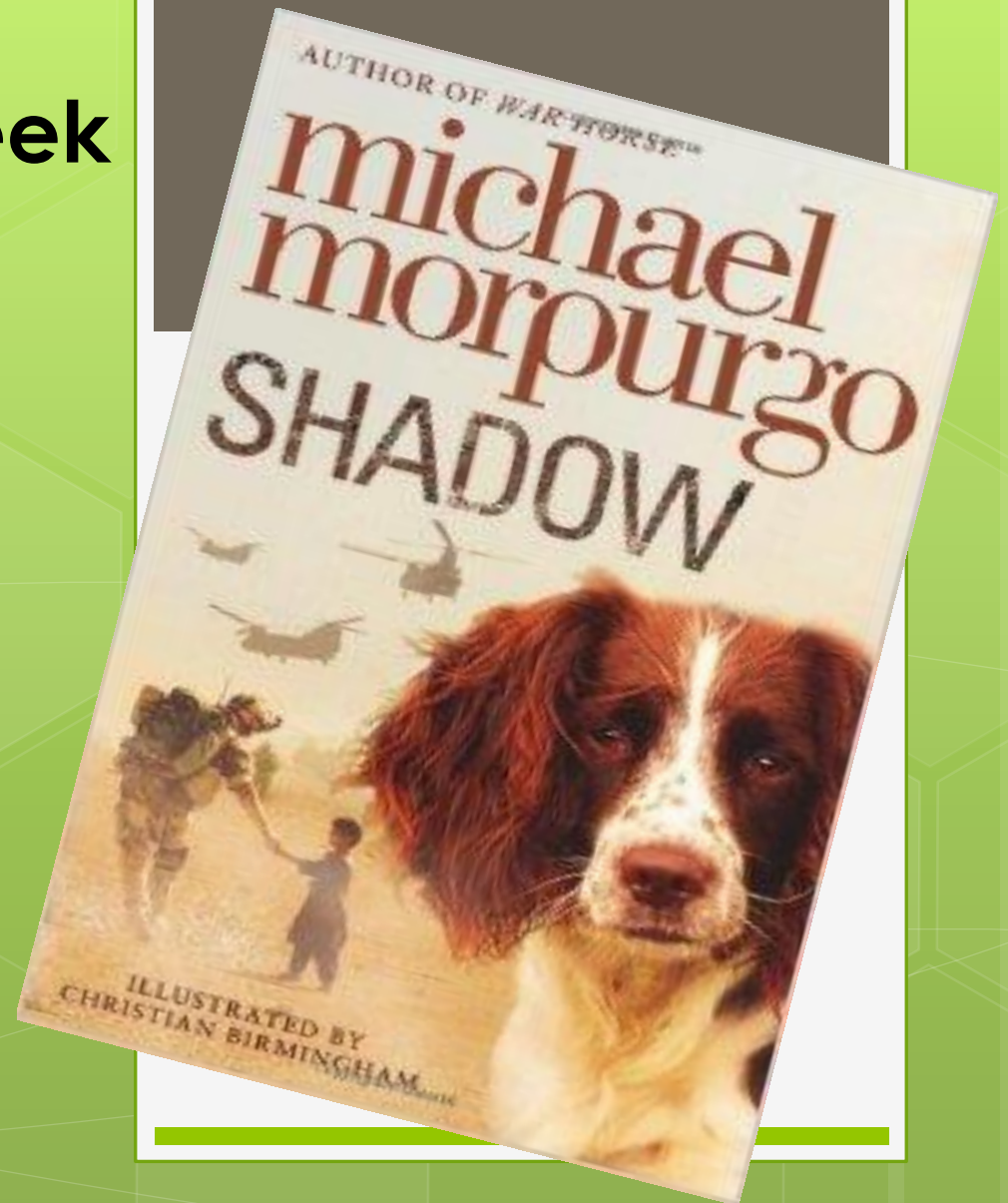


Deep Thinking Week

Current Affairs: Refugees



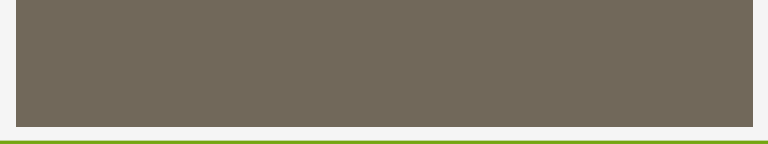
Ali's Story





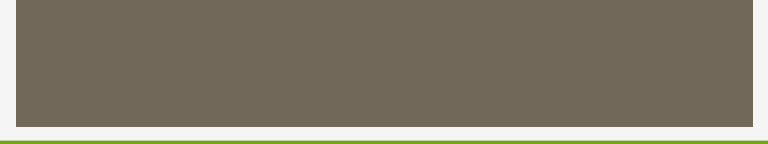
Our fabulous tutor group, 7RKS, are reading 'Shadow' by Michael Morpurgo. We love reading in our groups, discussing each chapter as we go.

Most of us have never read the book before and are captivated by the story. It is about an Afghan boy, Aman, who came to England with his mum to escape the dangers of life in Afghanistan. He was a refugee, like Ali.



Refugees are people who are forced to leave their home country because it has become too dangerous to live there.

This week it is 'Deep Thinking and Current Affairs Week'. This is when we can think deeply about what is happening in the world.

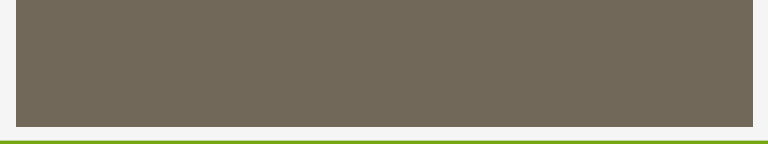


'Shadow' focuses on the issue of refugees, a crisis that is affecting Europe and saddening many who, through the media, see what is happening to them.

Do not worry, for those of you who have not read 'Shadow' in your tutor group yet, we will not give the story away!



At school...



Many letters were written. To the Prime Minister, the Queen, anyone important the school could think of. However, replies were never received.

Aman only wrote back to Matt once, calling where he was staying a 'prison'. His 'prison' was, in fact, Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre.

Yarl's Wood





Yarl's Wood is a centre that can accommodate 405 people and is the main centre for women and families who are waiting to be removed from the UK.

Since Yarl's Wood opened in 2001, a number of protests and hunger strikes have been staged by the detainees at the centre.



This is because they say conditions are poor. They also say they are separated from their children.

A report found that some children were being held unnecessarily, and concerns over their welfare were raised.



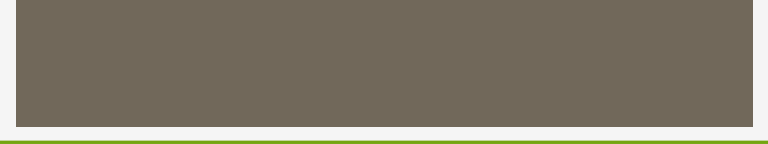
In July 2010 the British Government promised to end the detention of children in Yarl's Wood.

However, even in this year, 2015, five children, one as young as 12, have been found there in conditions which can be described as 'distressing and harmful'.

Grandpa's House

Yarl's Wood





As a child, Aman has rights. By being held at Yarl's Wood, 7RKS thinks he has been deprived of many of his rights.





How do you feel about refugees?

What do you think can be done to help people fleeing countries torn apart by war?

Thank you for listening to our Assembly. We hope it has helped you to think a little more about what it means to be a refugee.