English Task 18.5.20

Michael Rosen is a very famous children’s author and poet. He wrote the brilliant ‘We’re Going on a Bear Hunt’ in 1989. At Kirkby CE the teachers often use his poems to inspire children to write their own. Sadly in March this year he was diagnosed with COVID-19 and spent time in intensive care. Thankfully he is recovering but it is a long and difficult road.

He wrote this famous poem on the 60th anniversary of the NHS to highlight the great work that it does.

These are the hands

These are the hands
That touch us first
Feel your head
Find the pulse
And make your bed.

These are the hands
That tap your back
Test the skin
Hold your arm
Wheel the bin
Change the bulb
Fix the drip
Pour the jug
Replace your hip.

These are the hands
That fill the bath
Mop the floor
Flick the switch
Soothe the sore
Burn the swabs
Give us a jab
Throw out sharps
Design the lab.

And these are the hands
That stop the leaks
Empty the pan
Wipe the pipes
Carry the can
Clamp the veins
Make the cast
Log the dose
And touch us last.

Can you write a poem in a similar style to Michael’s ‘These are the hands’ highlighting what your hands get up to?

Write it on your own or as a family.

Do they build lego, wave goodbye, tie shoe laces or even pick your nose?

Read it aloud as a performance poem and keep improving it all the time.