

West Acton Primary School, Noel Road, Acton. W3 0JL

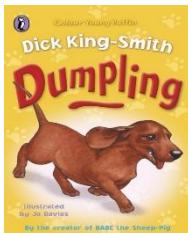
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Head Teacher: Miss K Kondo

9th February 2026

English Writing Update – Year 2, Spring 2

During Spring 2, Year 2 will be reading books by Dick King-Smith called '*Dumpling*' and '*Blessu*'.



Dumpling is a short adventure story about a young dachshund puppy who got her name 'Dumpling' for being a short and plump pup, unlike her two brothers. She wanted to be longer and so took a stroll in a nearby wood where she met a witch's magical cat. The cat turned Dumpling into the longest dachshund in the world. Will Dumpling like her new extra-long body?



Blessu is another adventure story written by Dick King-Smith. A young elephant who suffers from terrible hay fever kept hearing his mother say, "Bless you," every time he sneezed. He did not hear anyone else being called 'Blessu' and assumed that was his name. Every time he sneezed, his trunk would keep on growing. What will happen to his trunk when he is a fully-grown adult elephant?

We will be using these books to:

1. Write a retell of a familiar story
2. Learn to use the 5W's in a newspaper article
3. Create a new character and story
4. Produce a book review comparing books by the same author

It would be helpful for your child to have read these books during the break so that they are familiar with it. Please find attached at the back of this letter a word mat with key vocabulary we will be using this term.

Some useful links for skills that they will be learning in Year 2 can be found on BBC Bitesize:
Using adjectives:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zrqqtfr/articles/zy2r6yc>

Using full stops and capital letters:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z7s48hv>

Using exclamation marks:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z3dcmsg>

Please continue to practise the Year 2 spelling words with your child.

<https://www.westactonprimaryschool.org/curriculum/year2>

