pigs	The Little Mermaid
Jack and the Beanstalk	Rumpelstiltskin
The Gingerbread Man	Puss in Boots
Beauty and the Beast	Sleeping Beauty
The Frog Prince	The Emperor's New Clothes
Aladdin	The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Or any other tale you love!

WRITE A NEW VERSION

THE UGLY DUCKLING... BUT NOT AS YOU KNOW IT!

Once upon a time, an egg hatched. Out came a small, fluffy duckling. But this duckling didn't want to be beautiful... she wanted to be BRAVE!
She set off on adventures, helped many friends, and became a hero to all!

Change the characters, setting or ending!

WRITE A DIARY OR LETTER

Dear Diary,
Today was crazy! The big bad wolf moved in next door. He bakes amazing cakes and we are having a tea party tomorrow! Who knew?

Write from a character's point of view.

MAKE A STORY SCENE

Build a scene using boxes, craft or toys.

USE COLLAGE

Cut, stick and collage your story.

PERFORM IT!

Act it out, use puppets or record a video.

TURN IT INTO A NEWSPAPER

FAIRY TALE TIMES
RUMPELSTILTSKIN STARTS A BAND!

★ EYFS
★ KS1
★ LOWER KS2
★ UPPER KS2

Fantastic prizes to be won!

WRITE A SCRIPT

CINDERELLA - A NEW SCRIPT

CINDERELLA: I've had enough!
FAIRY GODMOTHER: What will you do?
CINDERELLA: I'm going to the ball for myself - not for a prince, but for fun!
(Everyone cheers!)

Create a play script and bring it to life!

MAKE A POP-UP OR FLIP BOOK

Add moving parts for extra WOW!

REMEMBER...

- ✓ It must be based on a traditional tale.
- ✓ You must include a big twist!
- ✓ Be creative and have fun!
- ✓ Present your story as your best work.

INSPIRE ✨ CREATE ✨ IMAGINE ✨ TWIST ✨ TELL YOUR STORY!

WHAT WILL YOUR TWIST BE?

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR INCREDIBLE TWISTED TALES!

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