


CONTENTS

February 2020 | Vol.104 No.1

- 2 MUDKIN: A TALE OF TAILS
comic serial by Stephen Axelsen
- 4 MEET THE COUNTDOWN CREW
- 6 WEBWEAVER ON THE ROCKS
part one of a story by Geoffrey McSkimming
- 12 DON'T PICK ME!
poem by Cindy Breedlove
- 13 IT'S NOT MY FAULT
story by Bill Nagelkerke
- 16 SAND
poem by Vanessa Proctor
- 18 CAPTAIN AHAB'S WEIRD
WIDE WORLD: IS THERE
ANYBODY OUT THERE?
article by Sue Murray
- 19 HEADING HOME
play by Bill Condon
- 22 ONCE UPON A TIME
story by Sara Matson
- 26 HOW TO DRAW ELEPHANTS
activity by Andrew Joyner
- 28 AN ELEPHANT, I HEARD SOMEONE SAY 
poem by Beverly McLoughland
- 29 BIRDS THAT CANNOT FLY
article by Pamela Thomas
- 29 THE OSTRICH
poem by Ogden Nash
- 30 THE EMU
poem by DH Souter
- 31 THE CASSOWARY
poem by Jonathan Shaw
- 32 THE KIWI
poem by Anne Bowman
- 33 THE PENGUIN
poem by Geoffrey McSkimming
- 34 CROSSWORD 1
- 36 SECRET SANTA: NEW YEAR'S THIEVES
comic serial by Tony Colley



Word of the month
grizzle

Come aboard! I am thrilled to welcome you to the first issue of *Countdown!* The rest of the *Countdown* crew (Shasta the brolga and Bob the otter) and I will be travelling the world, looking for wonderful treasures to fill your 2020 magazines. Turn the page to find out more about us, and then read on for thrills and delights. *—Captain Ahab*

COUNTDOWN

EDITORIAL

Alan Edwards (Editor)
Cheryl Bullow
Claire Catacouzinos
Karen Jameyson
Geoffrey McSkimming

ART DIRECTION & LAYOUT

Josemalene Ruaya

ORDERS

Bernice Cusack
Sasikasame Gash

GENERAL EMAIL

school.magazine@det.nsw.edu.au

PHONE

1300 749 369

ADDRESS

The School Magazine
Locked Bag 53
Darlinghurst NSW 1300

WEBSITE & LEARNING RESOURCES

theschoolmagazine.com.au



Education



Check out the
YouTube clips of
some of our texts:

tiny.cc/schoolmagyoutube



FRONT COVER It's Not My Fault
illustrated by David Legge