

Talking with Granny

forget about Granny. He had to get in touch with her somehow. He was brushing his teeth, when he had another idea.

'Mum!' he called down the stairs. 'I know how we can ask Granny to my party. We can send her a text on her mobile phone! Even if she isn't at home, she'll get that, won't she?'

Mum came up the stairs, smiling. 'Yes, she'll get it. But I'm not sure that Granny will know what it is or how to read the message. She hasn't had a mobile for very long.'

But everyone knows how to use a mobile,' wailed Robert. 'Don't they?'

'Not really,' laughed Mum. 'There weren't any mobile phones when Granny was growing up, so she's having to learn how to use one now. But we'll try to send her a message anyway.'

So Mum texted Robert's message to Granny. 'PLEASE come to my party at 4 pm.' She put PLEASE in capital

letters, so that Granny would know just how much Robert wanted her to come. Then Robert pressed the button to send the message on its way.

All the way to nursery he kept asking, 'Has Granny sent a message back yet?'

Mum shook her head. 'You would have heard the phone beep to tell me,' she said.

That afternoon, Jamie's mum collected Robert and Jamie from nursery, so that Robert's mum could stay at home to get the birthday tea ready. When they got back, Robert raced straight into the kitchen.

'Has Granny sent a text?' he asked.

'No, Robert. I'm sorry,' Mum told him. 'Has she phoned today?' Mum shook her head.

'Oh, I should have sent an invitation last week, with the others,' groaned Robert. 'I just wish I could speak to Granny!'

'And what would you say to her?' asked a voice. It was Granny! She stuck her head round the kitchen door.

'Granny!' yelled Robert. 'I tried to phone you yesterday.'

'I was out shopping,' laughed Granny. 'I was buying this.' She held out a big box tied with a gold bow.

'And I tried to phone you this morning,' Robert told her as he took the present. 'Thank you, Granny.'

'I was already on my way,' explained Granny. 'You didn't think I would forget your birthday, did you?'

'No, but I wanted to be sure that you came to my party. I even sent you a text.'

'Yes, well,' laughed Granny. 'I heard my mobile beeping at me, but I wasn't quite sure what to do about it. I think I might need some lessons!'

'Guess what, Granny,' said Robert. 'It would have been nice to send you an invitation or leave you a message on an answerphone, and I wish you had got my text. But best of all...'

'What?' asked Granny.

'Now you're here,' smiled Robert, 'I can tell you myself how much I want you at my party.'

Granny gave him a big hug.

'And I can tell you how much I want to be here,' she said.

