

Primary School Newsletter

Sydenham

Cry have and let, slip the dogs of war.

























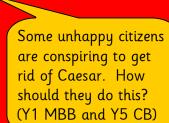
This week, we have all enjoyed exploring the work of English playwright, William Shakespeare. In class, children have had fun investigating one of his greatest plays, "Julius Caesar" - an exciting drama about loyalty, power and revenge!

In Rome, Julius Caesar is in charge. Are all the Roman citizens happy about this? (Y4 KG)

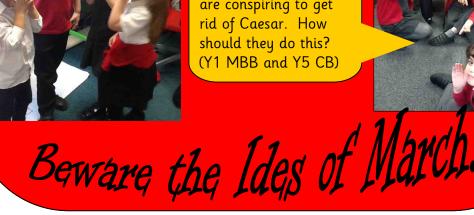


Rome is beset by strange, supernatural happenings! Is this Caesar's doing? (Y1 JL)

Shakespeare Week







Et tu, Brute? Then fall, Caesar.

Politicians, Cassius and Brutus are talking. Cassius tries to persuade Brutus to kill Caesar. Who agrees that this is a good idea? (Y3 JM)



Caesar is buried. Is everybody happy about his murder? (Y1 JL)





Politician and general, Mark Anthony, speaks to the crowd at Caesar's funeral. He turns everyone against Brutus. What will Brutus do next? (Y2 HC)



Brutus turns traitor and kills Caesar in the Senate. Was this an honourable thing to do? (Y6)

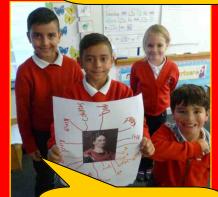




Brutus fights Mark Anthony in a battle. Who will win? (Y1 JL)

Mark Anthony is victorious on the battlefield. Will he be a better ruler for Rome. (Y4 KJ)





We really enjoyed Shakespeare Week. (Y2 ES)

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears.

Sign Up for Music Tuition



On Monday, Tommy from Rocksteady, returned to school to lead Music workshops with the children. The pictures above show our fantastic Reception/KS1 band and our KS2 super group! Rocksteady are offering music tuition in school, starting after the Christmas holiday. Lessons will be every Monday afternoon and will last half an hour. Tuition will be offered on the drums, keyboard, guitar or vocals for children from YR—Y6. If you would like your child to have lessons, follow the instructions on the letter sent home this week (there is a copy on the next page.) Please note that you must book your lessons through Rocksteady and not the School office.

Please note that these sessions are optional and part of our extended curriculum. School music lessons with Mrs Godwin and Mrs Murphy continue free of charge as usual, as do recorder lessons.



Rocksteady Music School Unit 21 Woodside Park Catteshall Lane Godalming Surrey GU7 1LG www.rocksteadymusicschool.com 0845 094 1259

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are pleased to announce that Rocksteady Music School are now working with your child's school to provide Rock and Pop Band lessons, giving pupils the chance to learn guitar, keyboard, drums or vocals.

By joining Rocksteady, your child gets the opportunity to build their confidence, learn an instrument and increase their overall enjoyment of school, which can have a positive effect on their other subjects. Rocksteady is easy and convenient; lessons take place within school hours and all the instruments provided.

How it works:

- Your child can choose their role in their band by becoming a drummer, a lead vocalist, a guitarist or a keyboard player.
- They rehearse with their peers in weekly sessions led by a dedicated Rocksteady Band Leader, learning to play songs they love to inspire them to learn and achieve together.
- At the end of every term we give your child the chance to shine with a concert organised by Rocksteady, giving you an opportunity to see how much your child's confidence has grown as they rock out in front of the whole school!

Rocksteady is an independent music service, providing opportunities to schools and pupils across the south of England. Our sessions are available to everyone from Foundation Year to Year 6. Whether your child has never played an instrument before or is already learning, Rocksteady can provide an exciting, interactive and rewarding experience every week for a fixed monthly subscription of £31.25. There is no minimum sign up period, giving you the freedom to stay with Rocksteady for as long as it suits you, and we even offer a money back guarantee for the first month.

If you would like to give your child this new opportunity or would simply like to find out more about Rocksteady and what we offer please do not hesitate to contact us on 0845 094 1259. You can also email us on contact@rocksteadymusicschool.com or via the contact form on our website, www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/parents

Please note there are limited spaces, which will be booked on a first come first serve basis, so if you would like to sign up please act quickly to secure your child's place.

Kind Regards,

Mark Robinson Rocksteady Music School A Great Rehearsal For Real Life



0845 094 1259 www.rocksteadymusicschool.com

Language of the Month



Our Language of the Month is Korean. We have two Korean speakers in school, Young Jun and Ju-A. Their family has kindly given us some photographs which show us a bit about Korean life and culture. Young Jun, Ju-A and their mum, Tae Eun, will be going into the different classes in school on Tuesday 28th November. We look forward to hearing all about life in South Korea and learning some Korean too!







Visiting Poet in Y6



On Tuesday, Y6 were visited by poet, Matt Black. Matt led a workshop on poetry writing and challenged pupils to create a poem based on questions beginning with the word, "why?" Pupils really enjoyed this session and we hope Matt will back in school again in Spring to work with more children.

Online Safety Warning

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have come across a worrying new website called Omegle which is being used by some children.

This is quite disturbing as the Omegle website is an online chat room that will set you up to talk to a stranger who is using the website at the same time. This website is completely free to use and has no sign up or registration procedure. Essentially, children can go on the website and begin talking to a stranger from around the World. Additionally, the website does provide a video chat service. The tag line of the website is 'Omegle - Talk to Strangers.' This website has quite a lot of resemblance to a formerly popular website called 'Chat Roulette'.

The website indicates that people under the age of 18 should not be using this service, however that is in small print at the bottom of the page.

Personally, I believe that this website is highly inappropriate for children and I would really appreciate it if parents discouraged their children from accessing it.

Best wishes from Mr Hawes (Computing Coordinator)

Online Safety Session for Parents



During the session, Mr Hawes explained how to configure privacy settings for common social media applications such as Snapchat, Instagram, Music.ly and Facebook. He also highlighted the dangers presented by You Tube and explained the recommended ages for different applications. Thank you to all the parents/ carers who attended the online safety session on Friday morning, led by Mr Hawes, our Computing Coordinator





Cross Country



Congratulations to Tommy Miller (19th), Rajan Khangara (39th) and Karl Baker (134th) who competed for Sydenham at the 3rd Cross Country fixture in Kenilworth. Well done for navigating the stream and the mud!

YR Christmas Crafternoon

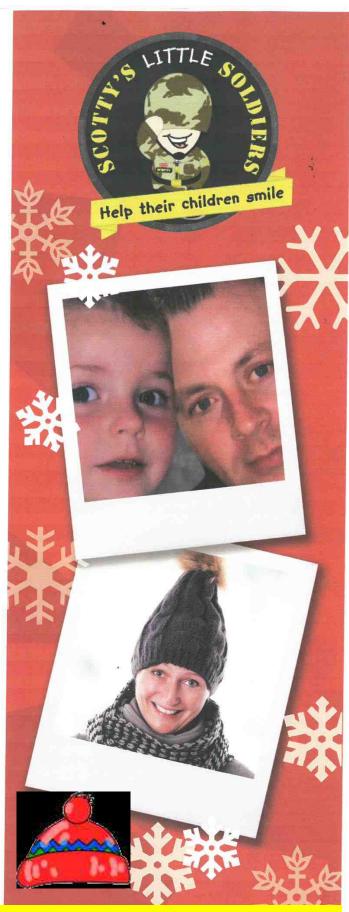
If you are a Reception parent/carer, don't forget that you are invited to attend a FREE art and craft afternoon with your child on Friday 1st December from 2.00—3.15pm.

This event is organised and funded by the PTA. There will be lots of seasonal, creative activities to try with lovely things to make and take home.

A letter was sent home last week about this event. Please return the slip on the bottom of the letter indicating whether you will or will not be attending. This will help the PTA to purchase the correct amount of resources.

Thank you and see you there.





This charity has really supported Ben, in Y5. Please help to raise money so they can continue their great work.

MUFTI Day Fundraiser for the charity "Scotty's Little Soldiers" on Friday 24th November.



Bring 50p to wear a bobble hat to school!

Get ready, get set and get your hats on for Scotty's Little Soldiers Bobble Hat Day – this is a really simple way to raise funds for the children our fallen heroes have left behind at Christmas!

We are all looking forward to Christmas, a magical few weeks filled with parties, presents, and family time.

But not everyone is that lucky.

Some children are facing Christmas without their parent.

Like Harry who was four years old when Dad Matt, who was 37-years-old was killed, after serving his country for 20 years.

Matt was training Afghanistan police and was shot and fatally wounded when one of the police officers turned on him and comrades when they were off duty and unarmed.

Scotty's Little Soldiers is dedicated to providing support to bereaved British Armed Forces children, and is helping Harry's family.

Harry, like over 330 children, is a member of Scotty's Little Soldiers.

We need your help to continue to support children like Harry at Christmas and throughout the year.

On Friday 8 December we want everyone to join in to make Scotty's Bobble Hat Day a success all over the UK.

Get all your work colleagues or classmates to have fun whilst raising money.

Diary Dates

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

Thursday 23rd November 2017

Thursday 23rd November 2017

Friday 24th November 2017

Wednesday 29th November—Friday 1st December 2017 Friday 1st December 2017

Friday 1st December 2017 Wednesday 6th December 2017 Friday 8th December 2017 Tuesday 12th December 2017 Wednesday 13th December 2017 Thursday 14th December 2017

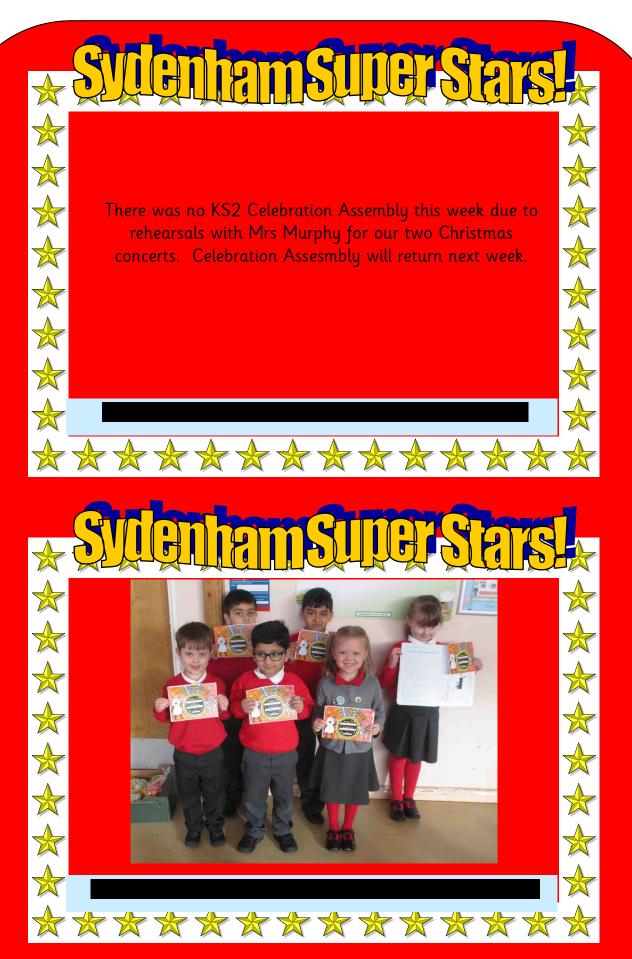
Thursday 14th December 2017 Friday 15th December 2017 Friday 15th December 2017

Monday 18th December—Friday 22nd November Monday 18th December 2017 Wednesday 20th December 2017 Wednesday 20th December 2017 Thursday 21st December 2017 Friday 22nd December 2017 Friday 22nd December 2017 Open afternoon at 2.00pm for prospective Reception parents/carers, September 2018. Y3 visit to Sarehole Mill—both classes are now going on the same day. MUFTI Day (charity fundraiser—bring 50p to wear a bobble hat to school. Profits to Scotty's Little Soldiers.") Y6 residential to Marle Hall, Wales.

Christmas Crafternoon for YR parents/carers, 2.00pm-3.15pm (please note the earlier start.) Y2 Christmas show tickets sent home to parents/carers. Y2 Christmas performance at 9.30am. Y1 Christmas show tickets sent home to parents/carers. Christmas lunch. Y1 Christmas performance at 9.30am. Y3, 4, 5 and 6 visit to "101 Dalmations" at The Birmingham Repertory Theatre. YR Christmas show tickets sent home to parents/carers. Christmas jumper day! YR/KS1 visit to "The Snow Dragon" at The Bridge House Theatre in Warwick. No clubs (except Breakfast Club and Butterflies) this week. Last Y3 JM swimming lesson. YR Christmas performance at 9.30am. Last Y3 AH swimming lesson. Y3/4 music concert for parents at 2.30pm. Y5/6 music concert for parents at 9.30am. Break up for the Christmas holiday.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Monday 8th January 2018 Tuesday 9th January 2018 School closed for staff training Children return to school for the Spring Term.



Have a fantastic weekend. Best wishes from Miss Glenny (Associate Headteacher)