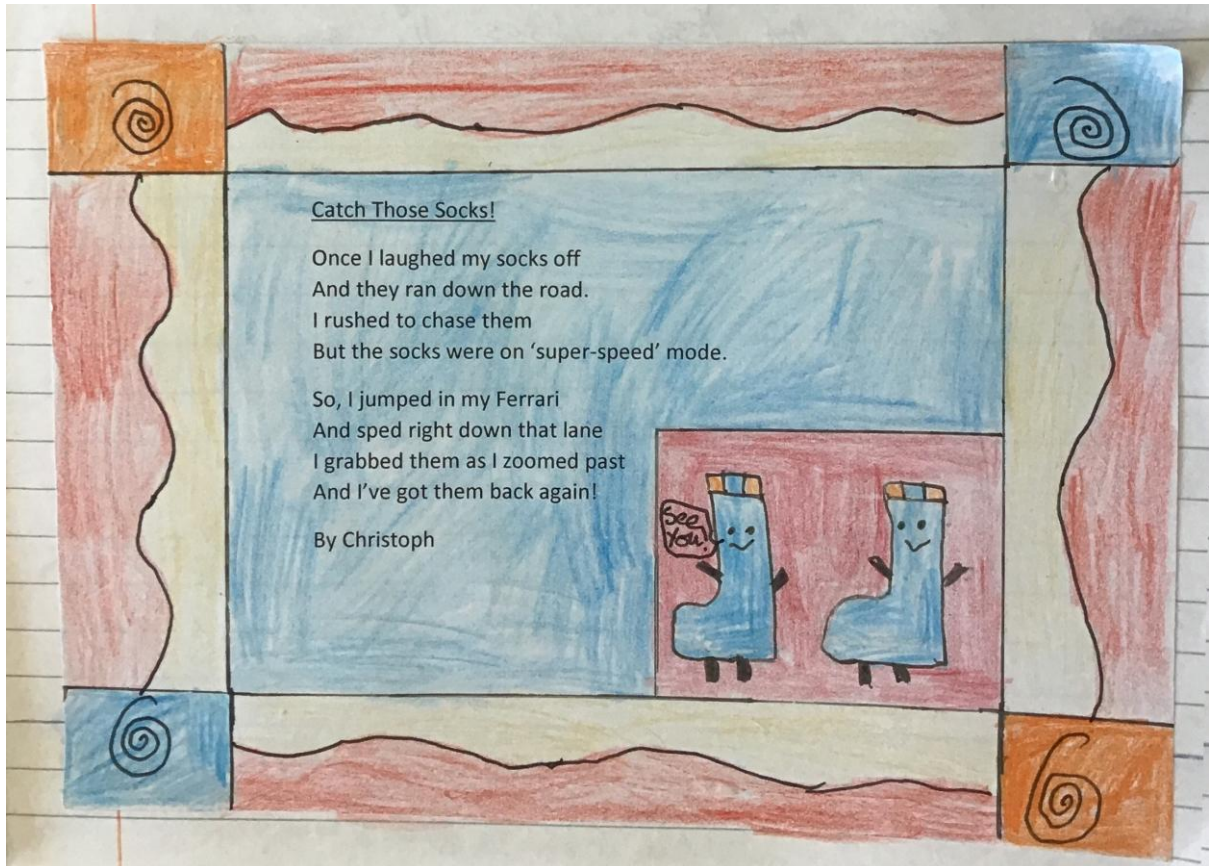


Idiosyncratic Idioms, Compound Words & Peculiar Poems!

A Collection of Performance Poetry - By Class 5 Chevening School



Chevening St. Botolph's CEP School 2025

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ISBN

Also available as an ebook

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Preface

Following on from last year's publication of 'When Words Sing' - a book of poetry by Chevening CEP School; Class 5 have created their own special book based on the idiosyncrasies of our wonderful English language. Over the term, the pupils have been enjoying performing their favourite poems and have now created their own in response, and to celebrate National Poetry Day 2025.

All poems and illustrations are original, and have been crafted by Class 5. The first poem is formed of 20 stanzas and makes use of the double meaning of many compound words. The following poems all add humorous interpretations of idioms that we so often take for granted. We hope you enjoy reading our book.

There are also some blank spaces for you to add your own!

Nadeem Qureshi

Idiosyncratic Idioms, Compound Words & Peculiar Poems!

**Don't spill
the beans**

**It was a
piece of cake**



Does stardust
Need to be
Vacuumed at night?

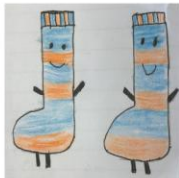
Does an angelfish
Only do
What's right?

Is a foxglove
A stylish hand-warmer
For a fox?

Is a punchline
A ruler that likes
To box?



**I laughed
my socks off!**



**Butterflies in
my tummy...**



**It's raining
cats and dogs!**



A Collection of Poetry,
By Class 5 Chevening CEP School

It's a Funny Old Wor(l)d...

Is a toothbrush

A brush

Made out of teeth?



Is a crop-top

A T-shirt

Made out of wheat?



Is a pineapple

An apple

You find in a pine-tree?



Is a peanut

A nut that really

Needs a wee?

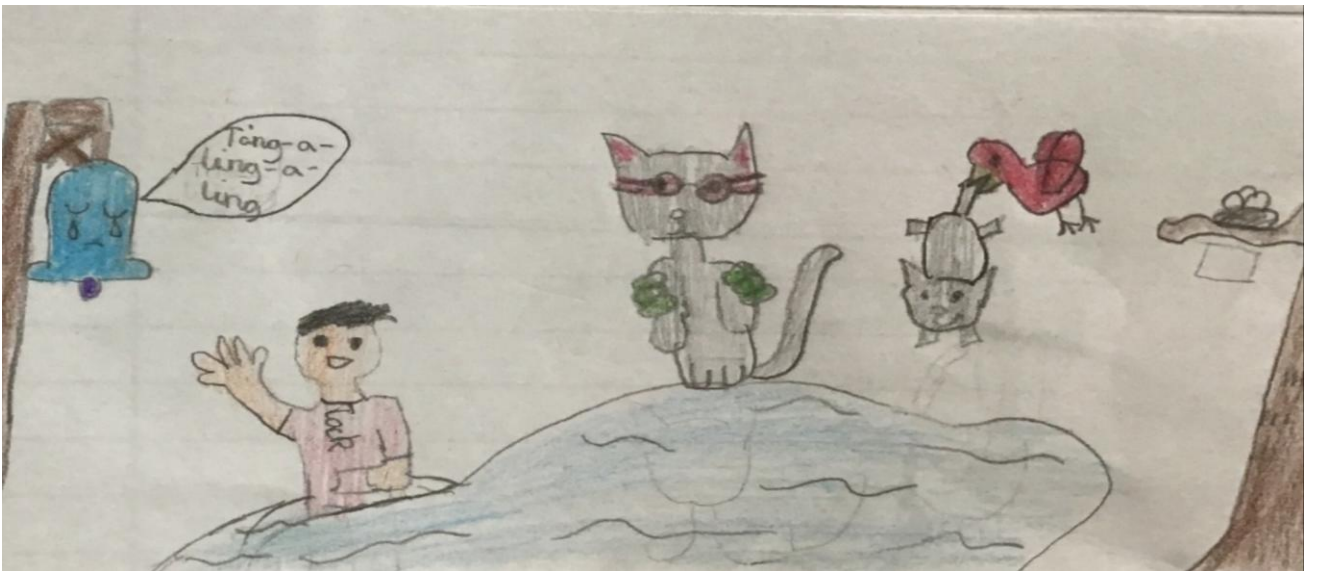


Is a catfish
A cat that
Loves to swim?

Does a bluebell
Make a mournful
'Ting-a-ling-a-ling'?

Is a Hijack
Just Jack
Trying to say 'Hi'?

Is a cat-flap
A kitten
Trying hard to fly?

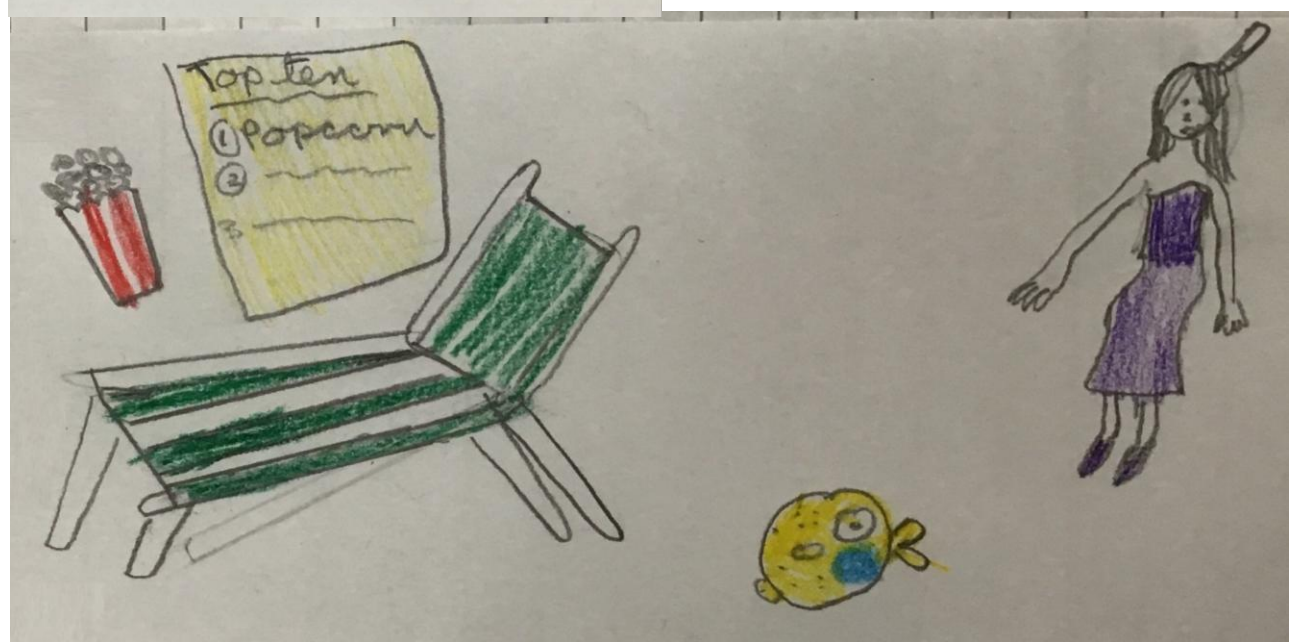
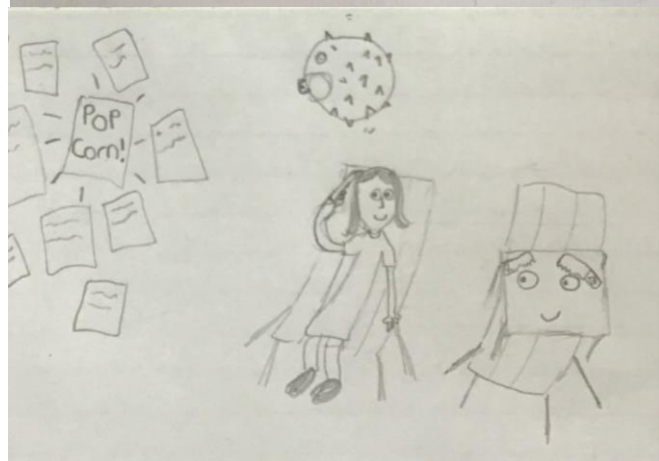
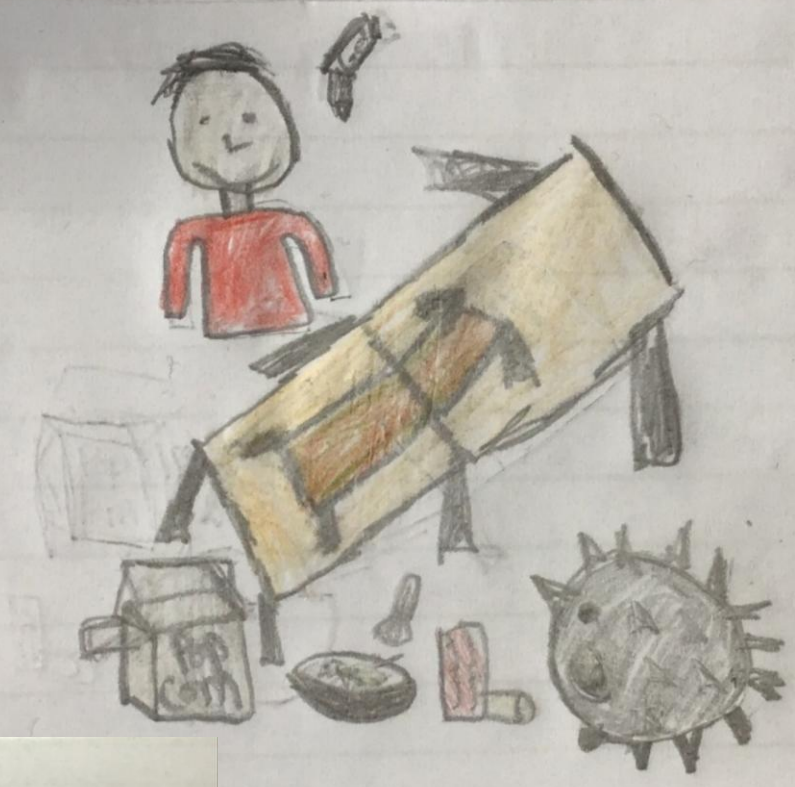


Can you use a gel pen
To style
Your beautiful hair?

Do workbenches
Need to rest on
Comfy deck-chairs?

Is popcorn
A cereal
That's made the top 10?

Is a pufferfish
A fish
With a breathing problem?



Does stardust
Need to be
Vacuumed at night?

Does an angelfish
Only do
What's right?

Is a foxglove
A stylish hand-warmer
For a fox?

Is a punchline
A ruler that likes
To box?

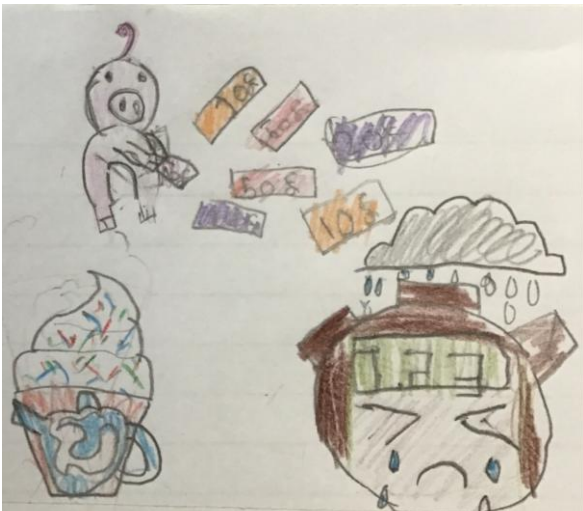


Is a starfish
A fish born to be
On stage?

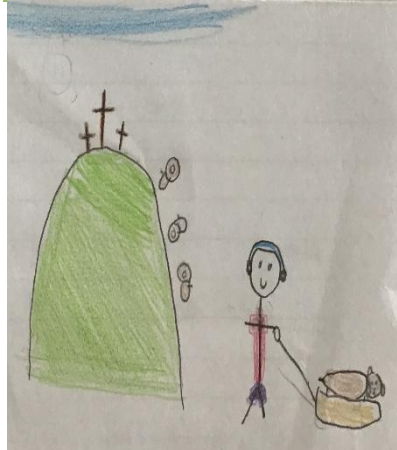
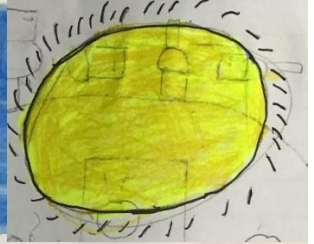
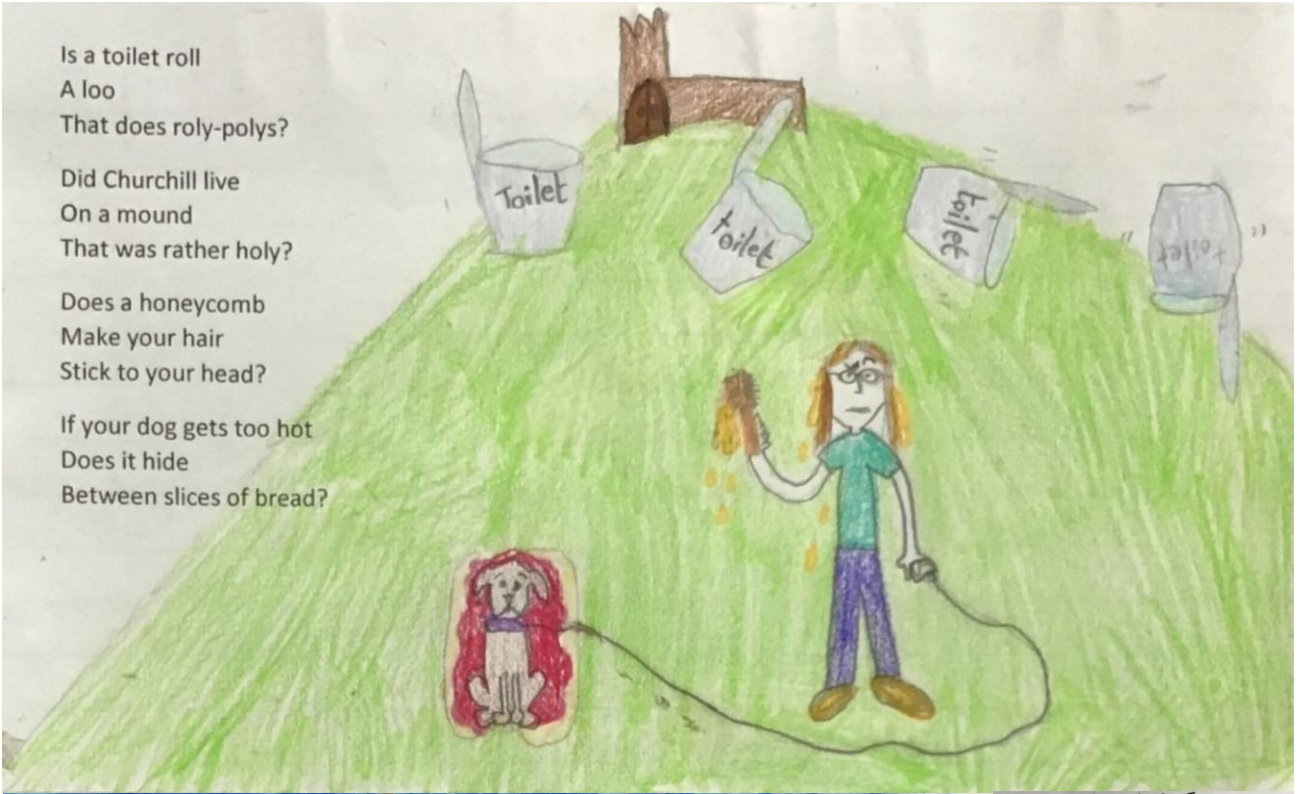
Is a piggybank
Where piggys
Put their hard-earned wage?

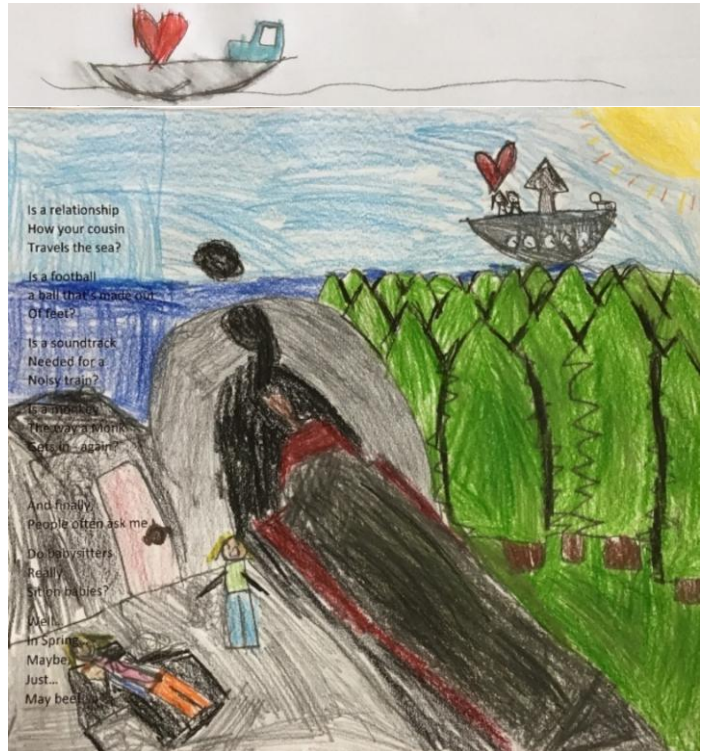
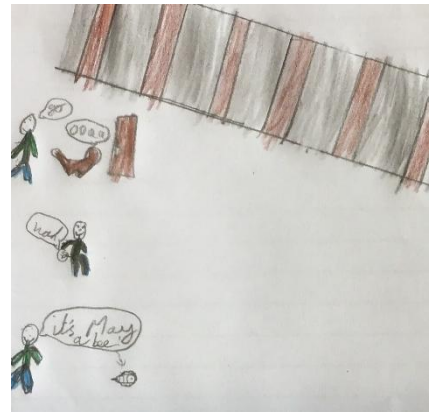
Is a cupcake
A crunchy dessert
Made from china cups?

Is a stopwatch
A watch
That's run out of luck?



Is a toilet roll
 A loo
 That does roly-polys?
 Did Churchill live
 On a mound
 That was rather holy?
 Does a honeycomb
 Make your hair
 Stick to your head?
 If your dog gets too hot
 Does it hide
 Between slices of bread?





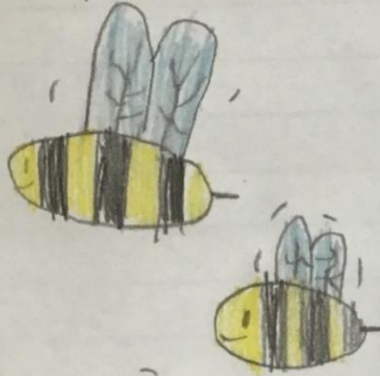
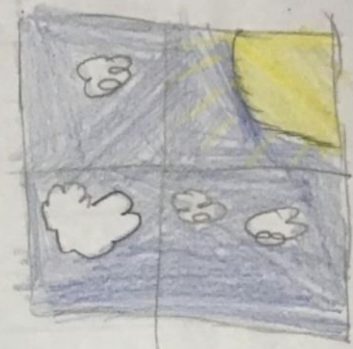
Is Sunday
A rest-day when
The Sun comes out?

Well, let's finish,
With the thing
People often shout...

"Do babysitters
Really sit on
Babies?!"

Well...
In
Spring...

Maybe,
Just...
May bee!



By Class 5 inspired by poet Michaela Morgan on National Poetry Day 2025.

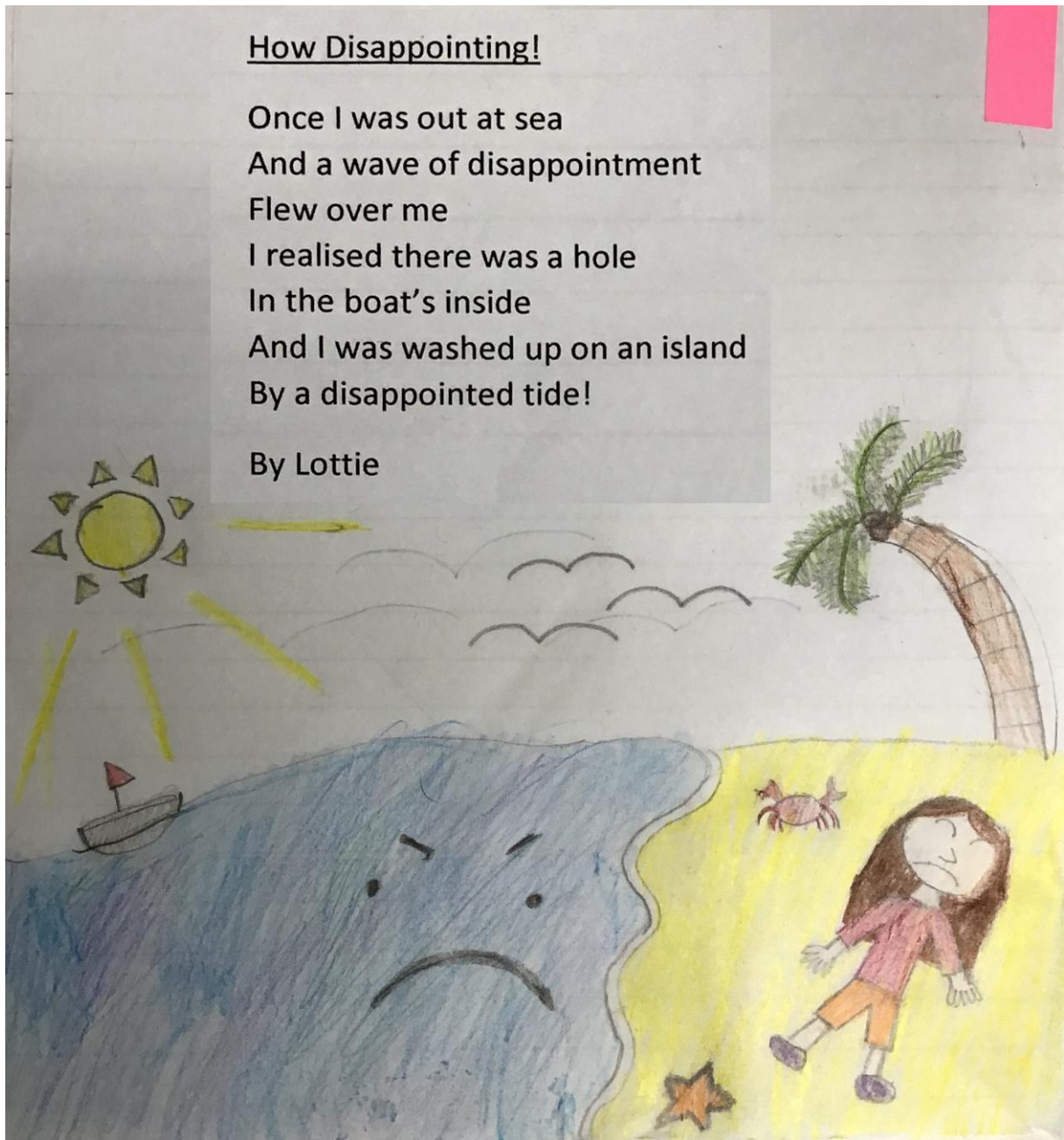
Idiosyncratic Idioms and Peculiar Poems

Have you ever thought how strange the English language can be? It is such a 'melting pot' of words and phrases from different cultures and countries. So, we thought we would have some fun writing some poems based on idioms. We hope you enjoy them!

How Disappointing!

Once I was out at sea
And a wave of disappointment
Flew over me
I realised there was a hole
In the boat's inside
And I was washed up on an island
By a disappointed tide!

By Lottie



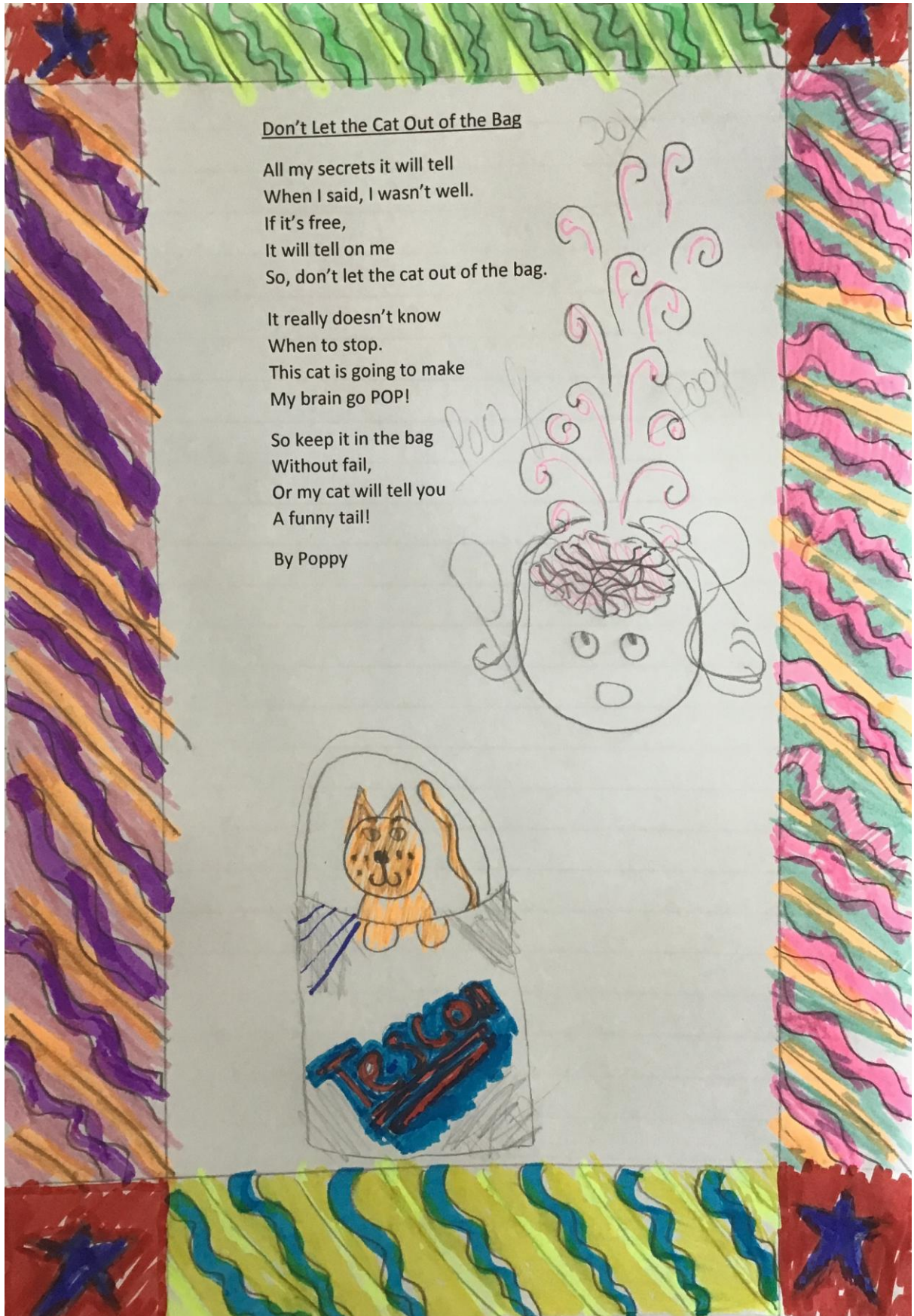
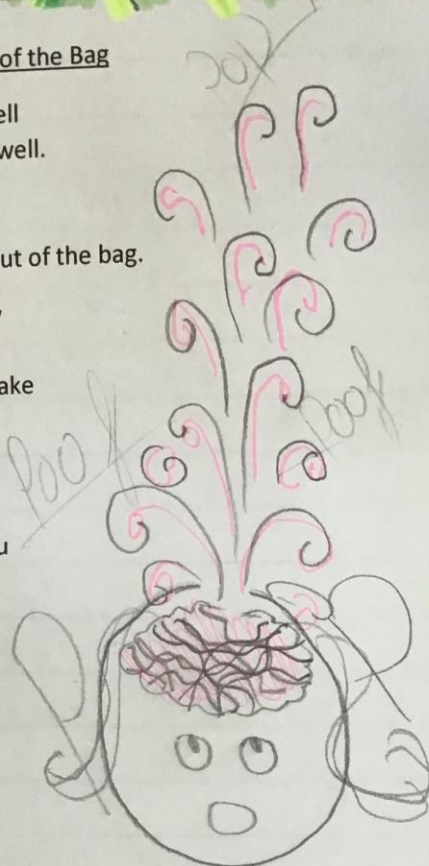
Don't Let the Cat Out of the Bag

All my secrets it will tell
When I said, I wasn't well.
If it's free,
It will tell on me
So, don't let the cat out of the bag.

It really doesn't know
When to stop.
This cat is going to make
My brain go POP!

So keep it in the bag
Without fail,
Or my cat will tell you
A funny tail!

By Poppy



My Eyes Popped Out!

I saw something
That was quite a shock
Medusa made people
Stone and rock.

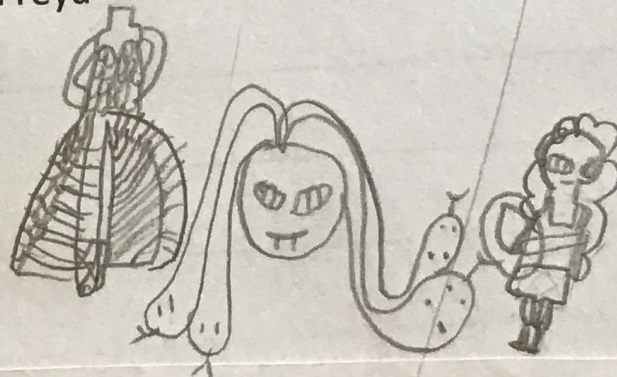
My eyes popped out
Of my head
Because all those people
Were now dead!

As she made those statues
She came at you!

I grabbed by eyes
Popping them back in again
But things never
Looked the same.

Popping my eyes out
Saved my life
So I cut her head off
With a knife!

By Freya



A Stage Fright!

The day of the production
Was coming up soon
I had butterflies in my tummy
I jumped like a crazy baboon.

My dad calmed me down
He said 'open your mouth'
And to my great surprise
Loads of butterflies flew out!

By Lydia



Shhhh! It's a secret!

Once I told a secret
To my brother
I said don't spill the beans
To my mother.

So he grabbed some beans
The very next day
And spilled them on the table
What a mess - Hey!

I suddenly got told
To go to my room
It shows I trusted him
Far too soon!

By Lily

Fred

Break a Leg!

Good luck, Ha, ha
The magician said
After he lifted
The hat off his head.

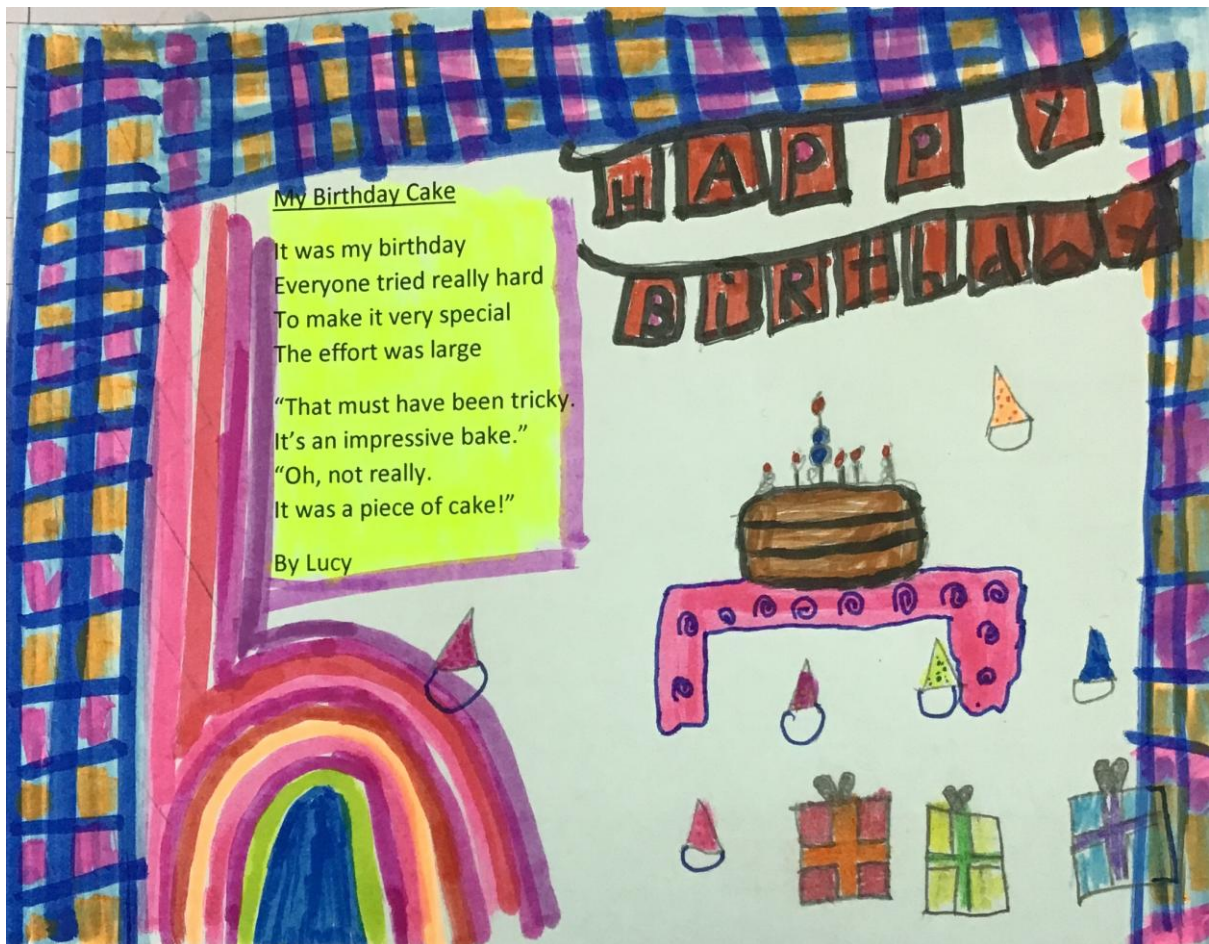
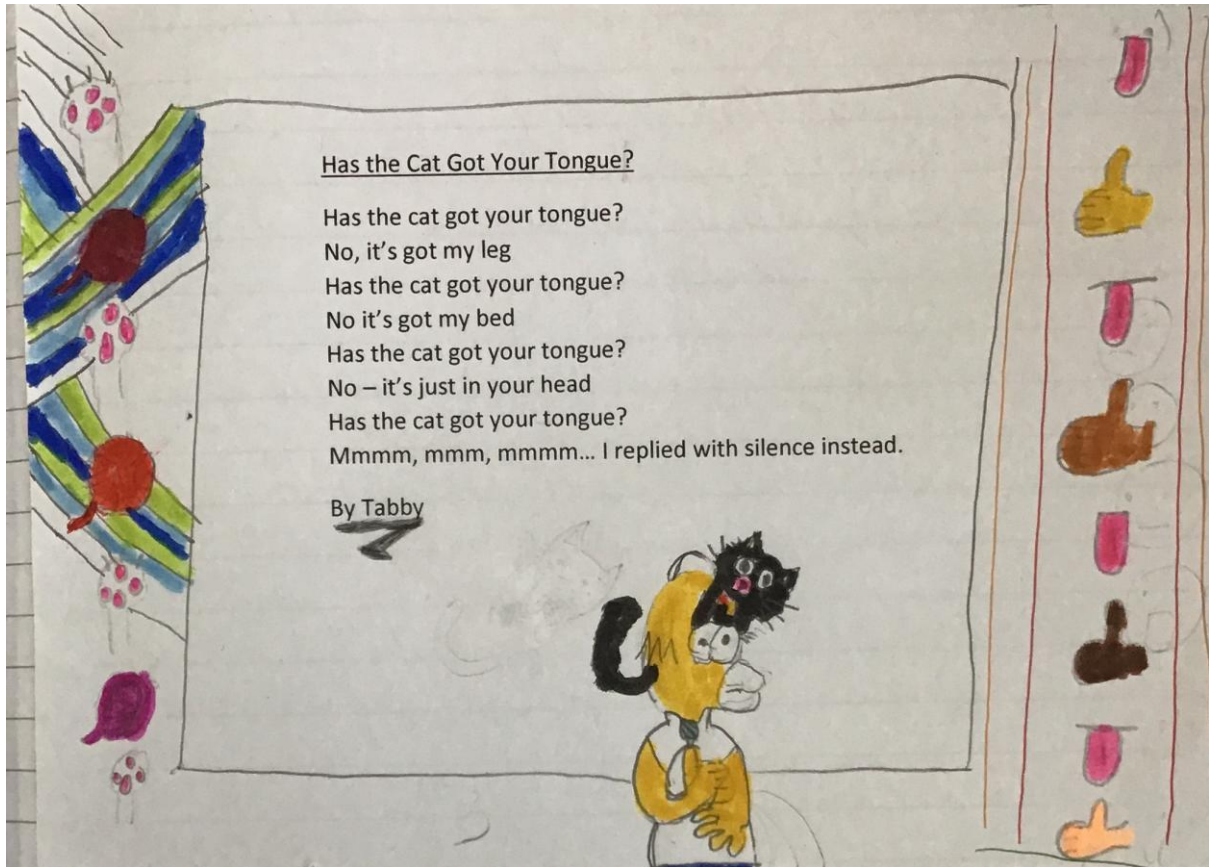
Fred

Break a leg
Said the Magician Fred

He didn't see the banana
Lying on the floor
As he skidded along
And through the trap door

Ow! I think I broke my leg!

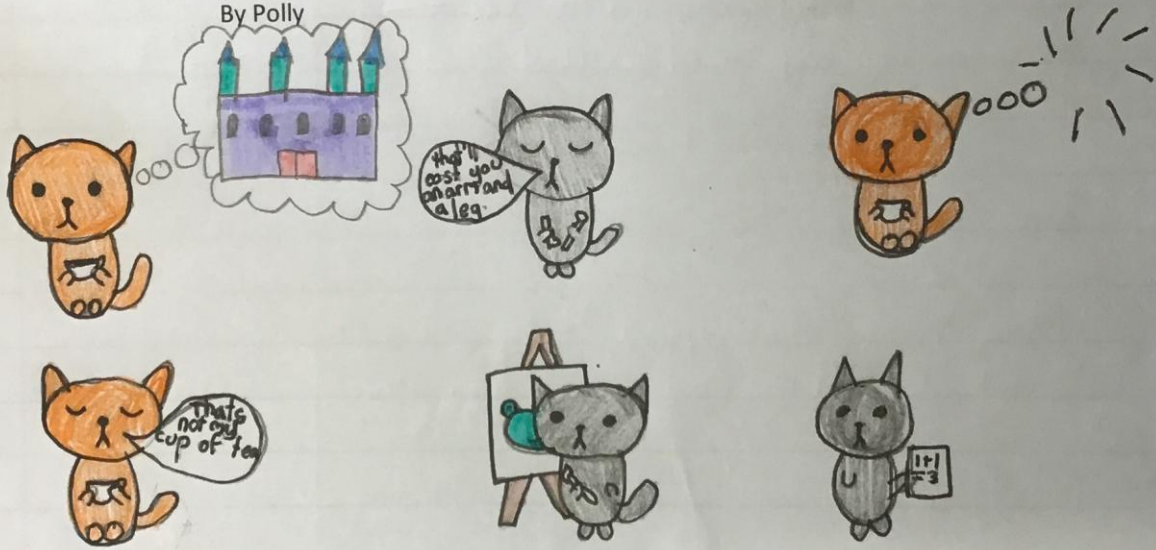
By Albie



So Smart?

"That'll cost you an arm and a leg,"
Said my clever Sis
And I said, "Pardon Me?
That's not my cup of tea!"
"That's not your cup of tea?
Is that some sort of art?"
Now I don't think,
My sister's so smart!

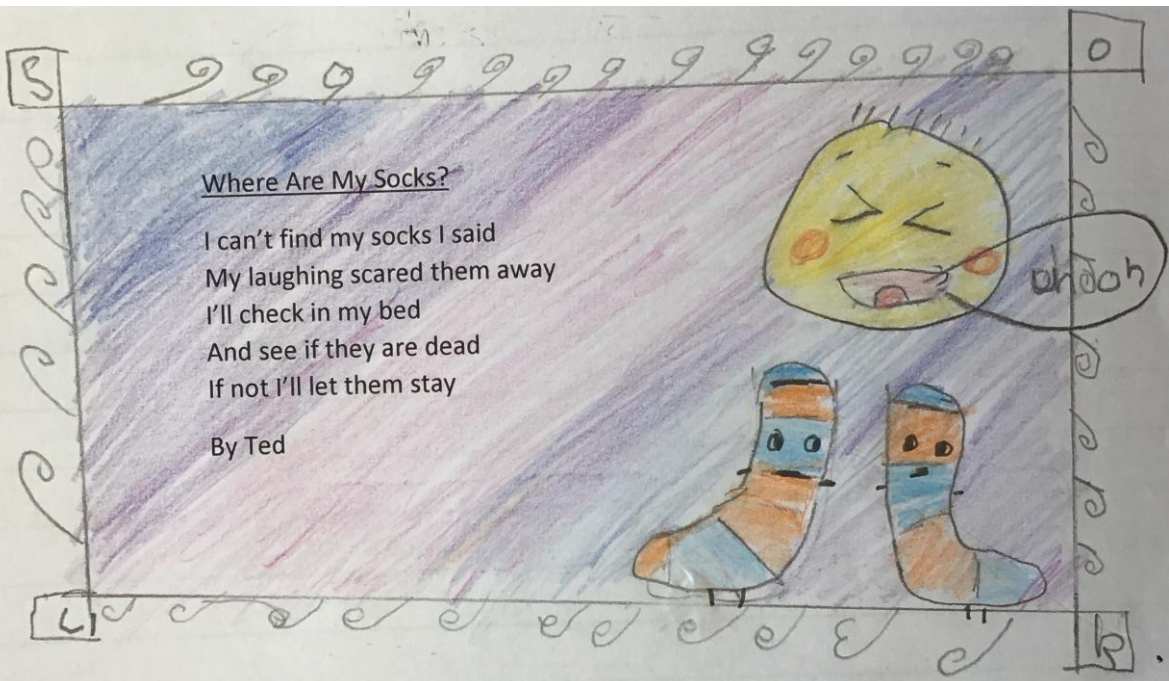
By Polly



Where Are My Socks?

I can't find my socks I said
My laughing scared them away
I'll check in my bed
And see if they are dead
If not I'll let them stay

By Ted



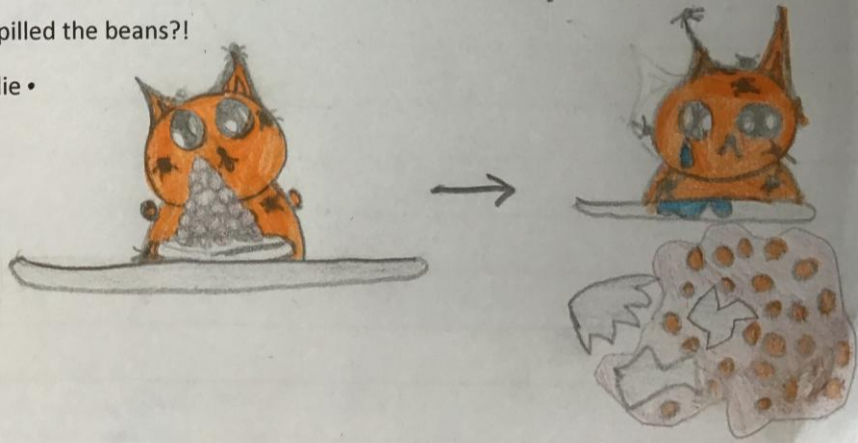
Don't Spill the Beans

My cat said he was itchy
Because he had some fleas
Don't tell mum please
Don't spill the beans

I gave him his breakfast
On his favourite plate
But he wiggled so much he dropped it
And left the kitchen in a state.

Who spilled the beans?!

By Millie •



The Task

The task I will take
Is sure to be a piece of cake

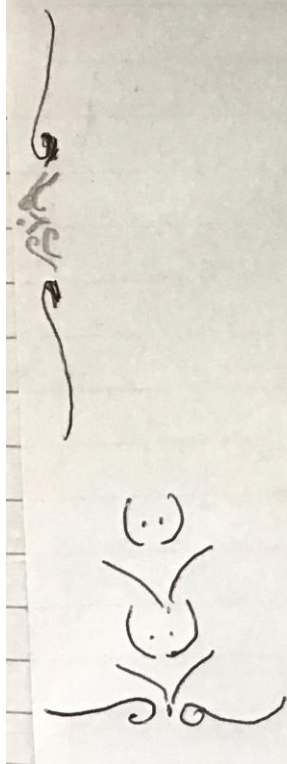
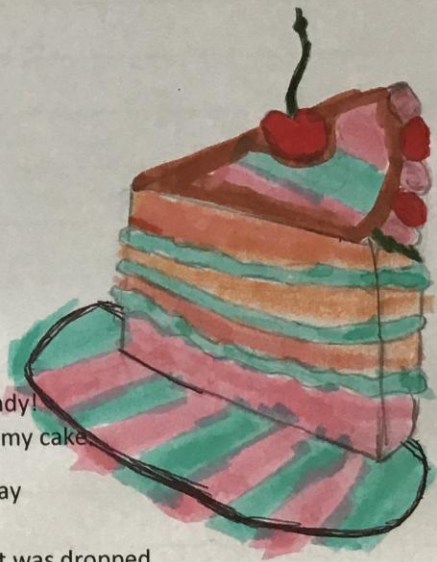
My task was to bake, a cake
That Everybody thought
Was easy to make.

When my cake was ready
There were cries of Whoa, Steady!
And I dropped a small piece of my cake

While they looked the other way
My had started to sway
When it touched the piece that was dropped
Into my mouth it popped

And that was the end of the cake!

By Neela



HAS THE CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE

Has the Cat Got Your Tongue?

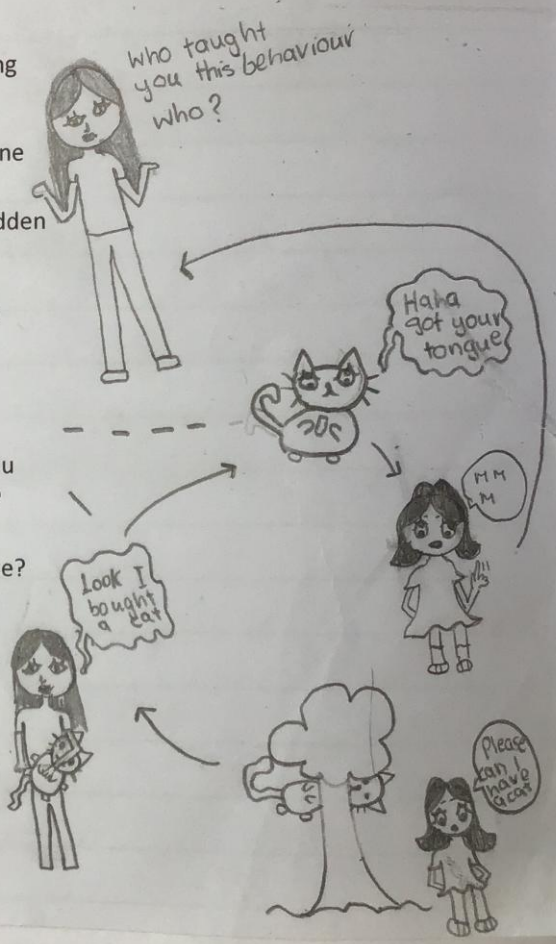
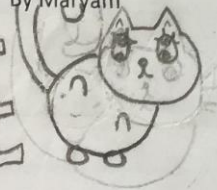
Ever since I was young
I always liked to have a cat
Especially when they were sprung
One day I quietly sat.

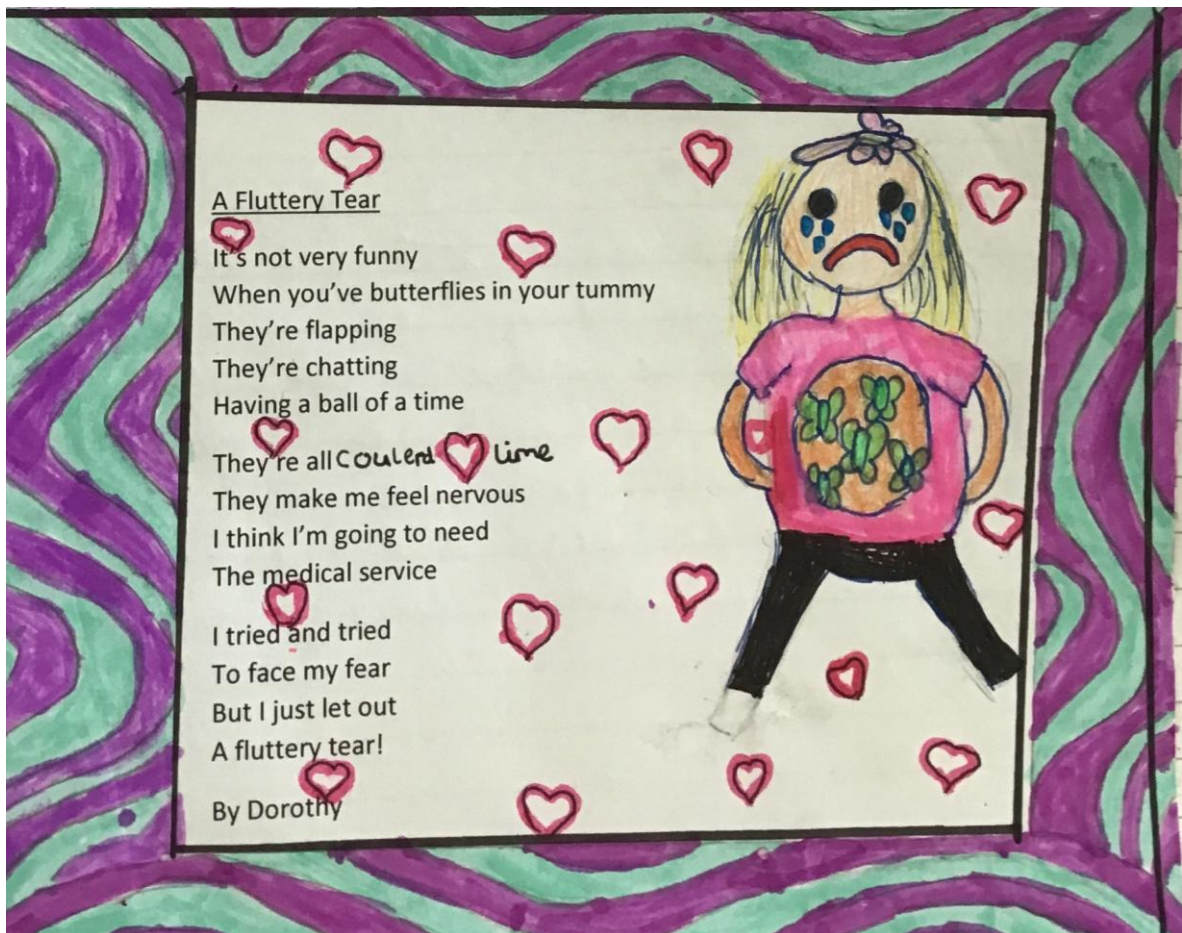
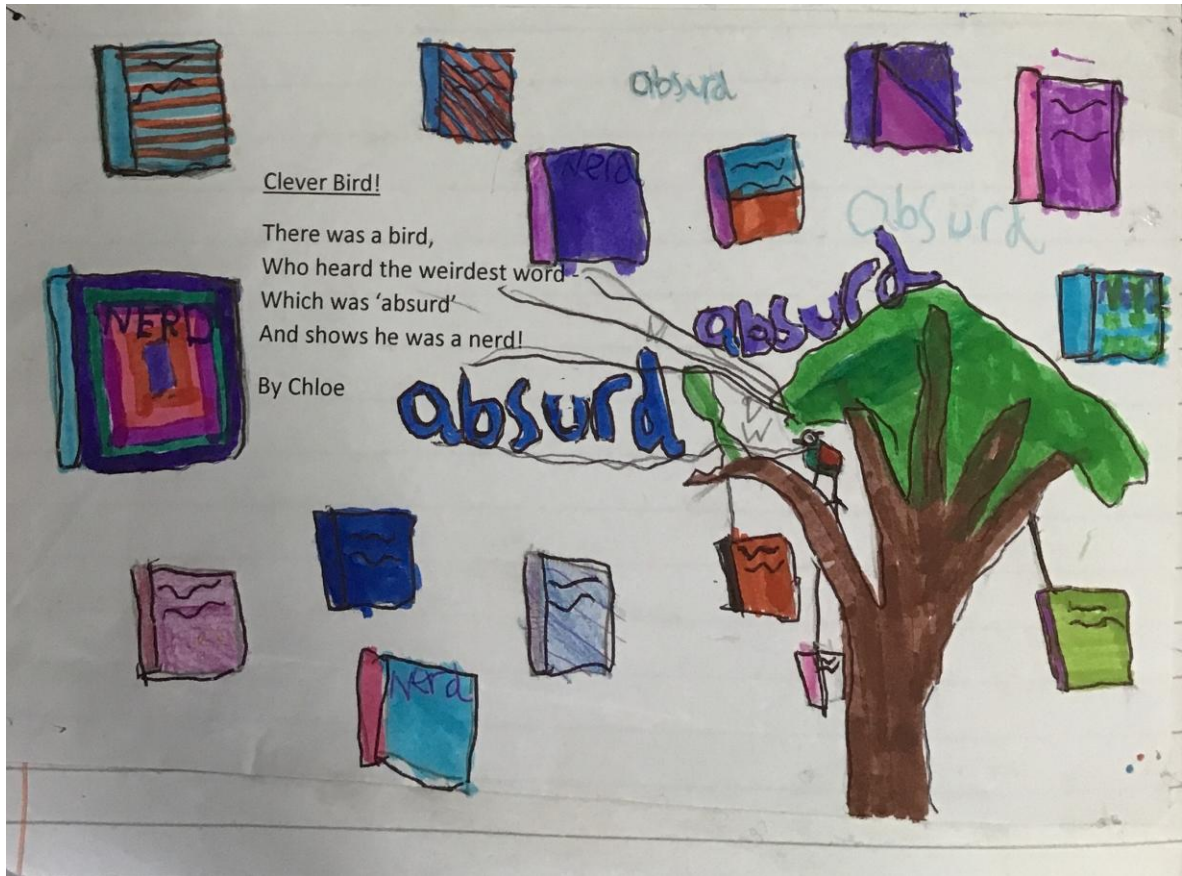
Mum said she would bring me one
But I had to wait
Next month it arrived all of a sudden
And I couldn't communicate!

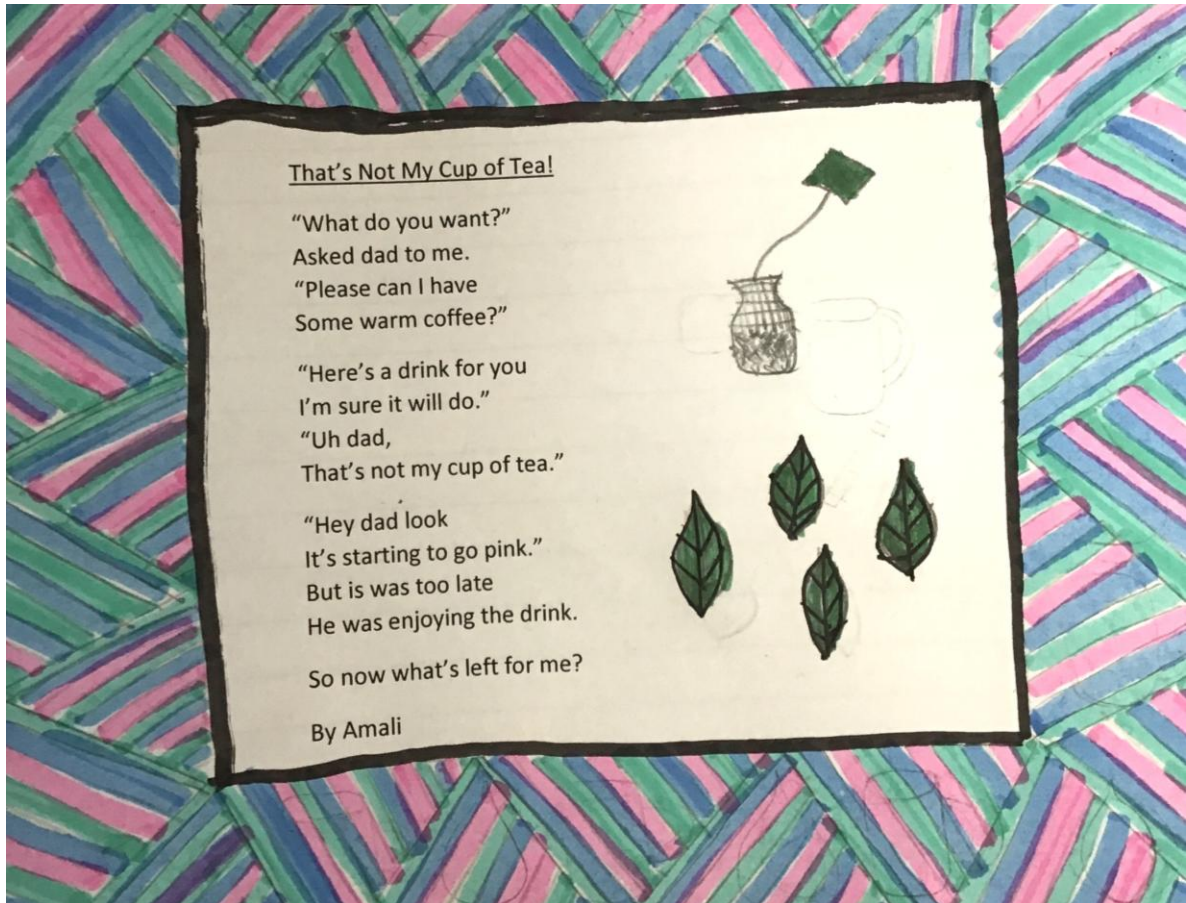
Because the cat started dancing
with my tongue
Round and round
Around the room it swung!

Aren't you going to say thank you
Who taught you bad behaviour?
Who?
Well, Has the cat got your tongue?

By Maryam







That's Not My Cup of Tea!

"What do you want?"
Asked dad to me.
"Please can I have
Some warm coffee?"

"Here's a drink for you
I'm sure it will do."
"Uh dad,
That's not my cup of tea."

"Hey dad look
It's starting to go pink."
But it was too late
He was enjoying the drink.

So now what's left for me?

By Amali

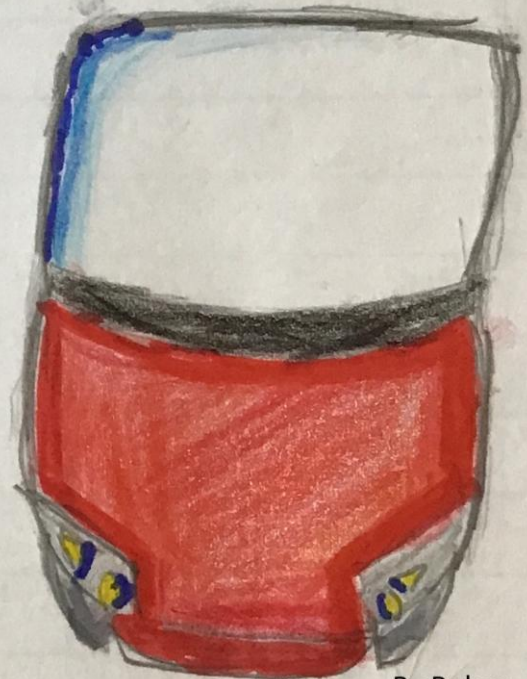
Blood Red Lamborghini

That'll cost an arm and leg,
Said the husband to the wife.
But I've always wanted a Lambo
My whole entire life!

Step into my office,
The sinister salesman said.
We can chop off a limb
Without you being dead.

On second thoughts, I think we'll walk
Shouted the couple as they fled!

Year 5 Class Poem



By Ruben



Dog Day

It was raining cats and dogs
With big clouds of fog
While I was sitting on a log

When out of nowhere
Not here, nor there
A dog fell into my lap.
Fancy that!

By Sathvik

The Show

Have fun
And break a leg
My best friend
Called Charlie said.

We were about
To start the show
With people sat
In every row.

I walked over
Then I fell
Giving out
A massive yell!

Looks like I broke my leg
I think I'll now need a peg.

By Henry

I'm Losing My Mind

My mind says I need to pay the rent
Otherwise it's going to Kent.

I have to pay
Or else he won't stay.

My mind says I'm crazy
Please won't you save me?

Please don't let me lose my mind!

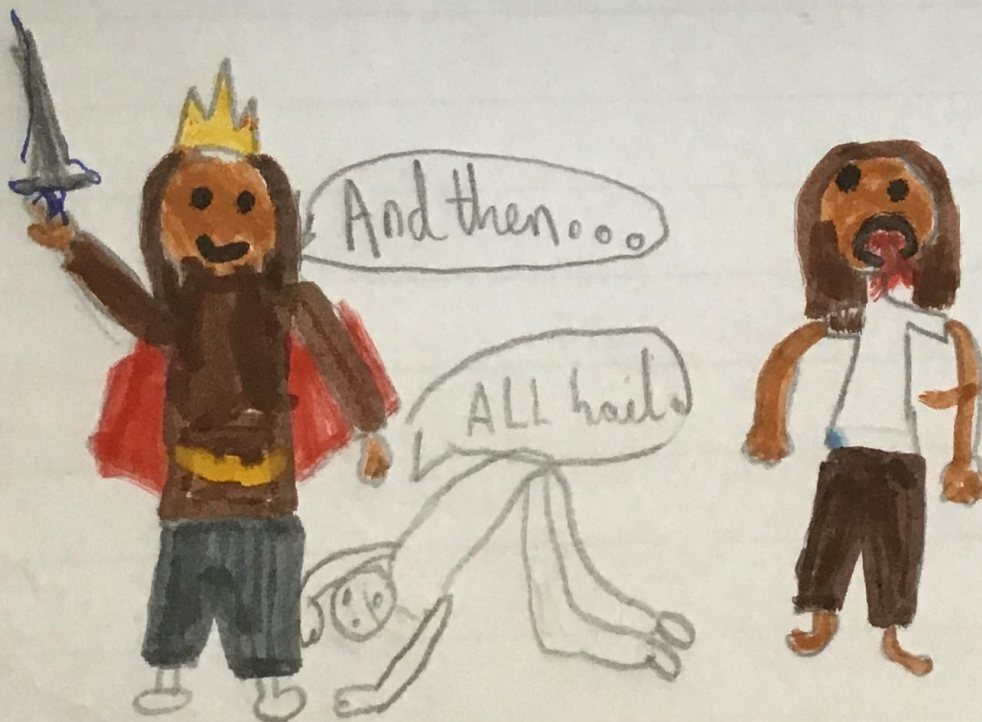
By Josh



Tongue Tied

As we were climbing the stage stairs
In our acting pairs
My evil gum
grabbed my tongue
And tied a knot
Then in a jot
We were on the stage!
I was bursting with rage
When everyone said their words
I was the one who couldn't be heard!

By Isabel



Don't Spill the Beans (on Mothers' Day)!

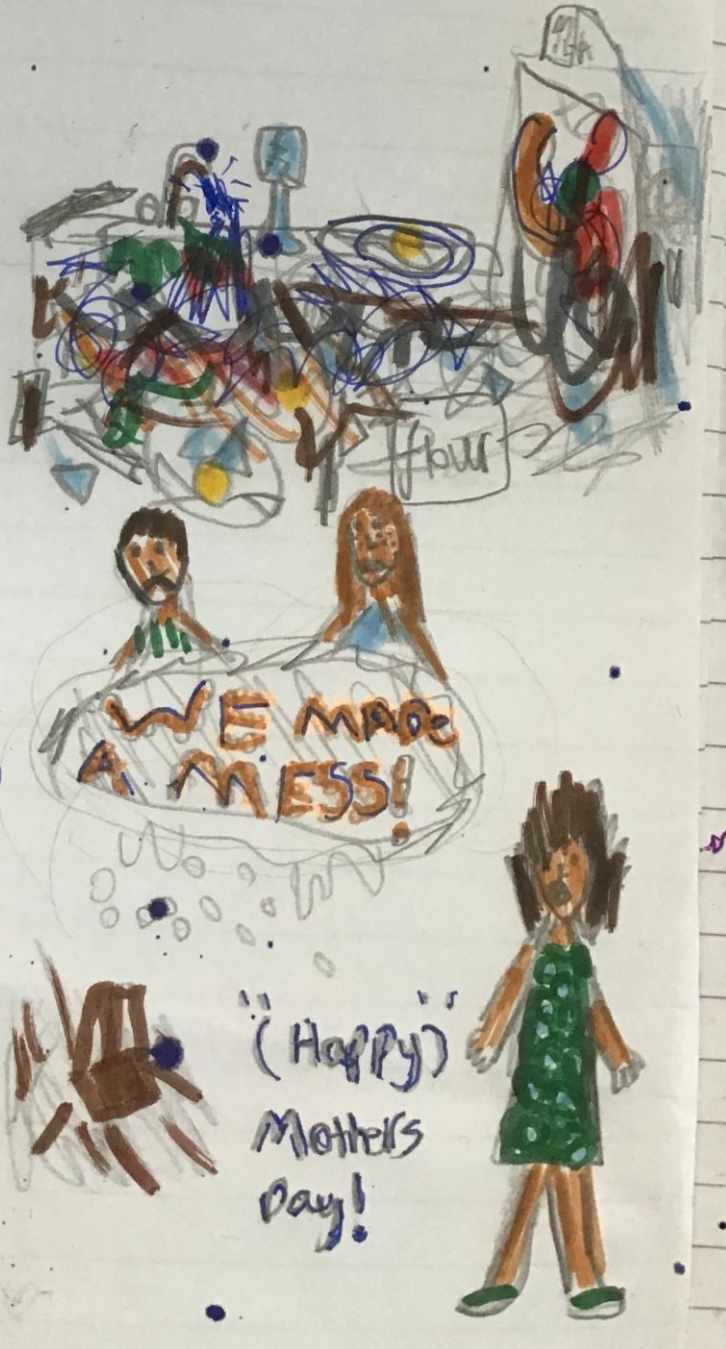
Don't spill the beans
I said to my brother
Holding the plate
Please don't tell Mother:

He took twists and turns
Around the house
Trying to make sure
She didn't find out.

But Oh no! Letters start to form
And it clearly says
There's a mess in the kitchen
And we won't be spared!

By Renee

OOPS!



The Day I Laughed My Socks Off

The day I laughed my socks off
I chased them
And raced them
And chased them again

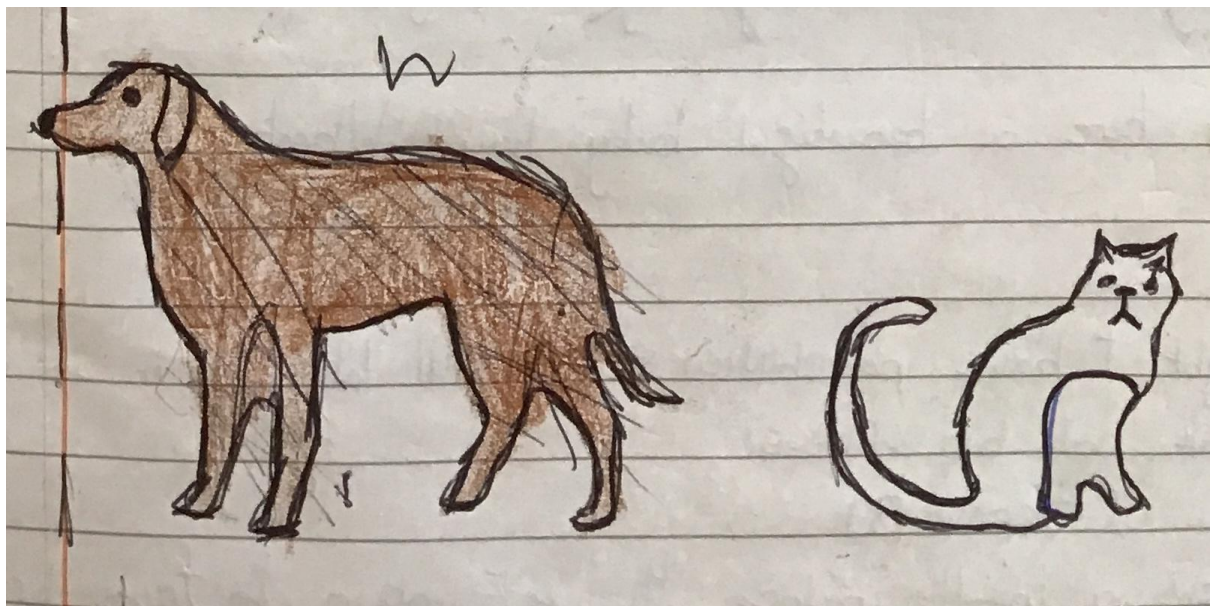
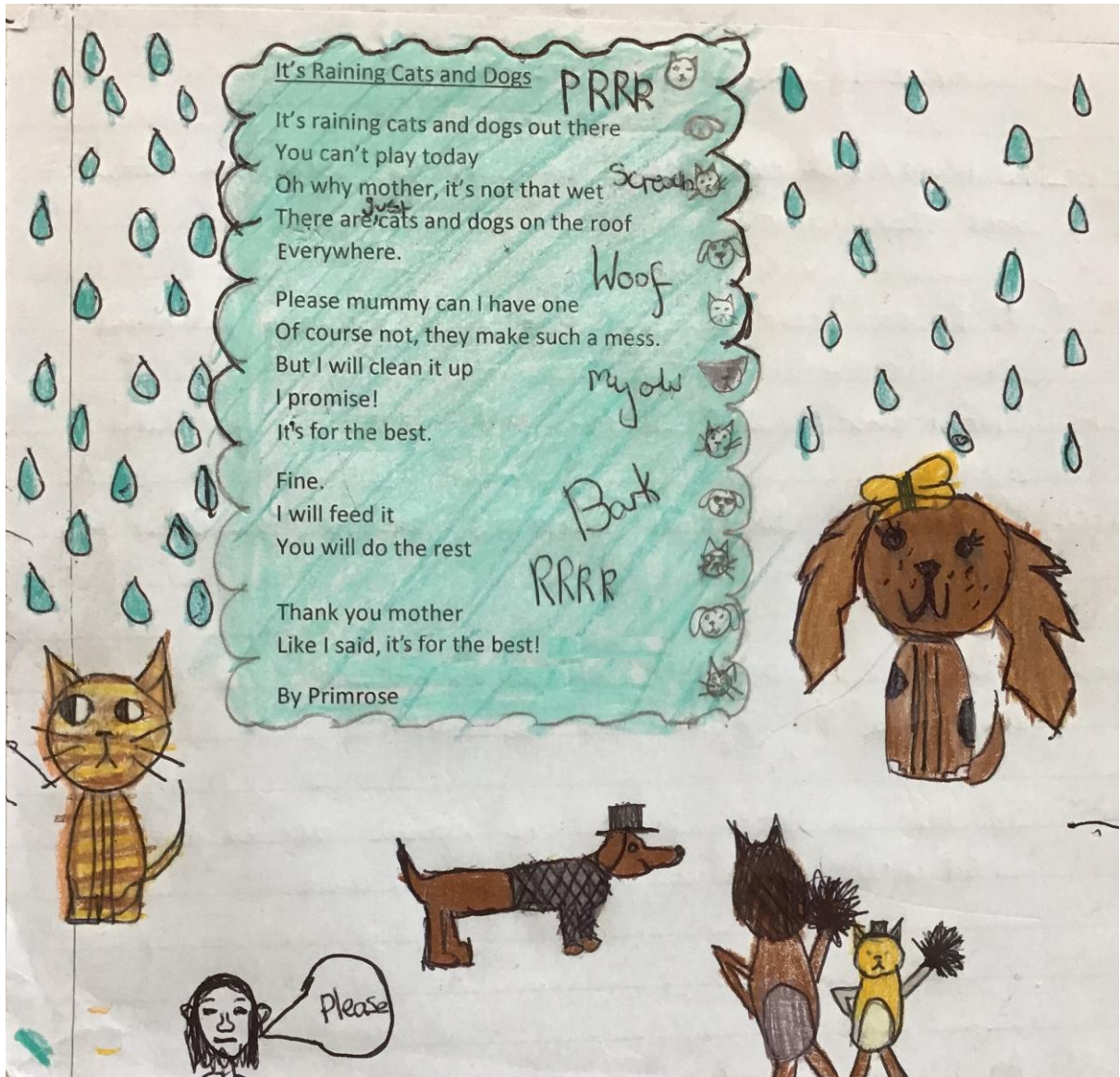
Down the road
My feet will erode!
They were zooming along
In super-speed mode.

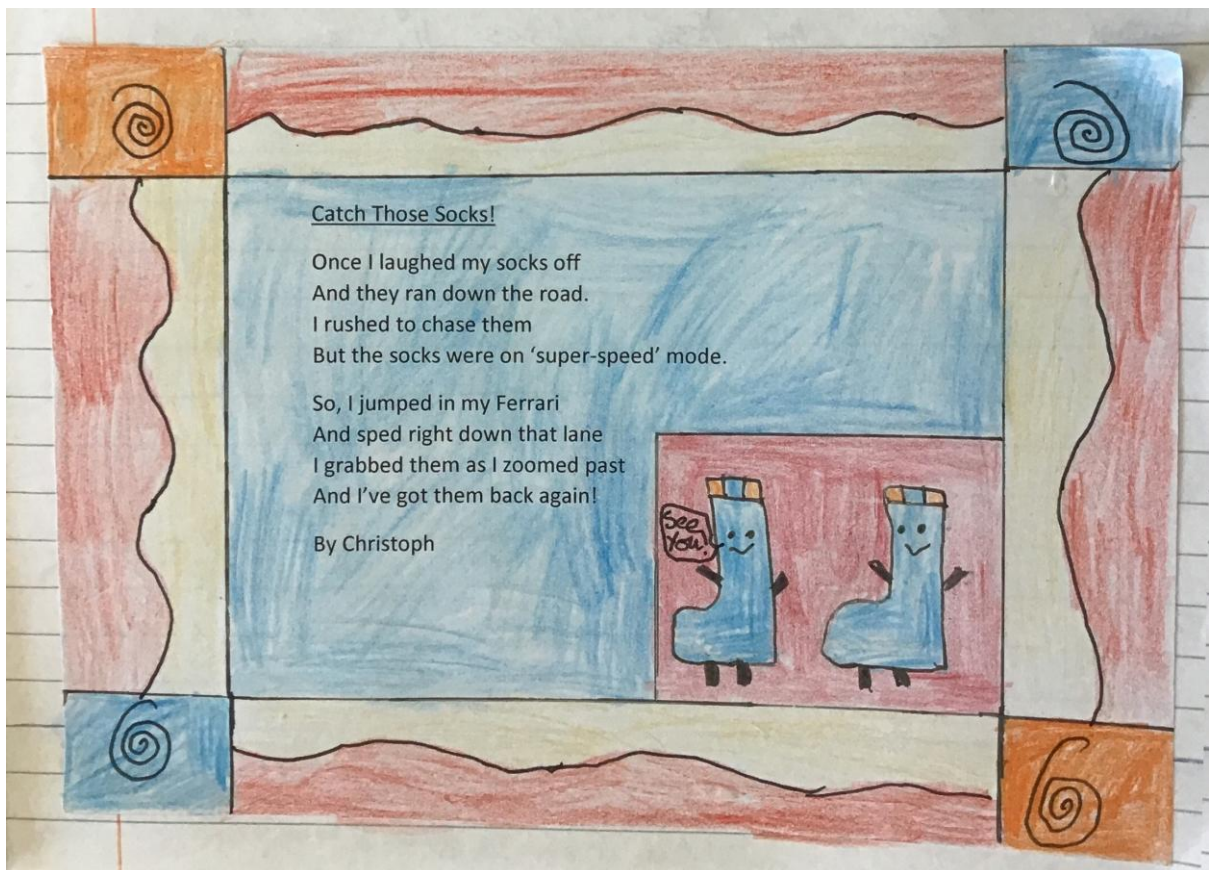
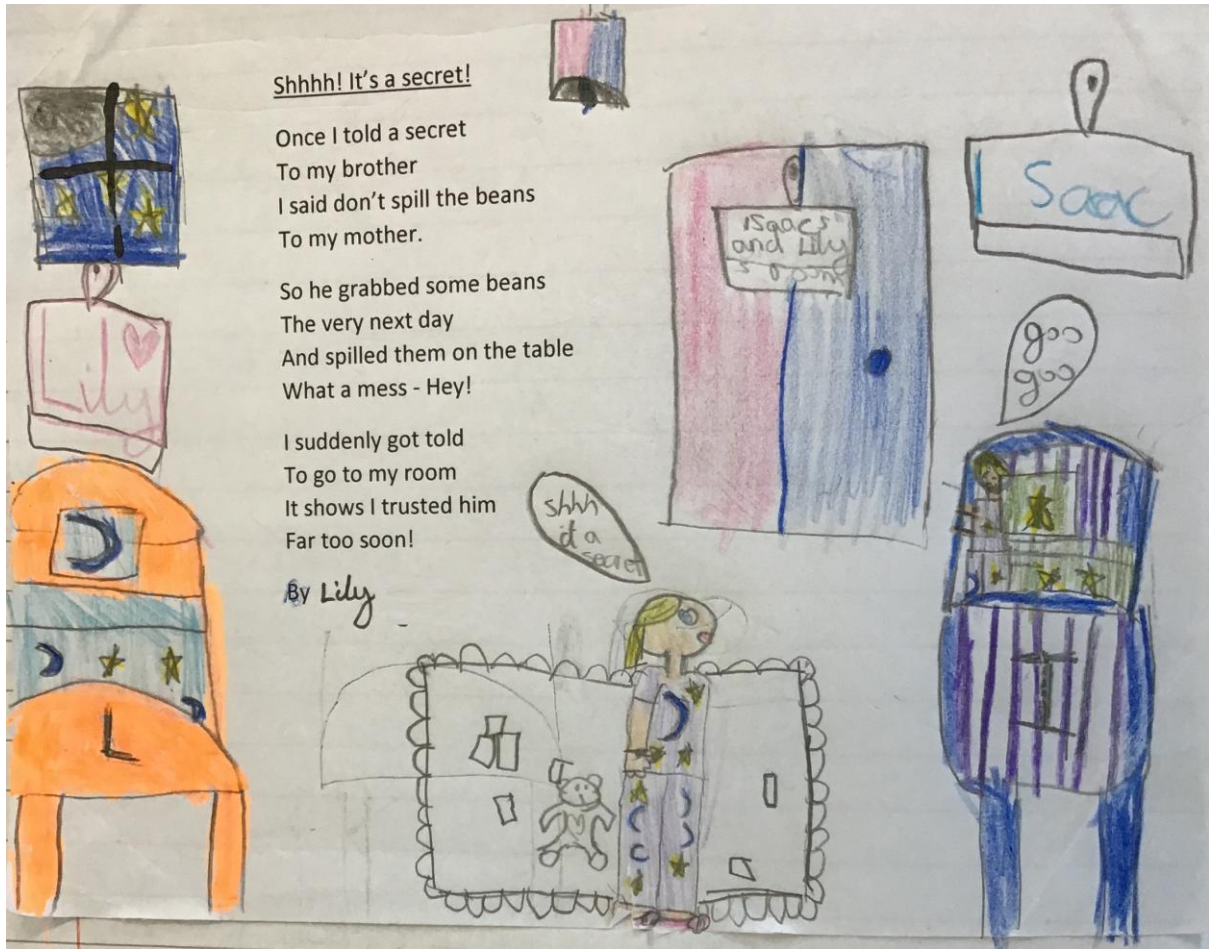
I sped in my Ferrari
And caught up with them
Sorted them out
And ~~again~~ became friends. *again*

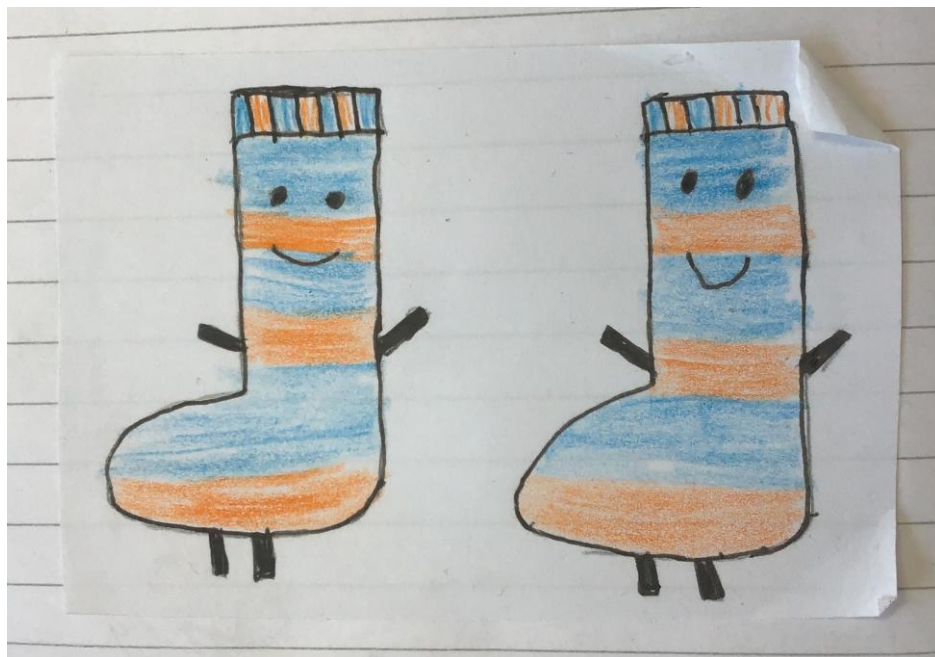
So next time you laugh
Be very aware.
Because your socks might run
And end up anywhere!

By Arthur 🍌









It's Raining Cats and Dogs!

It's raining cats and dogs
Said Kye to his Dad
Yes, I know son,
It is ever so bad.

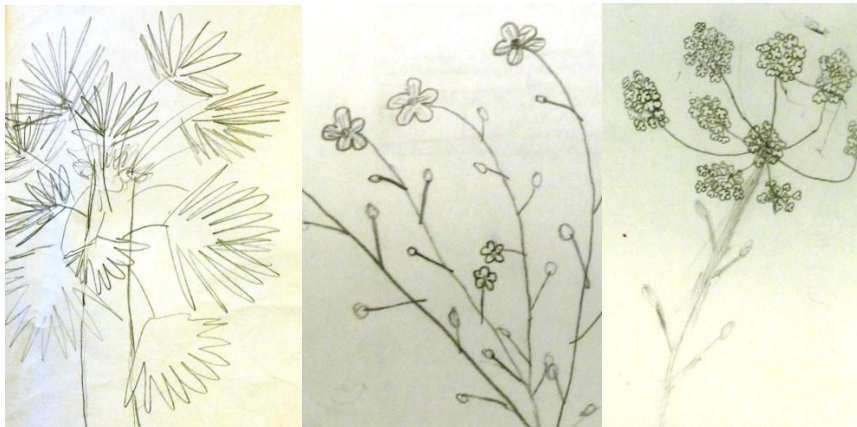
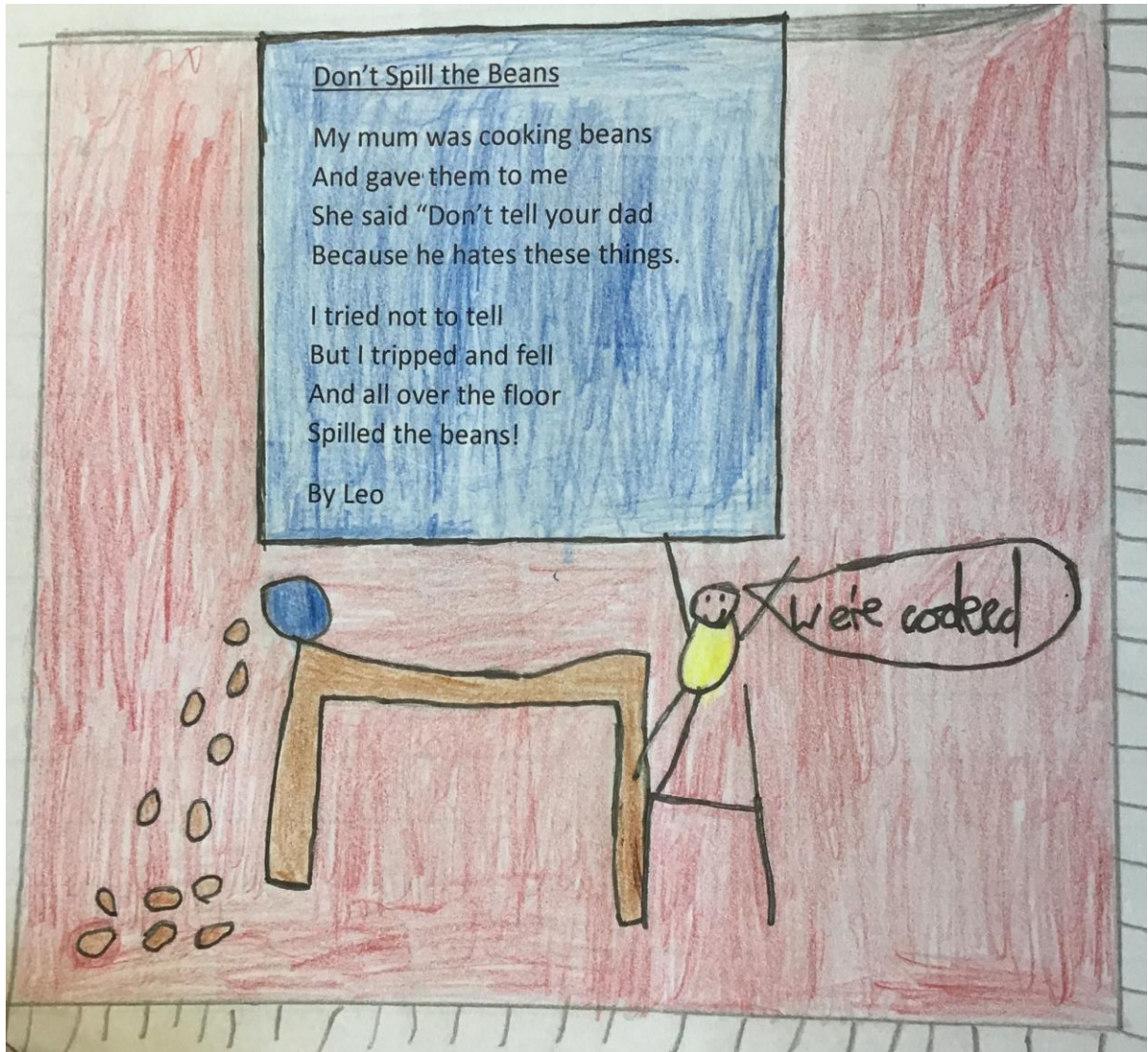
I can hear something woof
And something meow
Cats and dogs flying high
Wow!

The rain finally stopped
And the pair found
The animals had dropped
And were now on the ground.

If that's not enough
In our country of Britain
I bet we'll find it
Poodling puppies and kittens!

By Felix





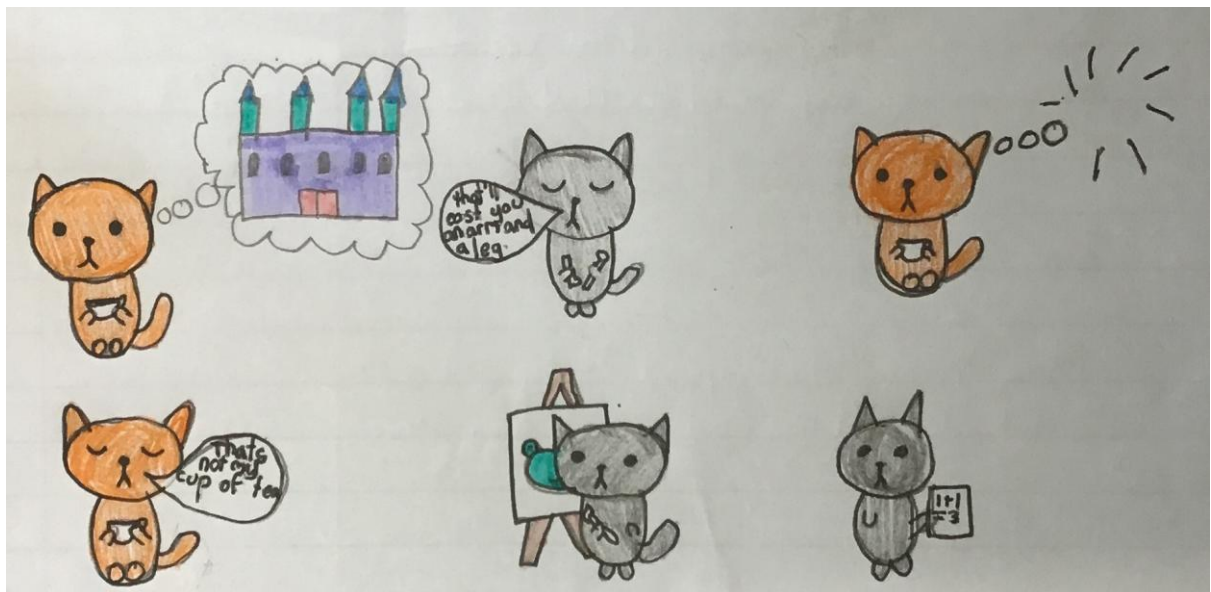
Why not have a go yourself here?

Some more inspiration to get you going:

How about trying...

I had a blast;
I'm in a pickle;
When pigs fly;
Put a sock in it;
Pulling your leg;
Hold your horses;
Cool as a cucumber;
Everything but the kitchen sink!

Have fun!



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