

Year 5 students were given a picture of an open window as the stimulus for their writing. The following is Jake William's wonderful piece.

THE RESIDENT

On the third floor window of the small and weathered sandy beach house one of the cracked windows was left open. The walls were stained with marks of lives long forgotten. In the cold, damp mornings birds from out to sea regroup to cool their tired, hot wings. Their bristled feathers show different scratches and bumps from tougher lands than these. One of the birds was a novice flyer and came back heavily injured. He looked across the beach and saw the sandy beach house. He was drawn to it like a welcoming mother willing to help. As a bird, the front door typically discouraged him, so he went for the only opening left. To get there would take bountiful effort and determination.

The sharp cracking sound was unfamiliar but he had infiltrated the house, the whistling of the open window and the calls of brethren leaving him behind. Inside the house there was no living creature beside the bird and a small desert rat creeping in the shadows. "Who is there?" the bird yells with terror. The only reply was, "No fear at all, no fear." This sinister saying was scaring the bird and then he made a fleeting attempt to escape. The fear propelled him, his fight or flight senses kicked in and he catapulted out the window.

Now there is only one resident in the sandy beach house. Forever the desert rat will keep it that way.

Jake Williams, 5OV