



YEAR 4

Friday 9th January

Homework Tasks (Year 4):

- **Reading Comprehension:** Please complete and mark the 'Iron Age Celts' tasks on the next page of this document and record your responses in your homework jotter book

*Please place your homework books in the homework box by **Wednesday 15th January***

- **Spelling:** A spelling test, on **Spring Term 1 -Week 1 Red words** will take place on **Thursday** (see the separate spelling sheet for this term – it is split into weeks and you will be instructed which week we are currently learning). Don't forget you have access to spelling shed to help you practice too!
- **Times Tables:** Please complete - and mark- Spring Term: Workout **1 p26-27** of your CGP 10-minute weekly workout book and your weekly test on the **5x, 7x and 10x** table will be on **Friday**
- **Reading:** Please read for 45mins throughout the week.



Cave Of Whispers

A long time ago, there lived a boy. He was known by the name of Tooth. The world was younger back then and filled with ancient magic. Tooth was raised on the move, his people traipsing across unforgiving landscapes in search of a fresh horizon. They found food wherever they could and hid in caves and between rocks when danger emerged. He was a child of the Earth as much as of his parents.

To Tooth, it felt like his days were filled with adventure. He learned to hunt from his father, chasing after the small creatures that scurried through the bush. If he was lucky, he was allowed to follow the men and observe them hunting mammoth. It was a dangerous task, and there were sad occasions when not all of the men returned. Tooth begged his father not to go, but he knew deep down that there was no other way to get food.

Wherever his people roamed, Tooth explored. They often returned to places where the hunting had been good before. Tooth loved rediscovering these familiar places. There was only one place that he wasn't allowed to go: The Cave Of Whispers.

The Cave Of Whispers was hidden away amongst the sharpest rocks and guarded by the gnarled trunk of an old tree. It had been split by lightning sometime in the past, but it still stood like a sentry. Tooth was terrified of the place but intrigued. That curiosity gnawed away at him like a cat until, one day, he gave in.

Tooth waited until the sky was at its darkest before taking his sharpened flint and disappearing into the night. He was just one shadow amongst many, and nobody watched him go. Something watched him arrive, though.

As soon as he stepped foot beyond the threshold of the cave, Tooth heard the whispers. They bounced around him, wordless but powerful. There were drawings on the wall, left there by other hunters. He recognised the animals and the message of warning.

It was too late to turn back. A towering black beast stood over him, obsidian claws reflecting the pale moonlight and deep yellow eyes staring back. They weren't filled with anger, though, only sorrow.



“Why are you sad?” Tooth asked. His own quiet voice joined the echoes in the cave.

“Why are you here?” the beast asked. “Why have you disturbed my peace?”

“I wanted to know what was in here,” Tooth answered truthfully.

“What will you do now that you know?”

Tooth thought carefully for a while. “I will tell nobody. If they know that you are here, they will hunt you. I will leave you in peace and let the stories of the cave live on.”

“One day,” the beast replied, “you will return to this cave as a hunter.” It waved its arm at the drawings. “You will add your own story to those who came before you. If you follow your own path, it might be a story worth listening to.”

Thinking carefully about the beast’s message, Tooth returned to his people. He felt different now, braver perhaps. There was something about the beast that had awoken a strong desire in him. He wanted to head out into the world and find his own story. But, for now, he needed to sleep.

VOCABULARY FOCUS

1. Which word in the first paragraph gives you the impression that Tooth’s people moved slowly and endlessly?
2. Find and copy a word that means “watch” or “look over”.
3. Which word means “discover again”?
4. What is a “threshold” in this context?
5. What colour are the beast’s claws? Which word tells you this?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

R

Who taught Tooth to hunt?

R

What was a dangerous animal to hunt?

I

What evidence is there that Tooth is curious?

S

What is the beast’s message to Tooth?

I

Why do you think Tooth isn’t going to tell the other people what he found?

Answers - Cave Of Whispers:

1. Traipsed
2. Observe
3. Rediscover
4. The entrance to the cave
5. Black - obsidian

R: His father

R: Mammoths

I: He couldn't resist going into the cave to see what was in there

S: Live your own life and make sure it is an interesting story to tell

I: He is worried that they will hunt the beast if they know that it is in there