

The Revival of Crumbledown School

Truth to tell in years gone by,
Crumbledown School, no word of a lie,
Was an awful place,
Full of woe,
Where no sane child would want to go.
Morale was low, detentions high,
Hard to say exactly why...
Years had passed
With no respite,
It kept the head awake at night.

Mr Watkin did whatever he could,
But nothing he tried seemed to do much good.
Pupils walked with shoulders down,
Teachers dull,
Their clothes all brown
Until one day a girl arrived -
9 years old and
In Year 5 -
Her name was Sue and she had a dream,
Of starting up a football team.

The PE teacher was sadly lacking,
Shrugged his shoulders and
Sent her packing
"It's a daft idea by any token,
And anyway, my whistle's broken."
Undeterred, Sue went away,
And made a plan that very day,
A buzz began
Around the school,
A football team might be quite cool!
A squad was formed that self-same week,
So Mr Watkin took a peek,
To call them 'chaotic'
Would be understating,
Even 'a shambles' would be overrating.
They lost every game, not just by a few

(I believe the last score was 30 to 2)
That being said,
They never gave up;
Sue was determined to lift the league cup.

Then an odd thought occurred, worth supposition,
That important as training
Might be their nutrition...
Carbohydrates and protein – they were the key!
She would plan their whole diet, as strict as could be.
So she banned crisps and pop, "Be gone chocs and sweets",
And made special veg smoothies
With cabbage and beets,
And a secret ingredient which nobody knew
And Sue won't divulge, not even to you!

The sensational smoothies made the team more resilient,
And not only that -
They were actually brilliant!
They won every game, getting better each day
And nothing it seemed would stand in their way.
The children were thrilled by their new reputation
And Sue's special smoothies
Were quite the sensation!
The school was transformed from where boredom was rife
To a place full of energy, vigour and life!

This tale has a moral, you must understand
That health and nutrition
Work best hand in hand.
So please don't ignore what good it can do
To eat 5 a day and get exercise too.
Cut your sugar right down, be the best you can be,
You'll feel so much better, just try it, and see!
And as for Sue's smoothies,
The word got about
Now it's rumoured that England are trying them out!

Questions about the poem



1. What is the name of the head teacher?

.....

2. Line four uses the word 'woe'. Think of a synonym for this word

.....

3. How old is Sue?

.....

4. What adjectives are used to describe the football team? Can you think of two others that could have been used?

.....

5. What is your favourite part of the poem and why?

.....

6. Crumbledown School was much improved by having a football team. What do you think would make your school a better place to be?

.....

7. Write a short poem about your school and what you like about it. It doesn't have to rhyme. It could even be an acrostic poem using your school's name, e.g.

S

T

M

A

R

K

S