

Ghost Stadium

By Tom Palmer



A School Resource Pack

I hope my new book *Ghost Stadium* together with this pack will help inspire reading in your school especially with reluctant / dyslexic readers,

Best wishes

Tom Palmer

Contents

- 👻 Poster
- 👻 Author Interview with Tom Palmer
- 👻 Reading Comprehension
- 👻 Writing Competition
- 👻 Word search & answers
- 👻 Printable first chapter (its double-sided so you may need to rotate the second page)



New from the author of
Football Academy and Foul Play

Ghost Stadium By Tom Palmer

Lucas, Irfan and Jack mark the beginning of their summer holidays in style!

With a camping cover story, the boys sneak into the old abandoned football stadium to spend the night. Are the rumours about it being haunted true? They're about to find out. Dare you?



'This book was dead good' Toby

"I really enjoyed Ghost Stadium. I loved how it made me feel sort of like I was there" Cameron

Ghost Stadium by Tom Palmer is available from your local library, bookshop and Amazon, from June 2013

ISBN 978-1781122273

www.tompalmer.co.uk



**The Summer's Reading Challenge
at your local library is
Creepy House!
www.creepy-house.org.uk**

Barrington  Stoke
cracking reading

The ghosts interview author Tom Palmer

What is Ghost Stadium about?

It's about three boys who go camping on the pitch of an abandoned football stadium. They think it is going to be fun. But it turns into a nightmare.

Why did you decide to write about that?

I walked past Swansea's old stadium (Vetch Field), where some of the greatest footballers in history had played. But the stadium was falling apart and overgrown. It made me wonder if the ghosts of old players ever returned to the stadiums they graced.

Did you go into Swansea's old stadium?

No. It was too dangerous. But I did camp overnight the oldest international football stadium in the world - Wrexham's Racecourse Ground. They have been playing games there for over 130 years. I wanted to know how it felt to camp in a football stadium and the staff at Wrexham FC kindly let me.



I often work in stadiums with schools



My tent set for a night in Wrexham's stadium

Was it frightening? What happened?

A bit. I camped by one of the corner flags. Then, when it was dark, I walked across the pitch and through the backs of the stands. It was eerie. I heard noises I couldn't identify.

So, what happens after dark when the boys camp on the pitch?

They start seeing things. Things that are related to the murder of a player a few years before. Then all hell is let loose. Literally.



Do you like reading ghosts stories?

Yes. My favourite is *Dark Matter* by Michelle Paver.

Thanks Tom.

Thank you too!

Ghost Stadium by Tom Palmer

Reading Comprehension

Barrington Stoke ISBN 9781781122273

From Chapter 1



Three Year 9 boys walked out of the gates of their high school. They kept a fast pace, matching each other step for step.

Lucas, Jack and Irfan had something to do.

Something exciting. Something risky. And they wanted to get started as soon as possible.

The rest of the kids were in less of a hurry to leave school than Lucas, Irfan and Jack. In fact, today was the only day in the year that many of them would hang around the car park and the sports field instead of rushing off. They chatted.

They laughed. They signed each other's shirts. It was the last day of the school year.

Summer!

1 What school year are the three boys in?

2 What does "risky" mean when it refers to what the boys are planning to do?

3 Can you name 2 of the 3 boys?

4 What were the pupils doing to mark the last day of term?

5 In which 2 places were the children gathering on the last day of term?

6 What time of year was it?

Class Writing Competition celebrating the publication of *Ghost Stadium* by Tom Palmer

**Win a school visit to
your classroom from
Football Academy author
Tom Palmer!**

In the tradition of folk stories, have **fun** telling together and creating in the classroom a single piece of spooky creative writing.

It could be either a story, cartoon, play script, film script or a poem.

Please incorporate 10 of the words below from our Ghostly Wordsearch in your entry:
Angel / Apparition / Boo / Casper / Eerie / Fear / Fright / Ghost Ship / Ghost Train / Ghoul / Halloween / Hallucination / Haunted / Illusion / Imaginary / Mist / Nightmare / Phantasm / Phantom / Poltergeist / Shadow / Slime / Smoke / Smoky / Spectre / Spirit / Spook / Supernatural

One entry per class teacher allowed. It should be legible/typed and roughly 500 words long. The visit will be on a mutually convenient date. Entries in by 17 July 2013.

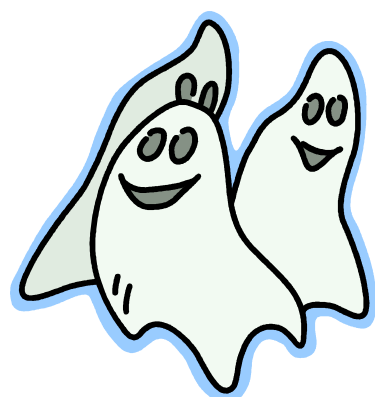
Email your entry with full details of your class, teacher and school to
admin.tompalmer@talktalk.net

Good Luck!

Tom Palmer

"This book was dead good" Toby
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Barrington Stoke
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Ghostly Wordsearch

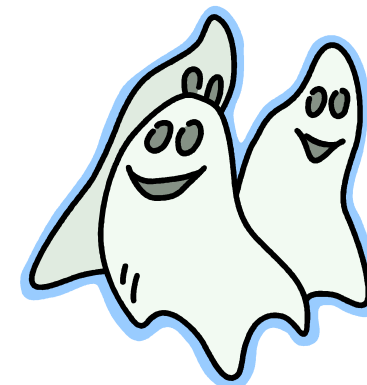


Angel
 Apparition
 Boo
 Casper
 Eerie
 Fear
 Fright
 Ghost ship
 Ghost Train
 Ghoul
 Halloween
 Hallucination
 Haunted
 Illusion
 Imaginary
 Mist
 Nightmare
 Phantasm
 Phantom
 Poltergeist
 Shadow
 Slime
 Smoke
 Smoky
 Spectre
 Spirit
 Spook
 Supernatural
 Unreal



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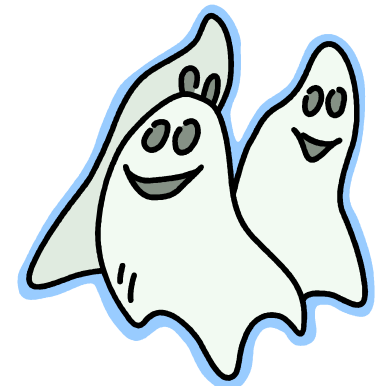
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Ghostly Wordsearch Answers

				A	N	G	E	L											
S			T	E		H	Y	R	A	N	I	G	A	M	I				
M	U	A	H	E		B	O	O						G					
O	P	G	R	S		S	P	O	O	K			H	H					
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N	O	I	T	A	N	I	C	U	L	L	A	H							M



Don't forget this
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“Like it was yesterday,” Irfan said.

But it hadn't been yesterday. In fact, the last time the boys had been inside Northface Stadium was five years ago. On the final match day of the final season Yorkshire County FC ever played.

Before the club was shut down and the stadium closed to players and fans. It had been like this ever since. Falling apart, bit by bit. Overgrown with trees and bushes.

Slowly claimed back by grass and moss.

The three boys turned when they heard the scream of a train passing into the city station a few streets away. The sound of its horn echoed around the old stadium.

“Come on,” Lucas said. “Let's get in there. The longer we hang about here, the more chance someone will spot us going in.”

Read On ...

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They're about to find out. Dare you?

The End

Three Year 9 boys walked out of the gates of their high school. They kept a fast pace, matching each other step for step.

Lucas, Jack and Irfan had something to do.

Something exciting.

Something risky.

And they wanted to get started as soon as possible.

School's Out

The rest of the kids were in less of a hurry to leave school than Lucas, Irfan and Jack. In fact, today was the only day in the year that many of them would hang around the car park and the sports field instead of rushing off. They chatted.

They laughed.

They signed each other's shirts.

It was the last day of the school year.

Summer!

Jack looked up at Lucas as they passed the crowds at the gate. "Is your mum going to be in?" he asked.

"No," Lucas said. "I told you. She flew out to Tenerife with her boyfriend before I left for school this morning."

Irfan smiled and ran his hand through his short dark hair. "So nobody will know we're not at your house tonight?" he asked.

"Nobody," Lucas said.

"And did you find your dad's old camping gear?" Irfan asked.

Lucas nodded. "I did."

"So we're on?" Jack asked.

"We're on." Lucas smiled. "We take the tent and three sleeping bags. We pick up some food from the supermarket. Then we go in."

Irfan shook his head. "I can't believe we're actually going to do this," he said.

8-foot Fence

Later that night, the three boys stood in the shadow of an old football stadium. They put down their camping gear and shopping bags on the ground.

From here, they could see a huge wall of corrugated iron, massive columns of crumbling concrete and heaps of scattered rubble. It was all surrounded by an 8-foot-high fence.

Lucas's voice was low and quiet when he spoke. "Do you remember coming here to watch the football?" he asked.

Jack nodded.