

## PIERS TORDAY

Saturday 7th January 2017

Year 5  
Wisborough Green Primary School  
Newpound Lane  
Wisborough Green  
Billingshurst  
W. Sussex RH14 0EE

Dear Year 5

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas holidays.

Thank you so much for your lovely letters and incredible Stag artwork. I absolutely loved my visit last month, and was completely inspired by the inventiveness and diversity of your classroom work. Congratulations.

Because the Stag pictures were so beautiful, I have posted them on my Facebook page [www.facebook.com/pierstorday](http://www.facebook.com/pierstorday) (Photo albums - Poems and Pictures) and the gallery on my website. (<http://www.pierstorday.co.uk/art-gallery>)

All the writing and art you made and sent me is an inspiration, and any writer couldn't ask for a better response. I am so glad you enjoy the books so much.

Thank you for all your fascinating questions. Unfortunately I can't answer them all, but here are a few.

**Like Roald Dahl, did you take any characters out?**

Yes, in the original version of *The Last Wild*, there was a giant robotic fox with pink eyes who belonged to Captain Skuldiss, called Destry, but there were too many animals so I took him out.

**Which part of *The Last Wild* took the longest?**

It took me ages to get the section at Old Burn Farm with Ma and the Kombylarbester right, at least 17 re-writes.

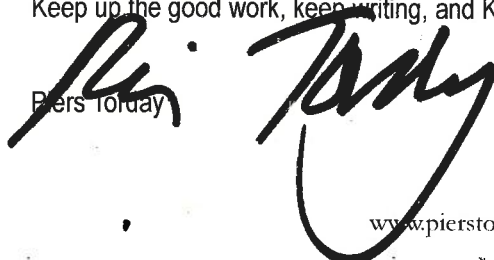
**Why did you choose the name Kester?**

I had a friend at school called Kester and the name stuck in my mind as unusual.

**Have you ever seen a stag?**

Yes. They are astonishing beautiful.

Keep up the good work, keep writing, and KEEP READING!

  
Piers Torday