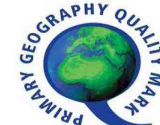


★ Grow Your Own! ★



This week, Reception pupils have begun to harvest the crops from their vegetable plot. The children especially liked eating the home grown lettuce and enjoyed adding it to their sandwiches and burgers. Well done to our keen gardeners and Mrs Harrad who has overseen the veg plot.



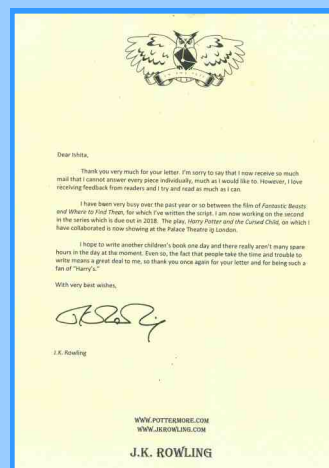
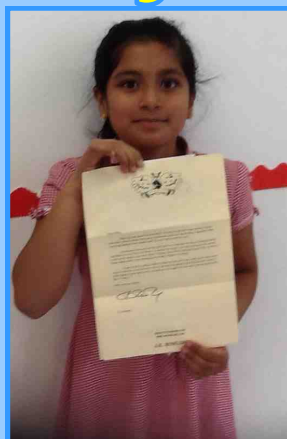
The teachers go back to school!

Although we were forced to close school due to the local elections on Thursday, the teachers were hard at work being trained by members of The Royal Shakespeare Company. Staff explored ways to use the work of Shakespeare with their pupils, focussing on two plays, "The Tempest" and "Julius Caesar." The training session was great fun and everybody came away with lots of inspirational teaching ideas for pupils from Reception to Y6.





Letter from JK Rowling



Harry Potter fan, Ishita, was thrilled to receive a letter in the post last week from JK Rowling! Ishita had written to her favourite author explaining how much she and her friends love the Harry Potter books. Despite her busy schedule, JK Rowling still found the time to reply to Ishita's letter. At Sydenham, we love books and are thrilled that so many pupils enjoy reading and are passionate about their favourite characters.

Before and After School Clubs

We are currently reviewing our pricing policy for Breakfast Club and Butterflies After School Club. Due to the rising cost of overheads such as staffing and food, **it is likely that the price of both clubs will unfortunately rise to £3.50 per session, in September.** This price is still highly competitive compared to other local schools, many of whom are charging £5 per hour. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

KS2 SAT's

Good luck to our Y6 pupils who will be taking their statutory tests (SAT's) next week. **All children in Y6 are invited in to school at the earlier time of 8.30am to enjoy a special SAT's, brain food breakfast during the week of the tests.** The exam timetable is:

Monday 8th May	Reading.
Tuesday 9th May	Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.
Wednesday 10th May	Arithmetic and Maths Reasoning 1.
Thursday 11th May	Maths Reasoning 2

School Closure: Exceptional Circumstances

You should have received the following letter this week, via email, regarding the unfortunate closure of school on the day of the general election (June 8th.) In case, you missed the letter, a copy is published below for your information:

Exceptional School Closure due to UK Parliamentary Election Thursday 8th June 2017

Tuesday 2nd May, 2017.

Dear parents and carers,

Sydenham Primary School will be closed on Thursday 8th June because Warwickshire District Council will be using the school as a polling station for the UK Parliamentary General Election. The Education Act 1993 allows the District Council Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer the use of school as a polling station. Warwick District Council has considered using alternative locations, but believes that Sydenham is the venue which meets the needs of voters, and that there are issues with the nearest alternative venues. This Exceptional Closure day has been approved by the Department for Education because the closing of the school is outside the control of the school authorities due to the parliamentary election. The Department for Education guidance states that schools do not have to compensate for exceptional closures.

Sydenham is not able to remain open on polling day due to the safeguarding issues it would cause having members of the general public without DBS checks inside our particular school building with children inside. Additionally, we would be unable to teach our P.E. lessons; to serve school dinners; or to fulfil our statutory responsibility to have Collective Worship due to the use of the school hall for voting. **Please accept our sincere apologies for the disruption caused to pupils, parents and staff due to this exceptional closure.**

Please note that, at Sydenham, we use school closure days due to elections as additional opportunities for staff training and development. This Thursday, for example, a Stage Director from the Royal Shakespeare Company will be training staff how to use their dynamic, active pedagogies to experience new ways of bringing Shakespeare to life for our pupils from Reception to Year 6 so that pupils can make and develop their own interpretations of Shakespeare. Unfortunately, like the rest of the general public, we were unable to predict that the Prime Minister would be calling a General Election this June. However, we shall be planning further training for staff on Thursday 8th June which will help us to continue to offer an outstanding curriculum and educational opportunities for our pupils.

Please do not hesitate to contact either of us if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,



Juliette Westwood
Executive Head Teacher



Carol Glenney
Associate Head Teacher

Sydenham PTA

DISCO

Thursday 11th May

RECEPTION & YEAR 1:	3.00PM - 4.15PM
YEARS 2 & 3:	4.30PM - 5.45PM
YEARS 4, 5 & 6:	6.00PM - 7.15PM

Please collect your child promptly at the end of their disco
Reception & Year 1 must be collected from their classrooms
Years 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 must be collected from the hall



Tickets cost £3 each

(Includes drink and snack)

**Please send money in an envelope marked 'PTA DISCO'
with your CHILD'S NAME and CLASS written clearly on it.**

Diary Dates

Diary dates do sometimes change due to unforeseen circumstances. If any date changes, we will always notify you via text or letter. However, the following dates are correct at the point of going to press!!

Monday 8th May 2017	Y6 SAT's tests begin.
Wednesday 17th May 2017	Y6 online Mandarin lessons begin (more info soon!)
Thursday 11th May 2017	PTA disco (see poster on previous page)
Thursday 11th May 2017	Y1 Kerbwise, road safety sessions.
Monday 15th May 2017	Santander finance sessions in Y4AH and Y6.
Tuesday 16th May 2017	Y4 cricket competition at Hunningham.
Thursday 18th May 2017	Y1 Kerbwise, road safety sessions.
Saturday 20th May 2017	PTA jumble sale, 10.00am—12.00pm—CANCELLED
Monday 22nd May 2017	Y4 residential trip in Stratford.
Tuesday 23rd May 2017	Y4 return from residential trip in Stratford.
Wednesday 24th May 2017	YR eye tests.
Thursday 25th May 2017	Big Sleepover—Y3*
Tuesday 25th April 2017	Cookery course begins at 3.20pm.
Friday 26th May 2017	MUFTI Day.
Friday 26th May 2017	Break up for Whitsun half-term holiday

Monday 5th June 2017	INSET Day—school closed.
Tuesday 6th June 2017	Return to school for the second half of the summer term.
Thursday 8th June 2017	School closed—POLLING DAY for GENERAL ELECTION (and staff training.)

*Please note that, due to the growing size of our school, we are only able to run The Big Sleepover for pupils in Y3 this year. This is to safeguard the safety of pupils and ensure that we have adequate staffing to manage the event to our usual high standards.



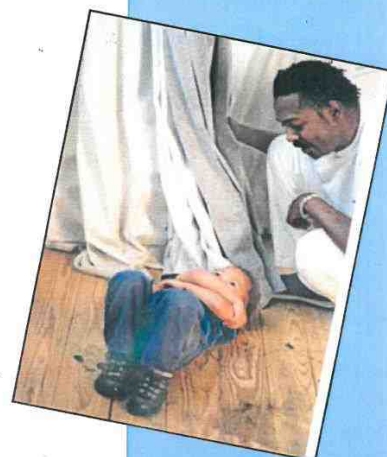
Triple P

The Positive Parenting Programme



The programme is held over 8 weeks. Each session lasts for 2 hours during which you have the opportunity to discuss and plan strategies that can be put into practice at home.

The first session will be held at Sydenham Primary School on Thursday May 25th from 10.00am—12.00pm

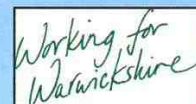


There will be 5 weekly group sessions followed by 2 weeks during which time you will have the opportunity to put the ideas you have learned into practice at home.

You will not be left alone to do this. Your Triple P trainer will be in contact to see how you are doing and to offer assistance if you are having difficulty. There is a final 2 hour session to review how well you have done and how to continue with all your good work!

For further information or to book a place contact:

Tina Fennelly or Harinder Chima
on 01923 339138 or pop into
school for a chat



Sydenham Super Stars!



YR/KS1 superstars will be announced next week.

Khalsa Juniors FC urgently want to hear from budding young goalkeepers at U8 & U10 age groups

In youth football we are very much encouraged to coach young players to try all different positions so that they can find areas of football that they are comfortable with and so that they can get an understanding of the complexities of each position that teammates may be in.

Goalkeeping for me, can be slightly different and almost the exception to the rule. When players show a specific interest and aptitude for goalkeeping we try to encourage this, at least until such time as the player wants to try something else.

So with that in mind we at Khalsa Juniors FC are looking to encourage a young goalkeeper and help train them to leverage the best of their abilities. We have some excellent FA qualified coaching talent now at the club that can help bring this talent to the fore, so please pass the word to friends, colleagues and family.

Please share on Facebook or Twitter and let's see if we can get some new goalkeepers into the club.

Many Thanks
Khalsa Juniors FC
(Leamington Spa)
Contacts:

Nav Bains (nsbains@sky.com)
U8's (Born between 01/09/2008 – 31/08/2009)

Amrit Johal (amritjohal13@yahoo.co.uk)
U10's (Born between 01/09/2006 – 31/08/2007)

Goalies Needed!

Have a restful weekend and see you all on Monday.

Best wishes

from Miss Glenny (Associate Headteacher)