

The Marchbank Mail - February 2022

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Contents Page Quiz:

What am I?

I am in school at the moment - where?

Flora, Y8

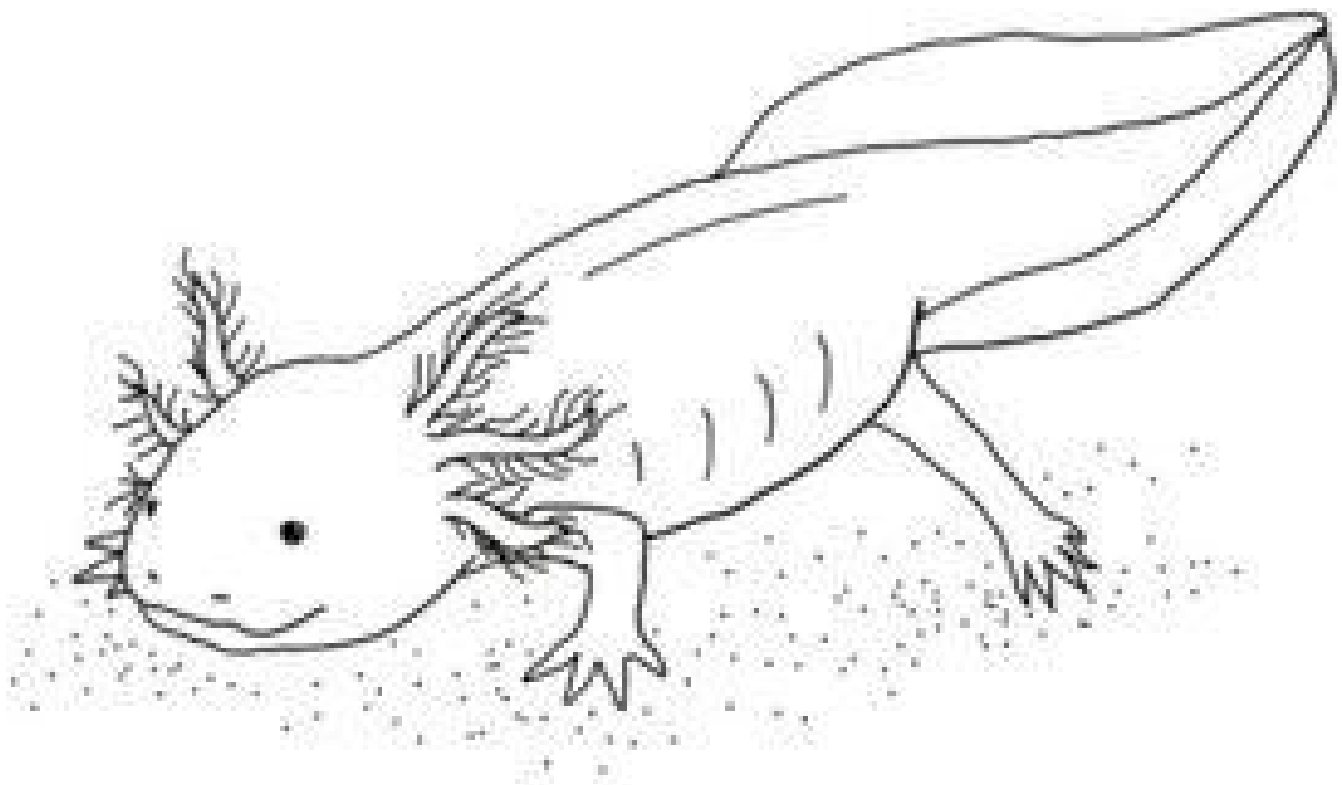


Sculptures



Print these out and enter Selena's, Y5, colouring competition.





Axolotl

5 interesting facts from Selena

It is impossible for pigs to look at the sky.

There are more than 1,000 types of bat in the world.

Every person in the world has a unique tongue print.

Caterpillars have 12 eyes.

It is illegal to stand within 90 metres of the Queen without socks on.

A story by Rohaan, Y7, - inspired by the Gothic genre.

Preface

"John, we have to shut it down."

"Yes."

"Do it!"

Shortly after, the two men shut the Central State Hospital.

Five years later they claimed they both saw a ghost coming from the hospital.

Thirteen hours later they vanished and were never seen again.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 1997

It was the night of Halloween and everyone was dressed up as vampires, witches, pumpkins and the like, typical kid costumes. I wasn't really into Halloween anymore, so I was wearing my normal clothes. I thought the only thing that was scary in the neighbourhood was the old, abandoned hospital two blocks away from my house. Very little scares me.

There are lots of conspiracy theories about the hospital. Some say if you go in you never come out. Some say that it is haunted - I think it just looks weird.

The hospital is protected by an electric fence and has overgrown hedges around the front. So as usual, I stayed at home watching television. Anyway, I switched to the History channel and brought my model of *The Central State Hospital* in front of the television and resumed carefully constructing it.

Harriet, my younger sister, stormed into the room. She had a look on her face which said, 'Don't talk to me'.

"Where are my Lego figures?" she barked.

I sheepishly looked at my Lego model of the hospital. I gave the Lego figures to her then continued with my model. That's when I heard the creaking sound from the sitting room door.

"Shut the door!" I shouted to my sister.

No reply.

"Harriet!" I said again.

I eventually had to close the door myself, but when I got to it, all the lights went out. Like I said-I don't really get scared easily so I looked for the light switch. I found a torch and turned it on. A power-cut, then my sister tries to play a trick on me by scaring me, well that didn't work. I decided I had to finish my model in my room, therefore I walked across the gloomy room and reached carefully for my model. What happened next was the strangest thing on planet earth. When I Touched the model it felt like I wasn't me, I felt like my skin was getting ripped apart. Then, when I opened my eyes I saw the hospital but, it was, well... newer.

Was I in a different universe?

The truth hit me like a boxer's fist. I had travelled in time. Everything around me did not necessarily look, well, new. I saw an ice cream man, a few people chatting. And behind me - The Hospital.

I began walking towards the hospital and I saw names carved in the ground just outside the main entrance. Dead people's names.

I stepped inside the revolving doors. When I came out of them, I saw the most lifeless hospital ever- one person was guarding the Reception and no-one else was there.

"Hello?"

No response. I felt a gust of wind from outside, maybe from the cars on the road.

Since there was no reply I stupidly decided it was a good idea to go into the double doors behind the front desk. I could see offices, probably where they answer the phone calls.

Another gust of wind.

But this time I wasn't anywhere close to a road, "strange" I whispered, then I suddenly looked behind me and I got shocked to the bone. There, in the middle of the corridor was the woman at the desk, standing there, very pale.

"Hello dear," she said in a blood curdling voice. I started to run and I never wanted to stop until I saw Ward 64. There was a man inside covered in dust. He must have been left there when the hospital got abandoned. I thought about running again when the body twitched. He sat upright on his bed and got up. And walked towards me.

"OH MY G-" I could not say anymore because I was running Mach 3 along the corridor, my shoes squeaking with every step.

I ran out of the hospital and into a garden and there was a model of the hospital in the middle of the small clearing. I touched it, I sort of ran into it. And I felt the same feeling as I did before and got teleported (again) to the living room.

The only thing that was sticking out to me was the time. No time had passed since I had been gone. This time I found the switch for the light. I was going to leave this all behind and forget about it...

EPILOGUE

A few days later

"Jack!" my mum called.

"Yes?" I responded, then looked behind me towards where my mum was standing.

Except it wasn't my mum. It was the woman from the hospital...

Tree-Dimension

a story in instalments

Louis, Y4



Not a fact book! - Louis

Chapter 1: A Kid, a Tree and a Bro.

Once, a long, long, long time ago, there lived a boy named Spark. Now Spark was no ordinary kid, oh no. Spark was a boy who lived a famous life.

He was famous for stacking seven Smarties on top of each other. But his family wasn't rich or smart looking. They barely got any money from the Smarties, all they got was a small page in the daily newspaper. Though when someone saw him they almost always said something like, "Hey, Smartie-stacker!" or "Hi newspaper guy." Ok, let's get on with the story.

One morning, on the 27th of October 1978, a strange glow came from the tree that Spark liked to play under. "What's that glow?" said Spark as he slowly approached the glow. Then suddenly he got sucked into the glow. Spark was transported through a small blue tunnel until he got to a wall. "Why is there a wall here?" said Spark.

"I don't know," said a voice that Spark recognised, but he didn't know which voice it was.

"Who's there?" said Spark, alarmed.

"Chillax," said the voice. Then, out of nowhere, came Spark's brother. Now, Spark's brother was called Drizzle and Drizzle was an explorer. Explorers those day's didn't have fancy tech maps and phones and all that, so they had to work with what they got.

He took a small towel with some locations on it. He went to the Amazon rainforest and didn't come back. "Drizzle, where have you been!" shouted Spark. In excitement.

"Well, I found this strange tree in the Amazon and it had a glow and I just got sucked in!" said Drizzle, running towards Spark. Suddenly, the wall in front of them started to shake.

"What's going on?" said Spark.

"Hi folks of the tree of water," said the Wall.

"The tree of water?" whispered Spark to Drizzle.

"I think the tree of water is a dimension that controls the water," whispered Drizzle to Spark.

"Correct!" said the Wall, in a rather loud voice.

"How did it hear us?" said Spark.

"Magic," said Drizzle.

"Magic?" said Spark. "How do they use magic?" Just as he asked that, the Wall began to sink into the ground. "Woah!" said Spark.

“Cool, isn't it?” said Drizzle, as he walked down the tube. Eventually, they got to a giant desk at the end of the tube.

“A desk?” said Spark, as he realised Drizzle was already halfway up the desk. “Come on slowpoke!” shouted Drizzle, as he clambered onto the top of the giant desk. Spark started to climb onto the desk, but he fell halfway up! Then, Drizzle skydived off the top to catch him.

“I'm coming, Little Bro!” shouted Drizzle.

He managed to catch him and pull him back up but a big light came up from the ground.

“Hi little guys, you made it to the desk of the dead,” said the Lamp, in a rather low tone.

“I know this place from the legends,” said Drizzle.

“What is it then?” said Spark.

“Well, dead people get locked up in the drawers of the desk of the dead,” said Drizzle.

“Come, jump on one of the bubbles,” said the Desk, which was opening one of its drawers at the bottom. Then some strange bubbles came flying out from the bottom drawer.

“So apparently, from the legends, you're supposed to jump into the bubbles and they will take you to a special cloud called On-top” said Drizzle. Just then, the bubbles came flying into Drizzle and Spark. They took them out the window that was hovering just a few meters above the desk. “This is how you get to On-top,” said Drizzle.

“Is On-top a city?” asked Spark, curiously.

“No,” said Drizzle, “it is a...” But before he could finish his sentence a loud bang noise hit them. The bubble quickly changed direction, and flew down fast.

“What is going on!” shouted Spark.

“This is how you get to On-top!” shouted Drizzle.

A small portal opened up on the floor and they went into the small portal.

The Y7 Panto, from a different perspective....

'It was quite stressful because you never knew if you were playing at the right time or maybe playing the wrong notes.'
Abigail

It gave me something to practise a lot because I knew I had to get it right for the performers. The view was good!
Ted



'The cow stole the show!'

'The band were fantastic.'

'The market scene was great.'

direct quotes from the audience - from 5P

***This term, Year 5 are creating a play based on Beowulf.
Thank you to Olly (Y6), for sharing his sketch with Y5
to help them develop their own characters.***



A contrast poem - inspired by Charles Dickens and Carol Ann Duffy
Flora, Y8



Oh! But he was like a mercenary, killing.

For money.

He was always there watching, his cold black eyes staring, no glint of life.

He would growl, "Work"; we earned him money but for no pay. We earned him money but with no break.

His very being was a ghastly, grisly, hideous, greedy, selfish, bullying and heartless man.

His pasty white skin, his jet black hair, a rime upon his chin.

He was as solitary as an oyster, but he had no pearl.

Nothing could prize him open, there was no gateway to his soul.

The ice within him could not, would not melt.

His eyes were bloodshot, his outline jagged.



Oh, but she was like the sun's rays, warming.
For free.

She was always there, her chocolate eyes caring and full of life.
She would giggle, “Let’s have some tea.” We earned little money
but for a big heart.

Her clear skin, her blond hair, caring.

A caring, loving, friendly, sympathetic, devoted, kind, fond and
warm-hearted person.

The warmth within her would not freeze.



If you were given 30 minutes to create a piece of creative writing - what would **you** write?

How the Man got Stuck In the wall.

Hannah, Y6

Walking along his usual route, a man passed by a usual looking wall. Creamy coloured brick, standing upon creamy cloured brick, as usual.

Walking along his usual route the following day, a man looked at the usual looking wall because something was different. It was an odd looking wall. He was very confused because there were weird looking things in it, but he thought nothing of it and walked by.

The next day he was walking along his usual route and he saw the wall again, but this time he saw more things in the wall, so he went to the wall and looked closer and he was shocked at what he saw: he couldn't believe it, he saw a body in wall! He looked closer and closer, until he realised he recognised the body in the wall. His body was in the wall!

The Person in the Chair.

by Ted (Y6)

There was a large man sitting in a tinged brown and black chair. He had his head down, looking at his shoes, that were smothered in shoe polish; they were like two black mirrors. I looked at his shoes. They reflected on to the male's face. I could only see one thing on his face. It was a grin. I could not see the rest of his face because he had a bowler hat on his head.

I slowly said to him, "Uh, excuse me sir." His head slowly tilted up until I could only see his grin. Now being able to make out his grin, his lips were all cracked and flaky. His mouth then slowly opened. Most of the teeth I could see were black, while some were

not there and there were about three teeth that were white as paper with little bits of red on them. It did not take me long to notice that it was blood.

He said, "Yes?"

I then replied with, "Who are you?"

He then said, "I am the last person you are ever going to talk to."

I stepped off a bus in the year 2933... by Lotte, Y6

As I stepped off the bus I realised it was a whole new period of time, in fact there weren't any people there, there were robots, monsters and weird animals with 10 to 20 legs. I was confused. Everything seemed big and loud. It sounded buzzy, like a bee was hovering next to my ear all the time. For some reason I liked it in 2021 more, when everything was real; not all artificial. But I still wanted to explore.

Firstly, I had to decide where to go. It was not easy. Shall I go left, right, forwards or backwards? It seemed like the biggest and hardest decision ever made; apart from dessert, if I should choose cookies or cupcakes (I always end up picking cupcakes). Anyway, back to the story, right, left, forward or backwards? I can't decide

So I just ran forwards and bumped into someone...

"AaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaHhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh" I screamed. It was a monster, of some sort!

A New Type of Transport by Arjan, Y6

In the town Minster Lovel, there was a car. The car was shiny black. It had coal black alloys and looked amazingly quick and streamlined. Its interior was beige and it had a

light that could change colour, colours like gold, green and blue. Now that I've told you what it looked like, I will tell you how it performed. Well, it was as quick as light and could go from 0 to 60 in about 0.5 seconds. I realised that the man in the car was my uncle, because one day he came to my house and he let me inside his beautiful car.

It had a BIG red button with a plastic cap on (you no what a child does when they see a BIG red button!) so I pressed the button and... you guessed what it did! It made the car into a black shiny flying car. Now, the car could fly but the car had no wings and had no propellers or jet engines. Now the car looked cooler and had no wheels. It could also go under the water, like that James Bond car. My uncle's car was a real super car. Don't you want that cool super car? Because I do!



Step Off a Bus in the Year 2933.

by Matilda , Y6

I remember in 2021,
when I hopped on a bus at half past one,
and somehow ended up,
in the year 2933 with my pup.

Looking around and seeing the sights,
the world seemed different and full of excite.
Turning around and to my surprise,
the bus was four storeys high.

I saw a dome above the buildings,

and all there was was smoke outside tilting around.
It hit me that humans had cheated global warming,
as the rest of the world died I was surprised they didn't come storming.

But then I saw what we had created,
the buildings made my anger deflated,
cars that hover that didn't use petrol,
humans have stopped eating bread rolls?

Buildings looked different I'm not sure what,
they all looked like huts.
Not the ones in Africa,
but ones with wi-fi, technology and cover.

Then I saw what this place was called,
of all names it had to be named Crawled.
The people looked weird,
I think they were robots with beards.

I asked two robots for their names,
they both said Flames.
Two more I asked, they both said the same,
in my amazement I suddenly realised,
there was not a female in sight.

It must have been a mistake,
but it was not so I must escape.
I turned around, the bus wasn't there,
and my body began to fill with despair.

Suddenly there was a ding,
I turned and joy pinged.
The bus was there so I hopped on,
and came back to 2021.

How the world will end!

by Jack

(Y6)

It was a beautiful day in Paris. The skies were blue and the sun was shining so bright
that it could blind you. In fact, it was unusually bright and it was getting brighter and

brighter, until it was so bright that it was hard to see everything. Then the world started to glitch, like in a video game. People were disappearing from sight.

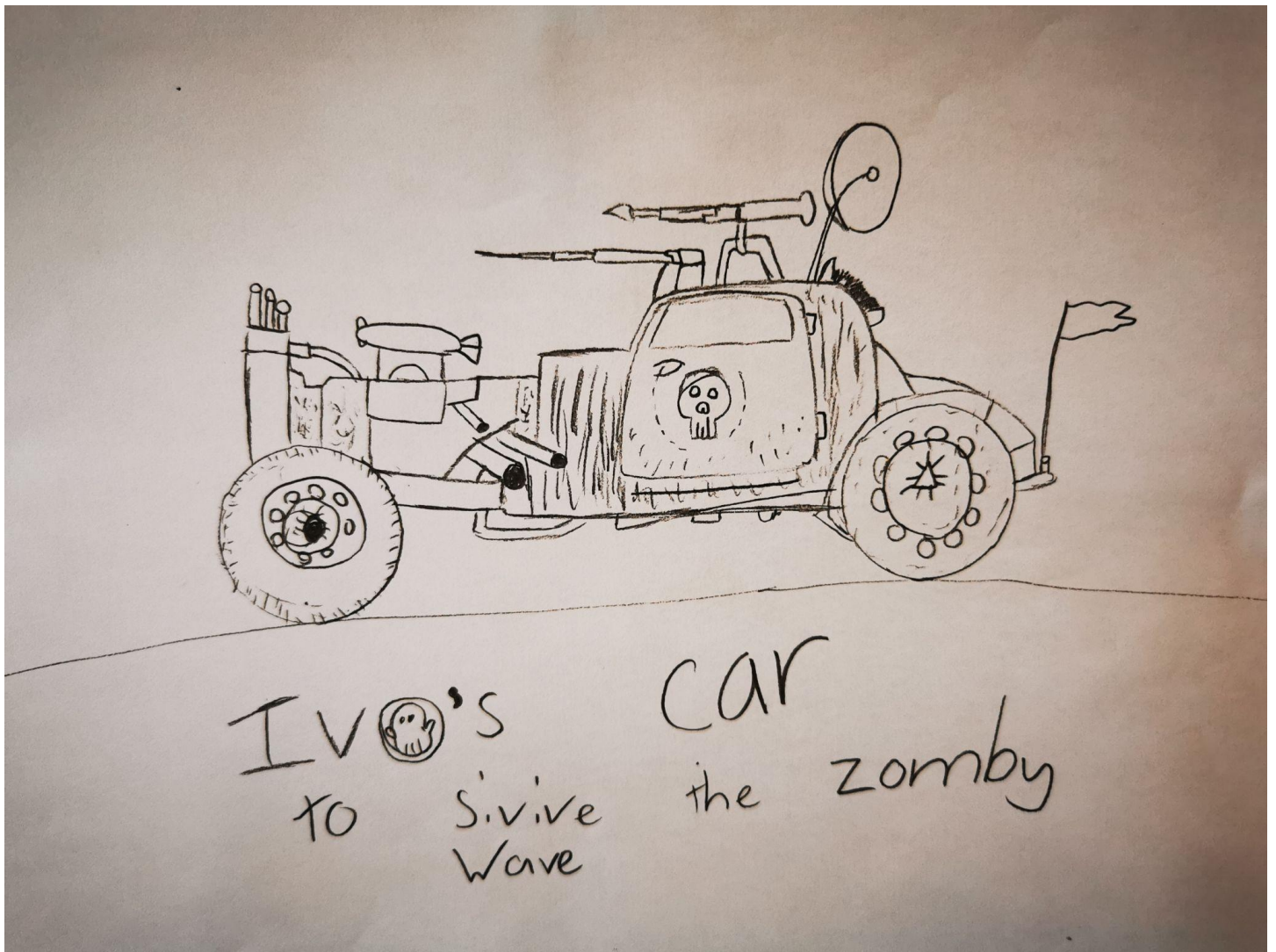
I could just make out a beast in the sky. I recognised it from somewhere, I couldn't quite make out where from. Aha! I solved it. It was the legendary monster from myth, Xerdia. He was ripping things apart with his paws... to end the world. Cars were flying everywhere and bits of bricks were crashing into lampposts, buildings, you name it - it was being destroyed. He must have been released by someone from the *Chamber of Beasts*.

But what was that? Another silhouette of an extravagant beast in the sky, fighting Xerdia. It was the Rainbow Phoenix Ynardia, the protector of earth and the sworn enemy of Xerdia. They battled ferociously in the sky, threw beams of light at each other for hours, until Ynardia grew tired and Xerdia finished it with a final strike. Rainbow Phoenix fell to the ground.

Xerdia carried on destroying the city. When he had finished his rampage of destruction, he pulled a black glowing orb out of the ground and

darkness!

In which case, you might like to consider Ivo's idea for surviving a zombie (darkness??) apocalypse.



IV's CAR
to Survive the zombie
Wave

Thank you to all of our contributors

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