Learning Objective:
To be able to write a diary entry in character.
What have we learnt about diary entries in the last few lessons?

If we were writing a diary entry as Plop, what features would the diary entry need to have?
Today you are going to be using what you have learnt to write your own diary entries as though you were Plop. You can do this for any of the remaining chapters in the book that we haven’t seen diary entries for yet.

Dark is necessary
Dark is fascinating
Dark is beautiful
Dark is wonderful

What can you remember about these four chapters?
Opening paragraph:

- What was the main event of your day?
  - Met girl with ponytail
  - Said dark is necessary
- How do you feel about it?
  - Liked the girl (and Father Christmas)
  - Still don't like the dark

Body paragraph 1:

- How did your day start?
  - 7 or 8 dinners
  - Mummy and Daddy hunting for me
- How did you feel?
  - Liked slippery fish
  - Wish there was more food

Body paragraph 2:

- What happened next?
  - Went to find out about dark
  - Met ponytail girl - thought I was woolly ball
- How did you feel?
  - Confused about ponytails
  - Cross - not woolly ball

Body paragraph 3:

- What happened after that?
  - Girl said dark is necessary for Father Christmas.
  - Gave me stocking
- How did you feel?
  - Excited for Christmas
  - Happy for a new friend

Closing paragraph:

End your diary with a thought, a question, a feeling or a reason you have to stop writing:

- Liked meeting girl but dark is still scary.
- Will I like the dark by Christmas Eve?

Here is a plan for a diary entry for chapter 4, ‘Dark is necessary’. If you were going to write this diary entry, what would your first sentence be?

Remember:

- Can you use an interesting sentence starter?
- Can you include interesting adjectives and adverbs?
- Can you make it fun and informal?
- Can you make it sound like Plop?
Do you have a great first sentence? Share it with a partner and help each other decide on two stars and a wish!

What I think is great is...

Another thing I really like is...

One thing I think you could improve is...
Are you ready to go and write a diary entry for Plop on your own? Don’t forget all the features we looked at in the last lessons to make your writing brilliant!

1. Write in the first person
2. Make it informal and friendly, like Plop!
3. Choose interesting vocabulary
4. Add adverbs to modify adjectives, verbs or other adverbs
5. Use conjunctions to add two sentences together, or to add information
6. Include details about how Plop felt
7. Use different sentence starters
8. Use exclamations
Well done! You’ve written a diary entry for Plop! Now we’re going to evaluate and edit each other’s work. Can you find a partner?
What do you like best about your partner’s diary entry?

What words and phrases have they used that sound a lot like Plop?

Have they written in the first person?

What is your favourite sentence in your partner’s diary entry and why?

Which words could you change to make them even better?

Can you pick one sentence you could write a better sentence starter for?