

Chapter 3

Mrs Rose ended up leaving the school in a most surprising way. The Year Six children were taking their SATs in the hall when the test was interrupted by shouting and screaming. Through the windows in the hall doors, Amber could see Mrs Rose being dragged down the corridor by both staff and governors. "That woman is poisonous! She's wicked!" she cried as she was carried out of the building.

"There goes our last hope," Amber thought miserably as she tried to concentrate on the comprehension questions. Amber found out later that several of Miss Dawn's pets, including AJ, had complained about Mrs Rose's alleged inappropriate behaviour, and she had been made to leave. It was ironic that Mrs Rose, a shining example of honesty and integrity, was the teacher whose professional conduct was called into question. The official line was that she had to leave due to the stress of the job.

Amber's thoughts now transferred to Miss Wand. If she was a witch (and one practising the black arts) what was she doing at St Augustine's School? Had Miss Vile appointed her knowing she was a witch? Was Miss Vile a witch herself? Strangely, this last question had never popped into Amber's head before. Although surrounded by witches at Spellcaster Academy, she had rarely come across witches in the outside world. Witches kept very much to themselves. Although they still learnt the art of witchcraft, they were very wary about practising their craft in public. They remembered only too well what had happened to them in times past when witches were persecuted for being in league with the devil. This was certainly not the case for the majority of witches. Most were upstanding, law-abiding citizens. But there was good and bad among witches just as there was in the rest of society, and those witches who did practise black magic had given the rest a bad reputation. From the time of the witch trials onwards, they had deliberately kept a very low profile. If Miss Vile and Miss Wand were witches, was it possible that the rest of her despicable staff were witches also? But why? Why would a coven of witches all gather at a primary school? It didn't make sense.



It wasn't long before Miss Dawn (aka Wand) showed her true colours. Now that Mrs Rose was no longer around to check her activities she began to behave just as she wanted. On Mrs Rose's departure she immediately became the new deputy head, and the power and control she wielded was frightening. She was very fond of devising new punishments for children. These were often mental punishments, though physical sanctions were also part of her wicked repertoire. She was always careful not to leave any marks, of course!



Name: _____



I can use apostrophes correctly.

Apostrophes confuse people all the time. There are just two ways of using them.

First, to show something belongs to somebody.
Amber's thoughts *The apostrophe is used to show the thoughts belong to Amber.*

Second, to join two words together.
She's wicked. *The apostrophe is used to show there are letters missing: she is wicked.*

Don't use apostrophes for plurals.

Add any missing apostrophes to the sentences below. (Hint: don't add an apostrophe every time you see an s.)

- 1 Under the new leadership the rules were very strict.
- 2 Children s bags were searched every day.
- 3 Children weren t allowed to speak.
- 4 They mustn t laugh or smile in class.
- 5 They couldn t go out to play.
- 6 They d only be allowed to march in single file around the playground.
- 7 The children s teachers were very severe.
- 8 Miss Dawn s temper was legendary.
- 9 Her punishments were brutal.
- 10 She put the children s hands in buckets of ice water.
- 11 She made them do sit-ups in the rain.
- 12 She attached wooden pegs to their eyelids.
- 13 Sometimes she put her pupils hands under the chair legs and then sat on the chair.



Extension Write your own list of rules using the apostrophe for contraction.





I can use apostrophes correctly.

Apostrophes confuse people all the time. There are just two ways of using them.

First, to show something belongs to somebody.
 Amber's thoughts *The apostrophe is used to show the thoughts belong to Amber.*

Second, to join two words together.
 She's wicked. *The apostrophe is used to show there are letters missing: she is wicked.*

Don't use apostrophes for plurals.

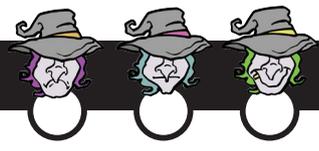
Add any missing apostrophes to the sentences below. (Hint: don't add an apostrophe every time you see an s.)

- 1 Under the new leadership the rules were very strict.
- 2 Childrens bags were searched every day.
- 3 Children werent allowed to speak.
- 4 They mustnt laugh or smile in class.
- 5 They couldnt go out to play.
- 6 Theyd only be allowed to march in single file around the playground.
- 7 The childrens teachers were very severe.
- 8 Miss Dawns temper was legendary.
- 9 Her punishments were brutal.
- 10 She put the childrens hands in buckets of ice water.
- 11 She made them do sit-ups in the rain.
- 12 She attached wooden pegs to their eyelids.
- 13 Sometimes she put her pupils hands under the chair legs and then sat on the chair.



Extension Write your own list of rules using the apostrophe for contraction.





I can use apostrophes correctly.

Apostrophes confuse people all the time. There are just two ways of using them.

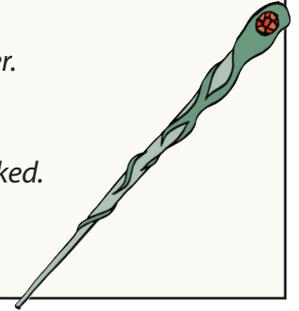
First, to show something belongs to somebody.

Amber's thoughts *The apostrophe is used to show the thoughts belong to Amber.*

Second, to join two words together.

She's wicked. *The apostrophe is used to show there are letters missing: she is wicked.*

Don't use apostrophes for plurals.



Add any missing apostrophes to the sentences below. Then write out the words which have been written as contractions in full. (Hint: don't add an apostrophe every time you see an s.)

- 1 Under the new leadership the rules were very strict.
- 2 Childrens bags were searched every day.
- 3 Children werent allowed to speak.
- 4 They mustnt laugh or smile in class.
- 5 They couldnt go out to play.
- 6 Theyd only be allowed to march in single file around the playground.
- 7 The childrens teachers were very severe.
- 8 Miss Dawns temper was legendary.
- 9 Her punishments were brutal.
- 10 She put the childrens hands in buckets of ice water.
- 11 She made them do sit-ups in the rain.
- 12 She attached wooden pegs to their eyelids.
- 13 Sometimes she put her pupils hands under the chair legs and then sat on the chair.
- 14 Prisoners lives would have been preferable to these childrens lives.

Extension Write your own list of rules using the apostrophe for contraction.

