

Owls' Book Blog 18.2.22

Written by Emelie, Lilly, Eva and Jamie

For the past two weeks, Year 5 and Year 6 have been reading, and thoroughly enjoying, a fascinating tale about a thieving boy (who is also an orphan and clock keeper) named Hugo Cabret.



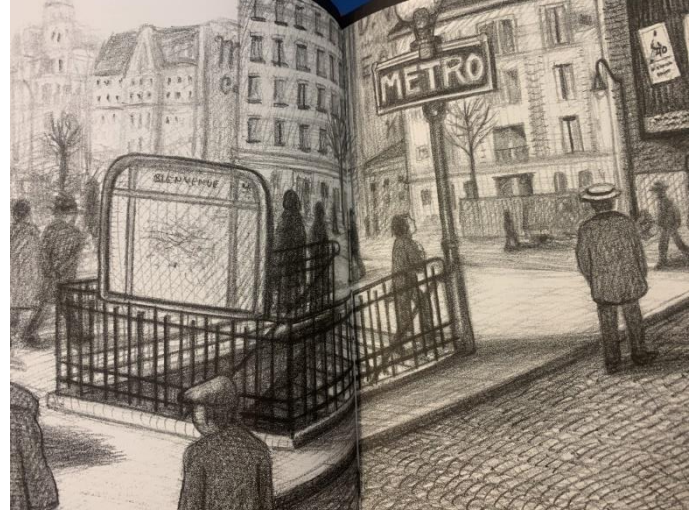
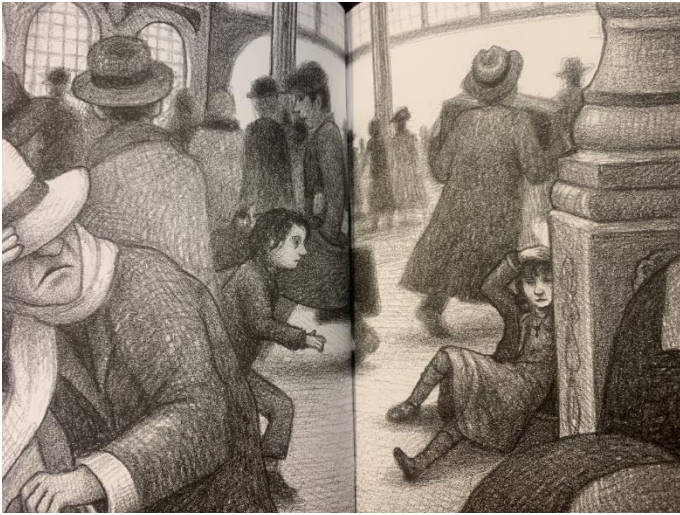
He is trying to fix an amazing machine (originally started by his late father) called The Automaton. One day, he is caught stealing from a toy booth in a Parisian train station resulting in his important notebook containing all the diagrams on The Automaton being taken from him. The old toy booth owner snatched the notebook which made Hugo uncontrollably angry.

Hugo had been living in the train station walls ever since his father died. He had to go to extreme measures to get his notebook back only to find a handkerchief full of ashes. Had his notebook been burnt to dust? Could he finish the mechanical project without the notebook?

Throughout the book, Hugo's survival depends on secrets and anonymity. However, his undercover life and precious secrets are put in jeopardy halfway through the book. He eventually finds a hidden message from his dead father, which forms the backbone of this intricate and spell-binding mystery.

This book includes 248 pages of original drawings. We developed our inference skills, inferring what was happening through these powerful drawings. Here are a few examples:





Unfortunately, we didn't have chance to finish reading the whole book but luckily, there's a film of Hugo Cabert on Amazon Prime. This morning, we watched the film, finding out how it ended. We also compared the book and the film and wrote reviews.

We would recommend KS2 children reading this book and watching the film. Brian Selznick is a fantastic illustrator of many picture books and novels and all children should explore his work. This one certainly evokes wonder... like a silent film on paper.

