**Discussion ideas for …**

**The Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo**

* The story starts by telling us about life at boarding school. How does this differ from your school experiences?
* Bertie is desperate to go out of the gate to explore but is forbidden to do so by his parents. How do you think this felt for Bertie? Why did his parents not allow it?
* After the white lion cub’s mother is shot, he comes to live with Bertie. Discuss what you think it would be like to live with a lion cub.
* The white lion goes to a circus in France. Bertie accepts this after he sets the lion free, for him to return to the family in a poor state. Talk about the differences of living in the wild compared to living in a circus.
* Discuss Bertie’s war experiences and his bravery.
* Talk about Bertie and Millie meeting the white lion again and how you think this felt for Bertie.
* What did you think about the way the story came together at the end?