English – Summer Week 10

Answer the questions in your books. Use full sentences where you can, but it’s OK if you write lists for some answers or even talk through some instead of writing them down.

Day One

* Christophe’s story is about a boy from Rwanada in Africa
* Write a sentence or two about what you already know about Africa. What continent is it on? Do you know where Rwanda is?
* What do you think Rwanda is like?
* Although it’s about a boy from Rwanda, it is set in England because he moved there. Why do people move? Have you ever moved?
* The first chapter is called ‘The First Day of School’. Can you remember your first day at school? How did you feel?
* Read to the end of page 12. What does the author mean by ‘He stared at the black squiggly patterns of ink on the white page’? Why did Christophe feel sick?
* Read to the end of page 19. How did Christophe feel when somebody said he was using a baby book?
* Finish Chapter 1. Do you know why Christophe speaks French?

Day Two

* Read Chapter 2 to the end of p25.
* Does the fight solve anything? What could have been done instead?
* Read to halfway down p27. Why were the other children smiling at Christophe? Does it make it right?
* Before you read on, when Christophe’s papa talks about being Hutu or Tutsi, he’s talking about different tribes in Africa. The Hutu were mostly farming people and were dominated by the Tutsi. Eventually, their disagreements led to violence and they were at war with one another.
* Why didn’t Christophe want the other children to see his scar? Why didn’t they believe him at first? Was Christophe right to tell them how he got the scar?
* What do you think Jeremy is like? Use evidence from the text to explain your answers. What is your view of Jeremy? Why do you think he behaves the way he does? What do you think Jeremy thinks of Christophe? Why? What is point of view (POV)? Can it change with different people?

Day Three

* Read the first paragraph of Chapter 3. How do you think Christophe feels now?
* Read to the end of p47. Why was Christophe angry that Miss Finch had written his story?
* Read to the end of Chapter 3. Why does Christophe think stories shouldn’t be written down? Should stories be written down? What would happen if we didn’t write stories down?
* Miss Finch and Christophe don’t understand each other at first because they are from different cultures and have different views about story telling. Sometimes it’s hard to understand exactly what people mean when they are not from the same culture.
* Have you ever felt that someone misunderstood you? How did you feel? How do we speak differently to different people? How do you greet your friends? How do you greet your teacher? Is it different?
* Write down how you think both Christophe and Miss Finch are feeling?

Day Four

* True or false? 1. Christophe comes from Rwanda 2. Babi moved to England with Christophe’s family 3. Christophe speaks French with his family 4. Christophe wanted his story to be written down 5. Christophe’s family moved to England because of the war in Rwanda.
* Read Chapter 4 to halfway down p55. Kubohoza means to help set you free (see p78). Continue reading to the end of p67. What do you think this means? Is Babi really there?
* Read to the end of the chapter. How is Christophe feeling now? How does he feel about telling his story to the class? How does this part of the story make you feel? How does the author make you feel this? What effect do all the short sentences have?
* Think of a time in your own life when something happened really quickly e.g. an accident in the park. How did you feel?

Day Five

* Predict what will happen in the final chapter. Use evidence from the text to support your ideas. Before you read, Miss Finch explains that Christophe is an asylum-seeker. This is someone who has left their own country where it might be dangerous to live in another country that is safer.
* Read Chapter 5 ‘The Story is Told Again’ Do you think Christophe’s family had a choice in moving to England? What did you think about the story? Which characters did you like? How did they change throughout the story? Do you think Christophe enjoys living in England now? How would you feel if you were in his position? What would you ask Christophe, Mama and Papa if you met them?
* Explore Christophe’s feelings by mapping his ‘character journey’. Use the words on sheet 3.6 to best describe how he feels at each point. How do his feelings change?