



Marvellous Magpies - July 2023

Swan Upping

Did you know that every year, the swans on the River Thames are caught, weighed and counted? This is something which goes back to a time when all the swans belonged to the monarch. Now it is done to monitor their health and the health of the river they live in. Why not go to the park and do some bird spotting yourself? Although you should not try to pick them up or touch them, you could create a drawing of each kind of bird you see, or even create a tally chart and turn it into a graph. This is how ecologists, zoologists and other scientists and geographers, keep track of our changing world.

History Maker

On 18th July 1918, Nelson Mandela was born. He grew up in South Africa, where many black and mixed race people had to live separately to the white people. Nelson knew this was very unfair and dedicated his life to fighting for equality. What injustice do you see in the world today? What do you think you could do to make a difference?

Beatrix Potter

Did you know that on July 28th, it will be the Beatrix Potter's 180th birthday? Her funny stories and beautiful water colours have been thrilling children since 1900. That is 123 years of Peter Rabbit and his friends. Perhaps you could check out some of her stories, or even write your nature inspired tales.

Sporting Event

At the end of July, the World triathlon Series takes place in Sunderland. Triathlon is an event where people swim, cycle and run. What are your favourite forms of exercise? How could these be combined into one big event? Why not design an event, and hold a competition with your family or friends? You could even make a trophy, or medal for the champion!