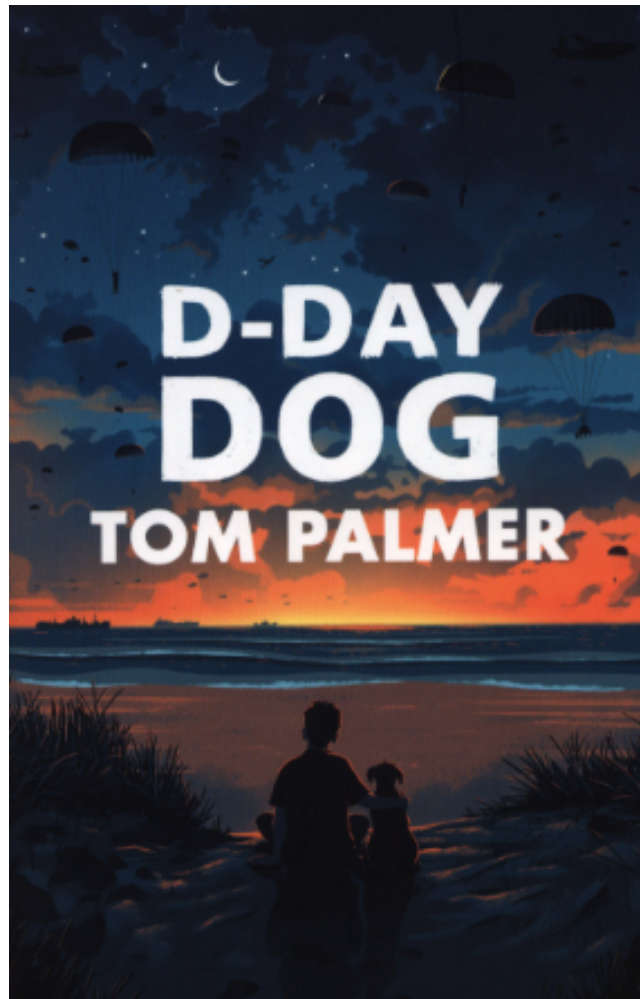


D-Day Dog by Tom Palmer



This week, we have learnt about D-Day and discussed some of the 80th Anniversary events and activities taking place in the UK and in France. This book choice was, therefore, incredibly topical - although I think you would enjoy reading or listening to this engaging story at any time. This book will appeal to animal lovers, anyone interested in the Second World War and anyone who has questions about whether war is necessary or why anyone would willingly fight for their country despite all of the risks involved. The author, Tom Palmer, accompanied a Year 6 class on a school trip to Normandy to research this story and I do think Year 5 and Year 6 pupils would be particularly interested in this book. The main character - Jack - was given a puppy by his parents and all the responsibility of training him. He develops a really close relationship with his dog who's called Finn. When Jack learns about a real-life D-Day paratrooper who parachuted into France along with his dog, he just can't understand why anyone would put their beloved pet in danger like that. When he visits the D-Day beaches and cemetery in Normandy with his class, Jack discovers why many soldiers fought even though they knew they might not survive: *They gave their tomorrow so we could have our today.* Jack also finds out what happened to Emile (the paratrooper) and his faithful dog, Glen.

Mrs Pierce Collinao