

Looking at Learning ~ Take One Picture

In November 2013, the whole staff from Sydenham and Lighthorne Heath Primary Schools attended In-service training at the National Gallery in London on their Take One Picture Project. We looked at a painting in the gallery called 'Saint Michael Triumphant Over the Devil with Donor Antonio Juan' by the artist Bartolome Bermejo. The picture was painted in approximately 1400. After the training, the staff identified areas in the art curriculum which needed further development, and agreed for the project to focus on textiles work. It was also decided that the project should be planned and led by pupils, rather than staff, so that we had no final 'product' in minds. Our amazing artist-in-residence, Ros Ingram, worked with every child in both schools, with Laura Tan, to look closely at the picture. The children decided to publish their amazing work in a book, and we're delighted to be hosting a visit from National Gallery staff on 6th January to look at the children's work and talk to them about their learning.



International
School Award
2010-2013



Healthy Schools

Eco-Schools

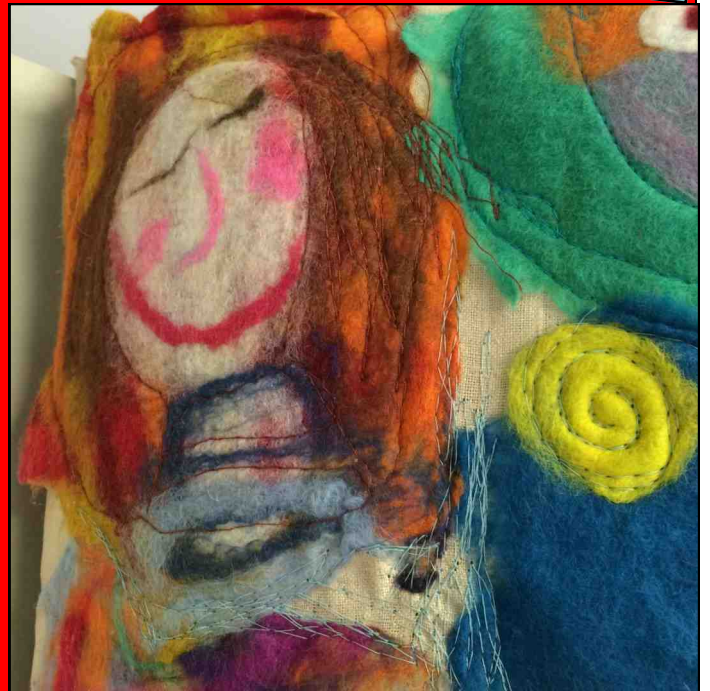


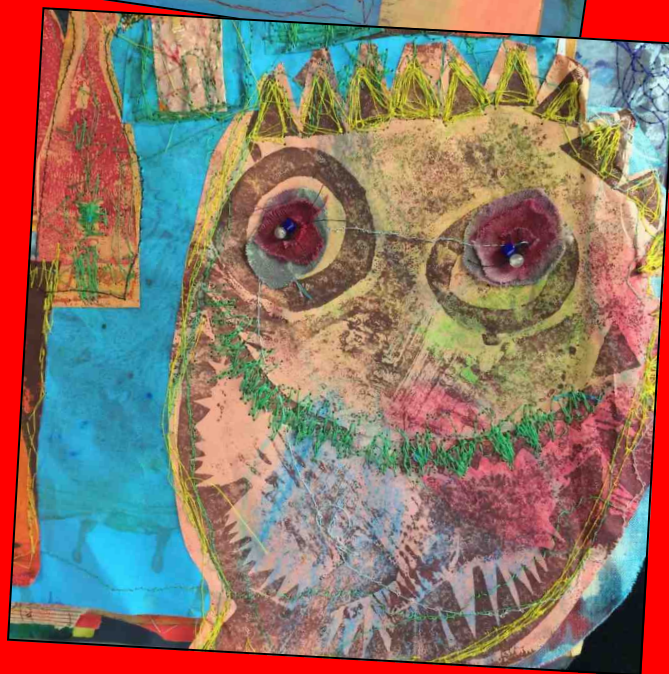
SILVER

Extended Services
Warwickshire



In classrooms, the teachers gradually revealed various parts of the painting, and children used it as a stimulus for their weekly 'Big Writing'. Most of the children were amazed to find out that Saint Michael was actually a man, and not a beautiful princess!

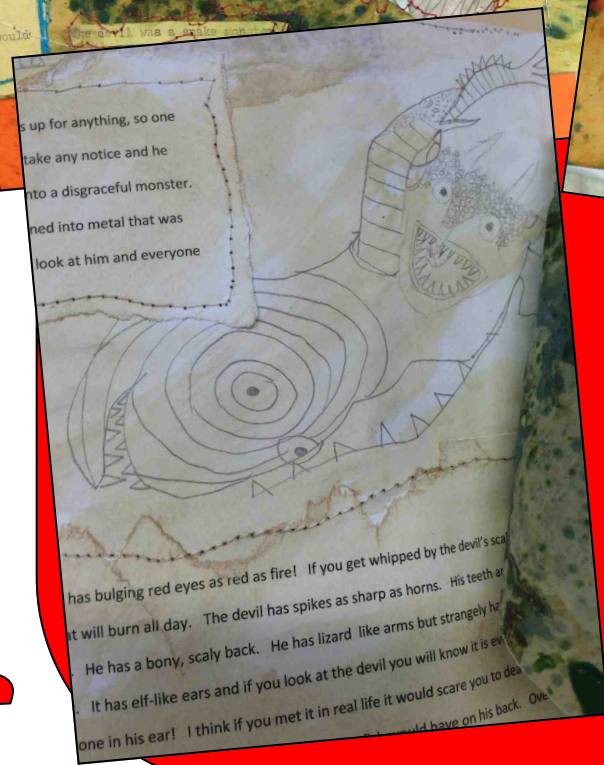
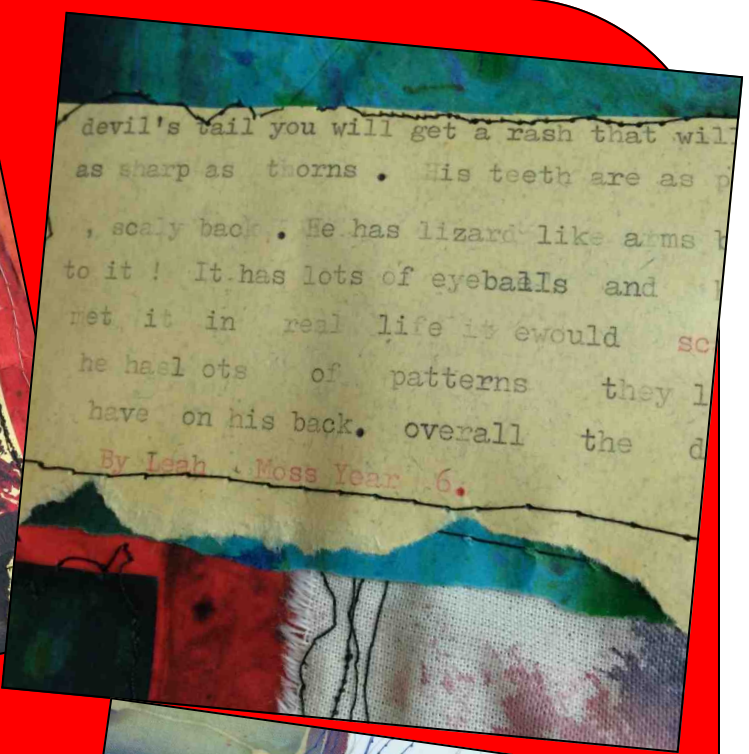
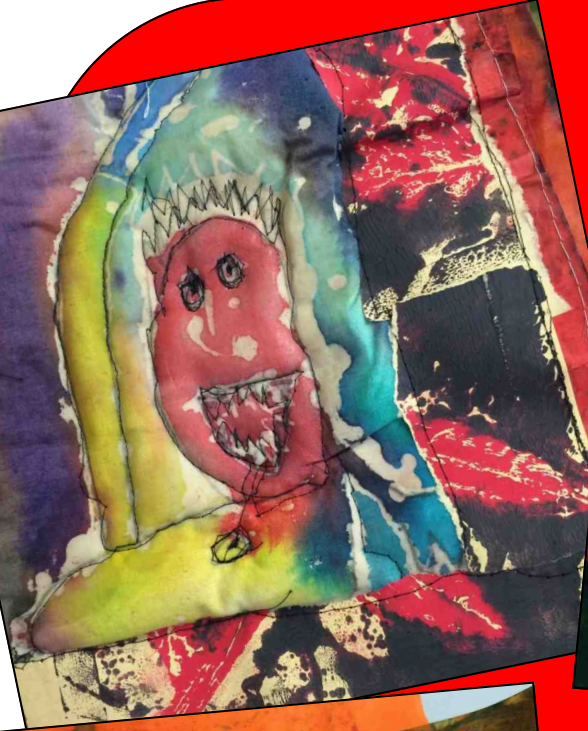




Here are some of the skills and techniques children learnt!

- Develop knowledge of subject specific terms
- Awareness of art work from different periods and aware of the influence historical and cultural context has on artworks
- Make comparisons between own work and that of other artists
- Appliqué
- Use of dyes and fabric paints, beads and other forms of decoration
- Developing knowledge of how fabrics and garments are constructed and decorated
- Awareness of techniques from other cultures and the importance of fabric work in other traditions
- Use of wax resist methods with accuracy and with due regard to safety
- Embellish and refine with crafting skills
- Ability to make use of the work of others in their own creativity

Sydenham Primary School Newsletter





Here are some more of the skills and techniques children learnt!

- Use of tools and materials appropriately
- Awareness of the advantages of planning and designing
- Increasing ability in terms of care, finish and presentation
- Awareness of purpose
- Increasing level of manipulative skills with both sewing needles and sewing machines
- Collect and select materials according to purpose
- Experience a range of cutting tools and use scissors accurately
- Compose through spatial arrangements including overlap
- Create surface textures using materials with sensitivity
- 'Mindfulness' techniques introduced by the School Counsellor

Looking at Learning ~ Staff Learning on our In-Service Training Day

Last Friday 21st November, all of the teachers and teaching assistants from Sydenham Primary School and Lighthorne Heath Primary School attended training



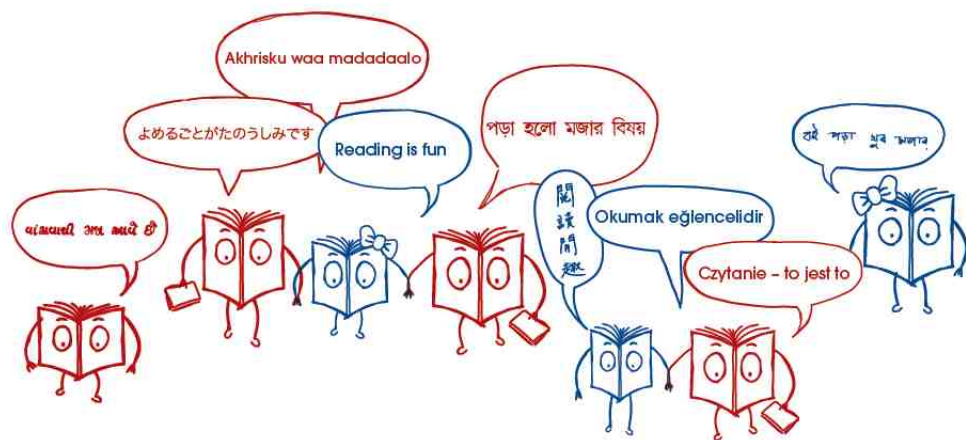
ing on how to improve pupils' reading and writing skills. This training was led by Mr Pie Corbett, and is called 'Talk for Reading and Writing'. Pie Corbett's programme is powerful because it enables children to imitate the language they need for a particular topic orally, before reading and analysing it, and then writing their own version. Through fun activities that help them rehearse the tune of the language they need, followed by shared writing to show them how to craft their writing, children are helped to write in the same style. Miss Glenny, Miss Challand, Mrs Banks and Mrs Hartley have been trailing this programme (alongside our weekly 'Big Writing' sessions) since the Summer term. The teachers who have adopted this approach have not only increased their children's progress but have found that children and teachers alike love it.



Staff are now working on implementing Pie's 'Talk for Reading and Writing' programme, and developing book corners in classrooms so that children feel as passionate about reading as we do! Our next In-Service training day on Monday 5th January will be dedicated to reading training. Please see Miss Glenny's top tips for reading overleaf.



READING IS FUN!

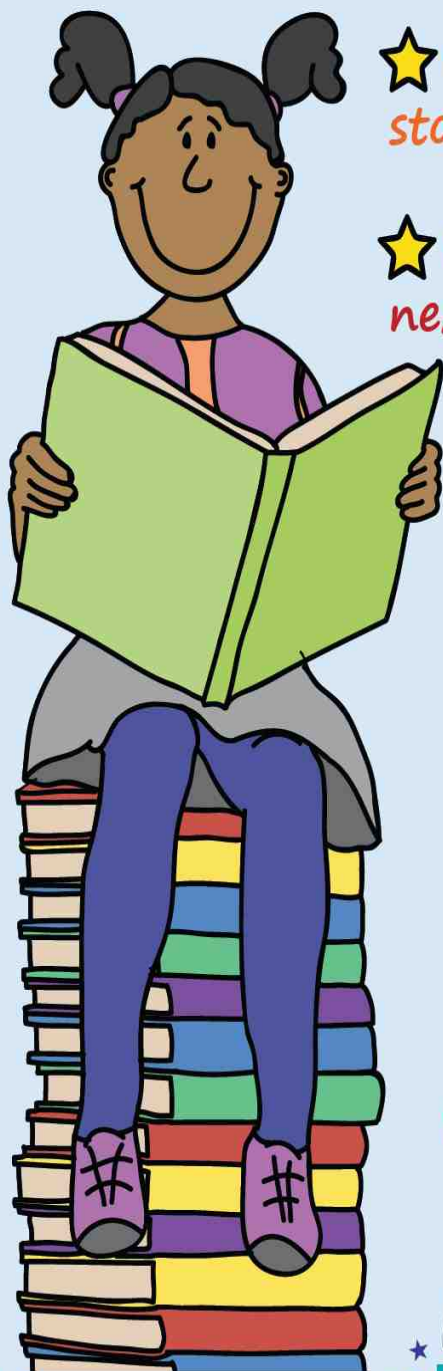


Becoming Better Readers...

Questions you can ask your child about their book.

★ Who is the main character?

★ Where is the story set?



★ What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?

★ What do you think will happen next in your story?

★ Which character do you like most? Why?

★ Which character do you think would make a good friend? Why?

★ What was your favourite part of the story?

★ Did you like the ending? Why/why not?

Fiction/Story Books



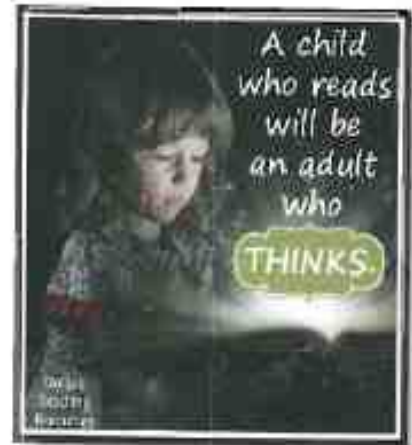
Helping your child to become a better reader - your role as a parent.



At school, we teach your child to read in many ways, but you also play an important role as a parent.

Here are some ways that you can help your child to become a successful reader and a life-long lover of books:

- Listen to your child read as often as possible.
- Talk to your child about the books you have shared together.
- Read a bedtime story every night.
- Join the local library and borrow books.
- Buy your child books as birthday and Christmas presents.
- Model being a good reader - read a newspaper or magazine, have books at home, share books on an e-reader.
- Come to our Share A Book sessions.
- Join our reading volunteers - parents who spend some time each week in school, hearing children read.



Being able to read opens the doorway to learning and exploring the world in which we live. It will help your child to become a successful and happy adult.

Sydenham Super Stars!

Congratulations to all of this week's Sydenham Super Stars!
Friday 28th November, 2014



Dear parents and carers,

Selection Box Raffle

Please send in 50p with your child (small envelopes available in the school reception area) if they would like to be entered for the Christmas Selection Box Raffle. The raffle winners will be drawn in assembly on Friday 19th December.

Christmas Holidays

Please note that school breaks up for Christmas on Friday 19th December. School is closed on Monday 5th January for teacher training (INSET). The Spring term begins on Tuesday 6th January 2015.

Christmas Post Boxes

A reminder that we shall put the Christmas post box in the entrance hall / reception area the week commencing 1st December so that children can post Christmas cards to their school friends if they wish. Please remind your child about recycling envelopes. We will have a collection box for recycling old Christmas cards in January.

The Gruffalo Infants' Theatre Trip

Please see the flier overleaf about the trip next Friday.

Reception 'It's a Baby' Performance

A reminder that children in Reception will be performing for parents and carers next Wednesday 3rd December at 9.30am. Seasonal refreshments will served after the show!

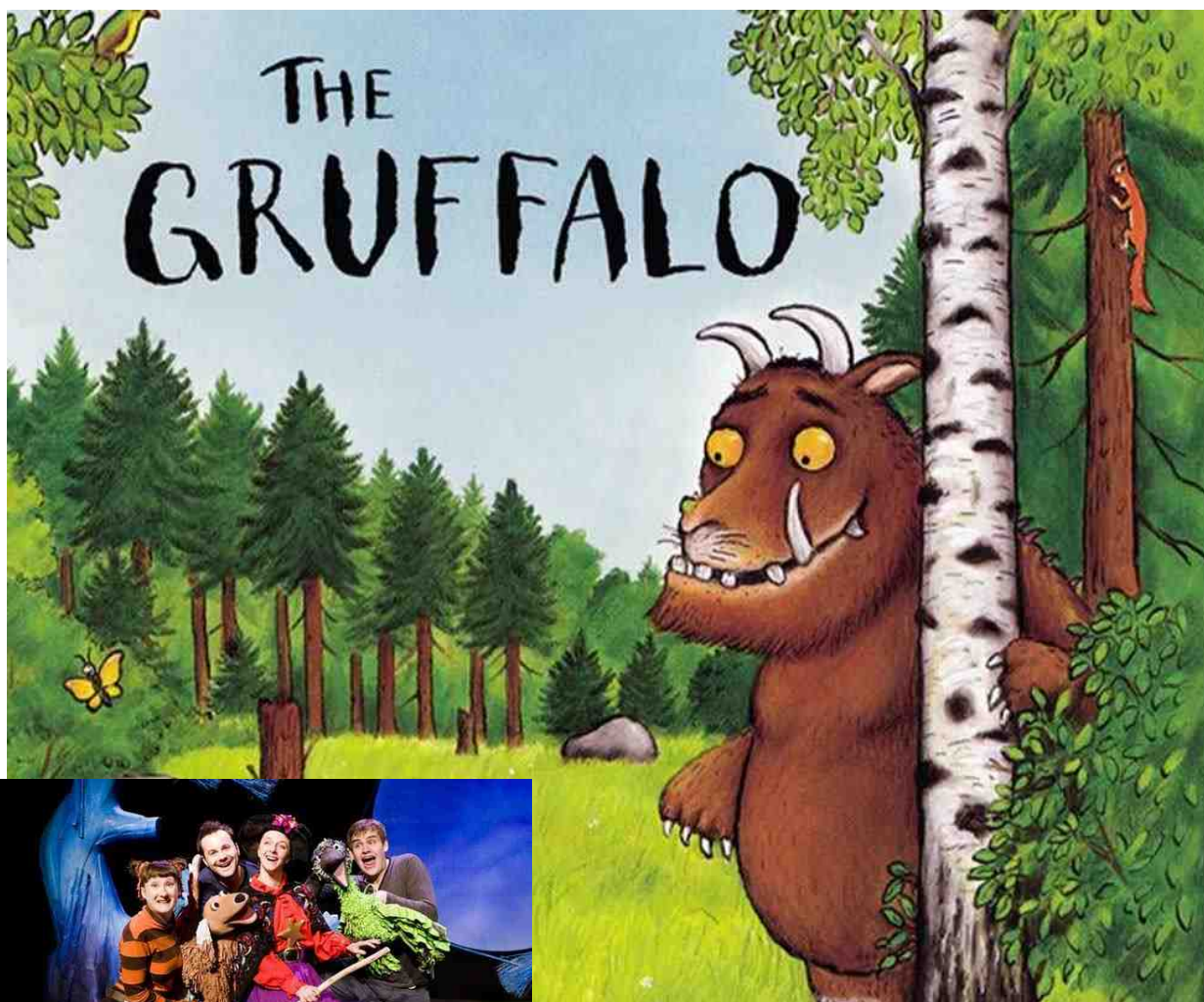
Yours sincerely, Juliette Westwood, Executive Head Teacher

Meet a wheeler-dealer Fox, an eccentric old Owl and a maraca-shaking, party mad Snake! Mouse can scare these hungry animals away with tall stories of the terrifying Gruffalo, but what happens when he comes face to face with the very creature he imagined...?

Voted **the nation's number one bedtime story** by BBC Radio 2 listeners, *The Gruffalo* has been performed to well over a million people worldwide and has even hit the small screens in a star-studded TV animation.

The Gruffalo is the perfect family treat with plenty of songs, laughs and scary fun for children aged 3+ and grown-ups.

"A fine piece of children's theatre" ★★★★★ Sunday Times "Monstrous fun!" ★★★★★ Daily Mail



Infants' Theatre Visit to Warwick Arts Centre

A reminder that all infant children from Reception to Year 2 will be going to see 'The Gruffalo' at Warwick Arts Centre next Friday 5th December, 2014. The trip will take place during normal school hours. Please make sure your child is wearing school uniform. We will be travelling to Warwick Arts Centre by coach. County Caterers will serve those children who usually have a hot lunch their dinner, as normal. If your child usually brings a packed lunch, they will need this, as usual. The school is subsidising this visit for all pupils, to reduce the cost from £14 to £10.