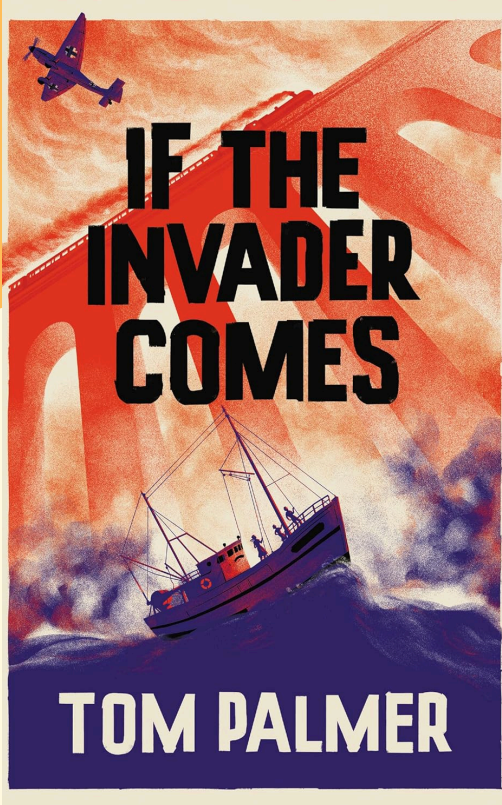


Tor Bridge High Summer Book Club

Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____



We are delighted that you can join us in reading Tom Palmer's *If The Invader Comes*, a gripping wartime tale set in Cornwall. When danger suddenly feels real, the trio are forced into an unlikely allyship, discovering courage, quick thinking, and the strength that comes from working together.

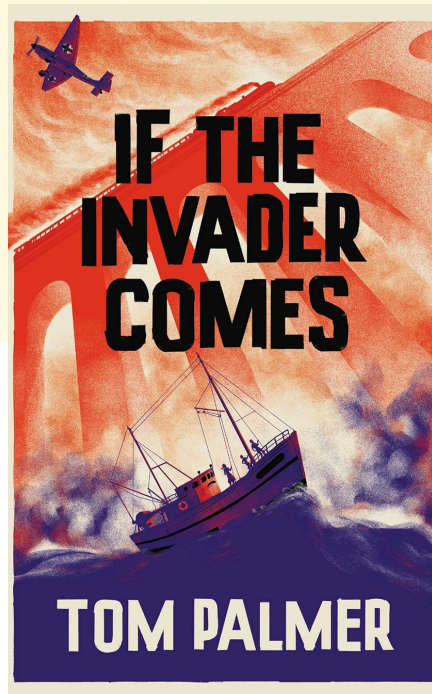
This is your activity pack to use alongside reading the book. It has questions and ideas for activities you can try. Do as many as you can, or make up your own. This pack is designed to be used over six weeks, but you can use it at whatever speed works for you.

How it works?

1. Read some of the book each week (the questions and activities are divided into the book chapters).
2. Complete some of the suggested activities.
3. Come back to school ready to share what you thought about the book and the activities you did.
4. As a school we will be welcoming Tom Palmer in September so be ready to ask him lots of questions!
5. Have fun!

Cover Prediction

02



Who do you think is flying the plane? (be as descriptive as you can).....

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Can you spot the passenger steam train crossing a viaduct? Where do you think the train is going to?

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.....
.....

How would you feel if you were any of the characters on the cover? Why do you think this?

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.....

Who do you think would enjoy reading this book? Why do you think this?

.....

What are your predictions about how this story develops? 03

My predictions about the story:

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.....
.....

What makes me think this?

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.....

Now write a short paragraph about how you think the story might end.....

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June 1940, with the spectre of a Nazi invasion looming over Britain, three children are forced into an unlikely allyship. In these dark days, the parents of Bobble, Cadan and Cilla are involved in vital but top-secret war work, and they need their children’s help to keep their activities hidden.

What is an Allyship?

What does “allyship” mean to you, and why might someone starting a new school need an ally?

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Think about how you are feeling about starting at Tor Bridge High. What emotions are you feeling, and how could an ally help?

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What qualities make someone a good ally, and how could you show these qualities to the other new students joining our school?

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Medals of Bravery

05

We learn that Lord Trescatho wanted to put Bobble's father forward for the Victoria Cross, the highest military decoration for individuals who showed extraordinary courage whilst facing the enemy.



Design a “Medal of Bravery” for a character in the story: what symbols, colours, and words would you include to show their courage, and why would these design choices represent bravery?



Tasting New Adventures

Bobble made baked saffron buns – a special Cornish treat – for her dad. What food dishes are family favourites in your home?

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In Food Technology, you'll get the chance to make all kinds of yummy dishes. What are you most excited to cook when you start?

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What subject are you most looking forward to studying when you join Tor Bridge High? Why?

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.....

Careers

07

All three children in the book want to follow similar career paths to their parents.

What three careers do the children want to do? circle the correct answer for each.

CILLA: NURSE / DRIVER / FIGHTER PILOT / TEACHER

CADEN: FISHERMAN / CHEF / SOLDIER / POSTMAN

BOBBLE: TEACHER / GARDENER / ARTIST / CHEF

What job or career do you think you might like to do when you're older?

How do you think starting secondary school might help you discover new interests or skills that could link to a future career?



Bobble spotted choughs in her garden – a rare Cornish bird. What wildlife have you seen in your garden or local area, and which creature stood out to you the most?

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.....

Tom uses the collective noun ‘*A Murder of Crows*’ on page 182. Can you match up the other collective nouns for these birds and animals?

ants / owls / dolphins / bees / giraffes / fish

- A parliament of
- A school of
- A pod of
- A swarm of
- A tower of
- An army

The Air Force Cadets

Cilla wants to join the Air Force Cadets, where young people trained to help with important jobs like supporting airfields and learning skills for flying.

Do you think you would have signed up as well, and how do you imagine you'd have felt about it?

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In World War II, only boys were allowed to join the Air Force Cadets. How do you think this rule would have made girls like Cilla feel, and do you think it was fair?

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.....

**DID YOU KNOW THAT TOR BRIDGE HIGH HAS IT'S OWN
ARMY CADETS FORCE?**

Bonjour!

When Caden and his friends rescued the French boat, he was able to speak to the people on board in French. Have you ever used another language to help someone, or can you think of a time when knowing another language might be useful in real life?

.....

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.....

When you start at Tor Bridge High you will be learning either French or Spanish? Can you match these French words with their English meanings?

- bonjour
- maison
- merci
- école
- bateau

- boat
- hello
- house
- school
- thank you

Secret Messages

10

The three children's parents are undertaking secret work for the war effort.

Much of secretive work involved codes.

Use the code below to work out the message which was mentioned in the book.

Look at each letter in the secret message.

Move back 3 letters in the alphabet.

Example: $f \rightarrow c$, $d \rightarrow a$, $u \rightarrow r$

Write down the new letters to reveal the hidden message.

SECRET MESSAGE:

FDUHOHVW W DON FRVWV OLYHV

DECODED MESSAGE:

CARELESS TALK COSTS LIVES

ANSWER:

Write your own review of the book

You could include:

- a short summary of the story
- is it exciting/scary/funny etc?
- why you enjoyed it/didn't enjoy it?
- your favourite part or character?



Three words to sum up this book:

Meeting the Author

12

Tom Palmer will be coming to Tor Bridge High on 23rd September to meet you!

What questions would you like to ask him?

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.....
.....

Could you help Tom write his next book?

What do you think Tom should write about next?

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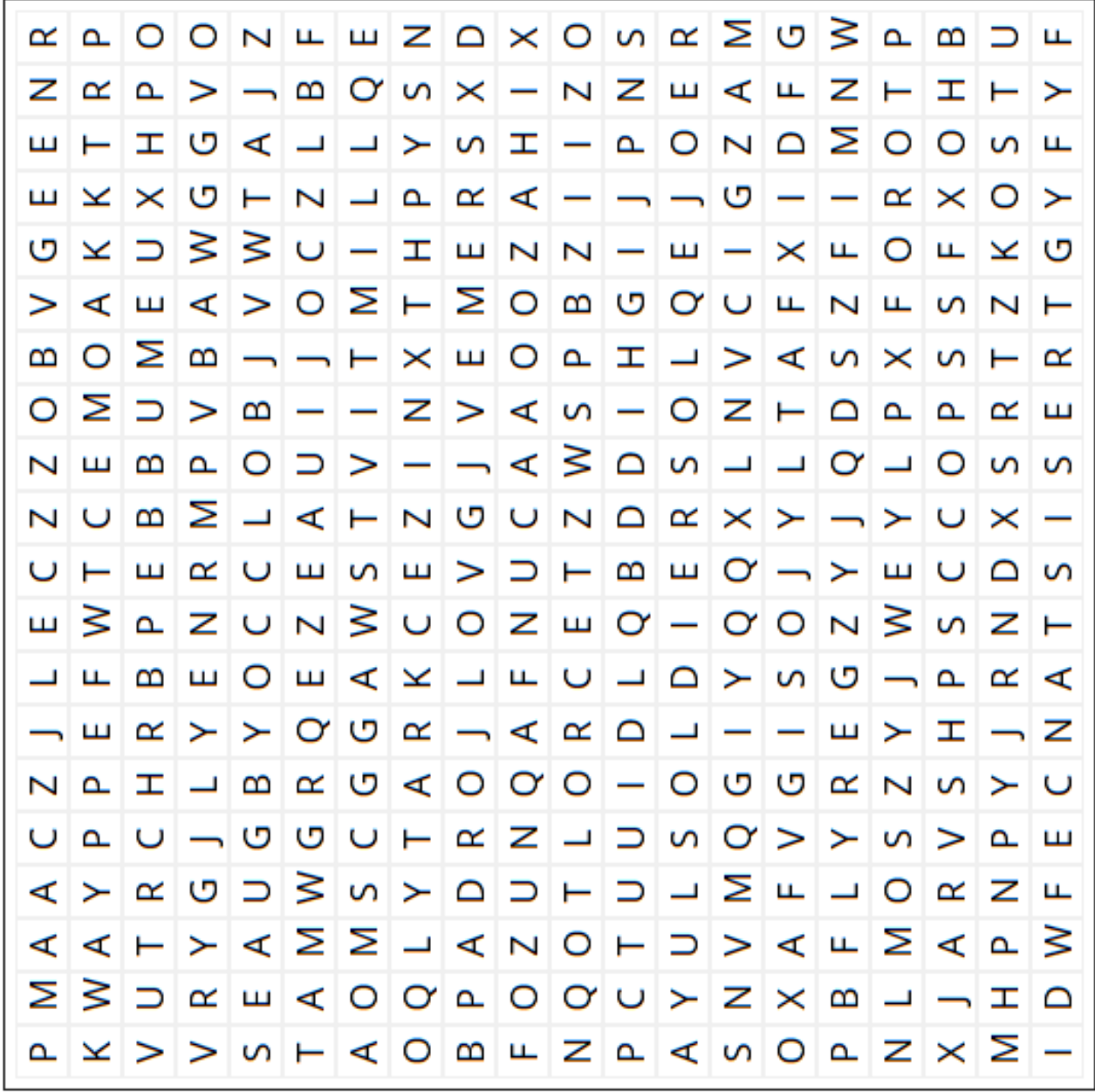
Thinking about Plymouth - is there any part of our history (recent or much later) that Tom could make into a book? e.g. Sir Francis Drake, the recent uncovering of the WWII bomb in Southway etc.

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See if you can find all the words

Wordsearch

15



- **INVASION**
- **BOMB**
- **RESISTANCE**
- **SOLDIERS**
- **RADIO**
- **PLANE**
- **BOAT**
- **SECRET**
- **COURAGE**
- **ALLYSHIP**



If you enjoyed *If The Invader Comes*, you may enjoy these other adventure stories. Remember, the public library at Estover is open all summer for everyone:
Tuesday and Friday 11am - 5pm

