



# A Right Royal Do!

To kick off their topic "Bright Lights, Big City," Year One were invited to a royal tea party on Monday! The children learnt to curtsy and enjoyed a traditional English scone with jam and cream. Afterwards, they learnt about the royal family.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 31: Goals of Education











# The Magician's Elephant

Characters, elephant and magic!

The tale was quite tragic.

It's an amazing story in all its glory.

The magician was treated like a lunatic,

Sadly, the elephant was terribly sick.

He exclaimed that he meant for a lily,

It ended up quite silly!

Now the elephant is trapped,

But love and care is what Pete lacked.

The news has already spread,

The Countess' heart is made of lead.

The question: Is Adele still alive?

Did she really survive?

The Count claims he will take charge,

And now Pete's heart is LARGE!

Kelsie, in Year Four, has written this super poem in response to the performance of "The Magician's Elephant" which older children watched at The Royal Shakespeare Theatre before we broke up for the Christmas holidays.

# Celebrating Lohri



Some of you will have celebrated the Indian, winter festival of Lohri recently. Here are Selena and Saachi who have been learning at home about the significance of the festival which traditionally involves lighting bonfires, dancing, singing and sharing gifts and food.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 14: Freedom of Thought, Belief and Religion



# All About Cacti



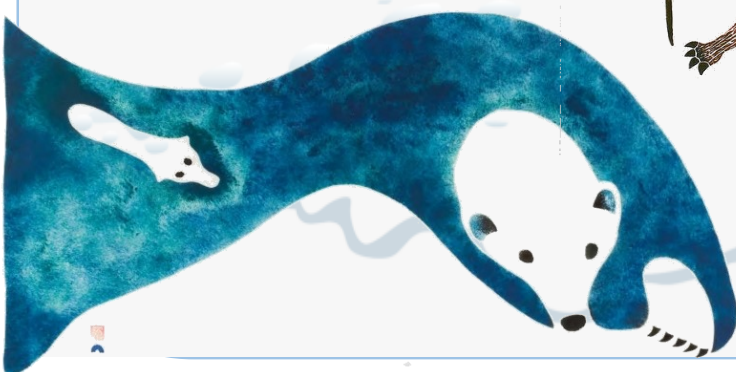
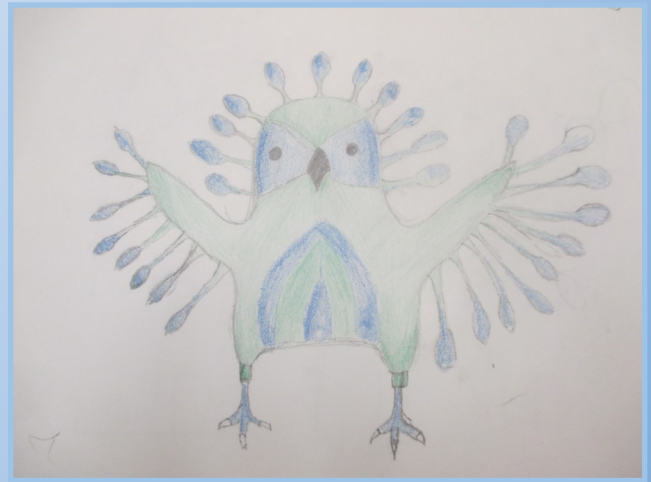
Year Two have been getting up close and personal with some spiky friends! Children identified different cacti, looking closely at a range of varieties. They went on to produce these beautiful watercolour paintings.





# Inuit Art

As part of their “Frozen Kingdom” topic, Year Six have been exploring Inuit art. They were inspired by Kenojuak Ashevak’s paintings of spirit animals and went on to create their own.





## Simile

Compares two different things.

Something is **like** or **as** something else.

For example:

- He was **as** quiet **as** a mouse.
- She swam **like** a fish.



# Super Similes

Y2 have been learning about figurative language.

My daddy is soft as a flower growing in the Spring,

My daddy is as lovely as rose perfume.

**By Defne**

They compared one thing to another.

My grandma's hands are like smooth petals,

Her love is just so beautiful that I don't want to let go.

**By Maya**

Adhvik has hands like the ocean,  
He's so cuddly like a soft teddy bear.  
Adhvik is playful as a dolphin.

**By Anvikka**

My nanny's hands are as soft as a teddy bear's fur,

My nanny's hugs are as warm as a fireplace,

My nanny made me hot chocolate with marshmallows and chocolate buttons.

**By Oakley**

This week, they wrote poems and experimented with similes.

My hamster has claws as sharp as nails,

My hamster is as warm as a blanket,

My hamster is as scary as saying goodbye,

My hamster's colour is as brown and white as hot chocolate with marshmallows.

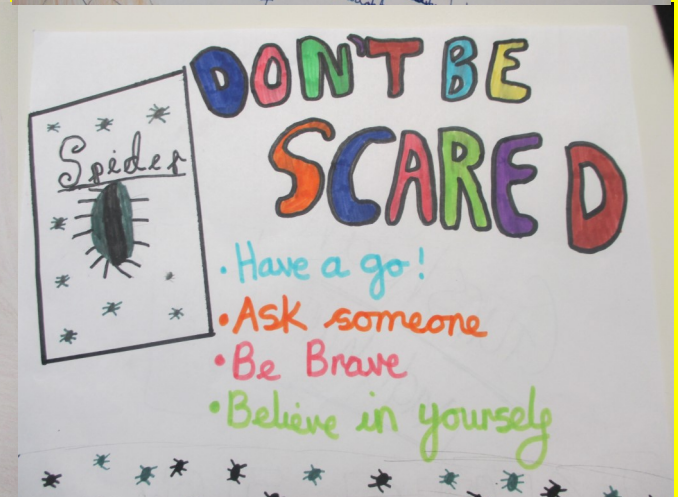
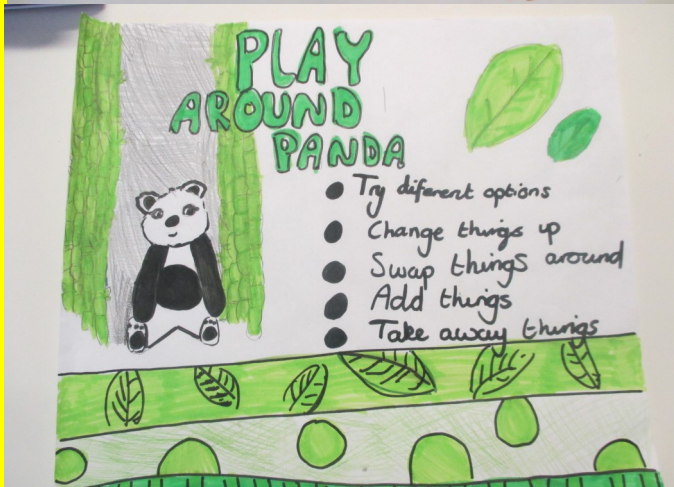
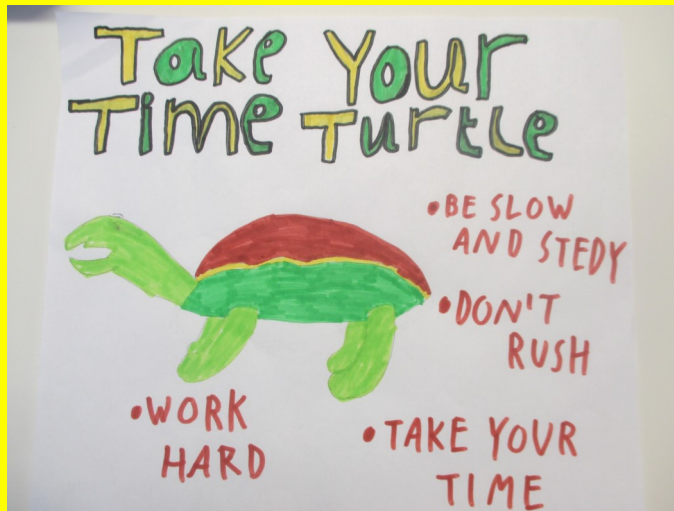
**By Isla-Rose**

They tried to **show** not **tell** their reader what the subject of their poem is like



# Learning Characters

Y5 have been thinking about the characteristics of a good learner. They went on to design their own learning characters which included the Take Your Time Turtle, Play Around Panda, Bee Confident, Don't Be Scared Spider, Dig to Your Dreams earthworm and Be Powerful Dragon. What a great growth mindset!

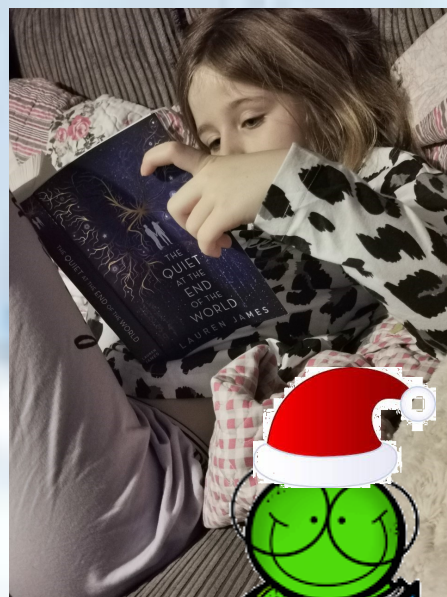
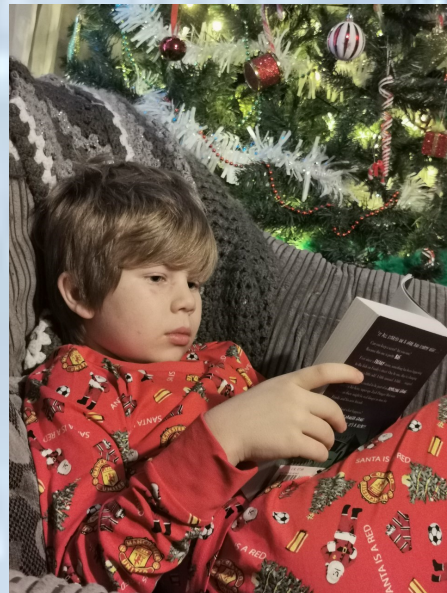




# Celebrating reading



Violet and James enjoyed celebrating Christmas Eve by following the Icelandic tradition of *Jolabokaflod* - exchanging books to read into the evening. Violet and James' family wore new pyjamas and snuggled into blankets as they read their new books. What a lovey way to celebrate!



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education





# Fern gets another outing!

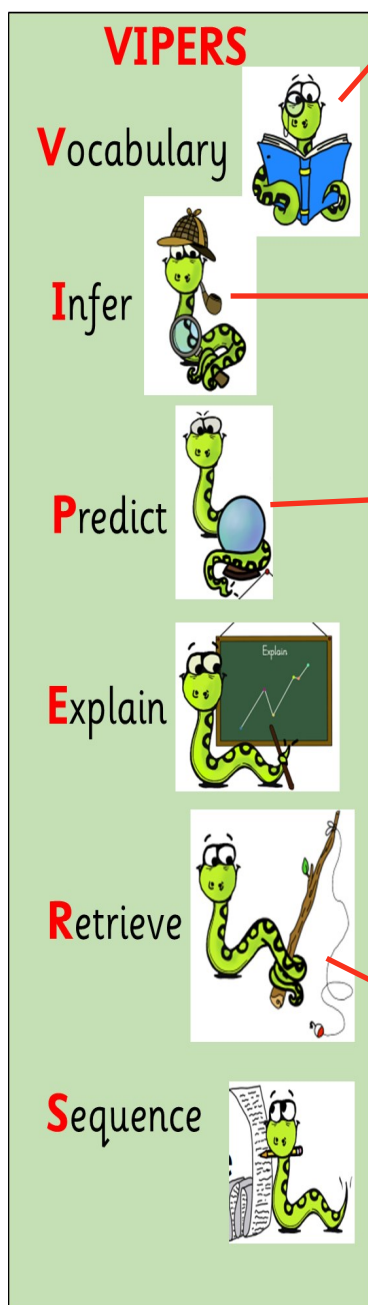


It was Faaq's turn to take Fern home in Mrs Scholes' class last week. **Well done, Faaq, for working so hard on your reading at home!** Children in all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes get the chance to take their class teddy home if they read at least 4 times a week.



# Developing reading skills

Teachers use the Reading Vipers characters in school to help the children to work on developing different reading skills. This week, I wanted to share the KS1 Reading Vipers with you so that you can see the types of questions that we ask to support your child's reading comprehension. I will share the KS2 Reading Vipers next week!



What does the word ... in this sentence mean?  
Which word in this section do you think is the most important?  
Which of these words best describe the character/setting/mood?  
Can you think of any other words that the author could have used to describe this?

Why was ... feeling ...? Why did ...happen? Why did ...say...? Can you explain why...? How does ... make you feel?

Look at the book cover. What do you think this book will be about?  
What do you think will happen next?  
How does the choice of character or setting affect what will happen next?

Who is your favourite character? Why?  
Would you like to live in this setting? Why/why not?  
Is there anything you would change about this story?  
Do you like this text? What do you like about it?

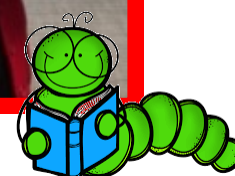
What kind of text is this?  
Who did.../When did.../Where did...?  
What happened when...?  
What happened to ...?

What was the first thing that happened in the story?  
Can you sequence these events in the story from 1-5 in the order they happened?  
What order do these chapter headings come in the story?

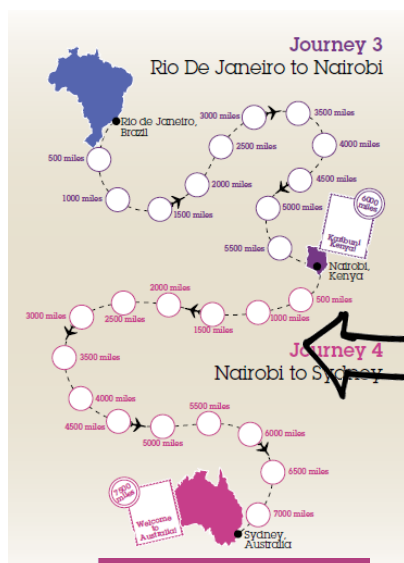
Ms Knight felt really proud of Ella this week! Ella has been enjoying writing book reviews for lots of the books that she has been reading recently. Writing book reviews are a really good way to develop your child's ability to recall key information, explain key events, summarise texts and give opinions on books.



**Well done, Ella!**



## KS2 reading around the world



### 4 SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Welcome to Australia!

**Reading Miles fact:**  
The Australian Aboriginal people used to paint symbols and pictures on cave walls to help them remember their stories.

Miss Challand's journey so far...

I really enjoyed having the time to read over the Christmas holidays, and reached Australia, as I know many of our Juniors did! **Amazing!!**



Our KS2 pupils are working so hard to improve their reading and reading comprehension skills, which are lifelong skills to master. I am really looking forward to starting to give out reading certificates for those children who complete their challenge over the next few weeks!




## Year 2 Parents/Carers

Miss Peters and Miss Knight have invited Year 2 parents and carers to join a new 'Year 2 2022' group on TEAMS, where they have recorded a video in which they talk about how they teach reading skills using the VIPERS approach; share their expectations for reading during Year 2; and discuss top tips for reading with your child at home. If you haven't already clicked to join the team, it is well worth a look!

# Author visit

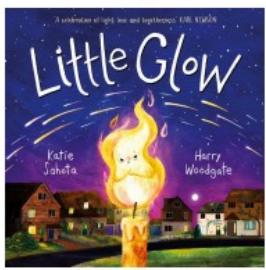
We are very much looking forward to welcoming Katie Sahota, author of the gorgeous children's book 'Little Glow' to school on Monday 31st January. Katie will be reading her book during assembly, which explores the way that we celebrate light across our diverse culture. Please look out for a paper copy of this pre-order form that your child will bring home next week should you wish to order a signed copy of the book!

**OWLET PRESS**  
Growing into wisdom  
www.owletpress.com

Author Visit: Pre-order Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_


LOCAL AUTHOR, KATIE SAHOTA IS VISITING OUR SCHOOL! WHY NOT ORDER A SIGNED BOOK!




Who would you like it signed for?


Quantity required ☐

School visit offer: All books – £5 each (RRP £7.99)

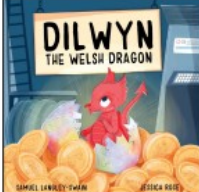
 Other great books from the publisher:




Quantity required ☐



Quantity required ☐



Quantity required ☐

 Visit [owletpress.com](http://owletpress.com) to learn more about the books. Please send this completed form with cash payment into school by **28th JANUARY**. Thank you!



# Special Menu

Census Day

Thursday 20th January

## Penguin Lunch



### Fish Stars in the Frosty Night Sky

(v) Bannocks with Tomato  
Topping and Melted Cheese

Potato Wedges

Baked Beans

Frozen Peas - we've unfrozen them!

(v) Antarctic Sledging Biscuit  
or (v) Ice Cream

Antarctica doesn't have a style of food as such, it isn't populated except by visitors who stay for a few months, there are no farms and nothing vegetable that you can eat grows in the harsh climate. Most provisions arrive in tins or are dried, bottled, salted or pickled. Bannocks is a type of bread that is baked fresh daily.





# Special Menu



## Chinese New Year Lunch Menu Tuesday 1st February 2022

**Sweet and Sour  
Pork Meatballs**


**(v) Chinese Style Quorn  
Dippers with Sweet Chilli Sauce  
Rice or Noodles**

**Garden Peas or  
Carrot and Mandarin Orange Salad**

**(v) Iced Pineapple Cake or  
(v) Fresh Fruit Salad**



Soil Association

educaterers  A FOOD STORY



the  
**NUTRI  
GANG**  
"On a mission for nutrition"

# Do you live in an Orbit property?

Brunswick hub is holding a coffee morning at the Syndi Centre, Cottage Square Sydenham, Leamington Spa, CV31 1PT on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January**. If you would like more information please call the hub on 01926 422123.

Please come and join us between 10:00 and 12:00 where you will be able to meet your local team to discuss the following;

- Employment and benefit advice
- Foodbank/chilled foodbank/veg bags
- Dementia support
- Bereavement support
- Tenancy issues and property maintenance
- Debt and money advice

We will be serving free coffee and cake.



*Space Synergy*





# FEBRUARY HALF TERM CAMP

STARTING SOON!



OUT OF THIS WORLD  
FUN & GAMES



ARTS & CRAFTS



DANCE



FUN SCIENCE  
EXPERIMENTS



SPORT



ARCHERY



FOREST SCHOOL  
Priors Field Only

THE TIMETABLE  
OF ACTIVITIES  
CAN VARY

JOIN US FOR SPACE WEEK

## IT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD

Looking for something fun  
& exciting to do during the  
half term break your child?

✓ **OFSTED**  
REGISTERED AND "GOOD"

✓ **WE ACCEPT**  
CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

✓ **ACCOMMODATE**  
RECEPTION CHILDREN ALL DAY

# Other Information

## **Parent/Carer and Teacher Conferencing**

There will be an opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th or Thursday 17th February (3.30pm—6.00pm.) At the meeting you will find out how your child is progressing with their learning and there will be the chance to ask questions and share information .

**Appointments can be booked via ParentPay** (booking will close on Wednesday 9th February.) Microsoft Teams can be downloaded free of charge and runs on all devices .

After booking has closed, you will receive an invitation containing a link to the meeting. Please note that the meeting takes place via your child's we-learn email account. If you do not have your child's user name and password, please contact the school office as soon as possible so we can supply you with this information.

We look forward to seeing you at your meeting.

# Gift Amnesty

## **UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS?**

If you ended up with unwanted or duplicate gifts for Christmas you can re gift them to the PTA for our future events/fairs/raffles .

These can be left in the clearly marked  
PTA box by the school office from  
Monday 17th January  
Thank you!





**MONDAY 21st - FRIDAY 25th  
FEBRUARY**



## PICK YOUR PACKAGE

### STANDARD DAY PACKAGE 9AM - 3.30PM

ALL CHILDREN TO BRING  
**OWN PACK LUNCH**  
(Please provide two snacks & a drink)

**£25.95**

### EARLY DROP OFF FROM 8AM

INCLUDES BREAKFAST

**+ £4**

### LATE PICK UP UNTIL 4.30PM

INCLUDES DRINK & A BISCUIT

**+ £3**

### LATE PICK UP UNTIL 5.00PM

INCLUDES DRINK, BISCUIT & TEA  
WRAP / SANDWICH PLUS FRUIT

**+ £4**

### LATE PICK UP UNTIL 5.30PM

INCLUDES DRINK, BISCUIT & TEA  
WRAP / SANDWICH PLUS FRUIT

**+ £5**

## PICK YOUR VENUE

### KINGSLEY PREP SCHOOL

Beauchamp Avenue, Leamington Spa, CV32 5RD

21ST - 25TH FEBRUARY

### PRIORS FIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Clinton Lane, Kenilworth, CV8 1BA

21ST - 25TH FEBRUARY

**NEW!** **HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Vickers Way, Warwick, CV34 7AP

21ST - 25TH FEBRUARY

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**W:** [www.gogomakers.co.uk](http://www.gogomakers.co.uk)

**E:** [hello@gogomakers.co.uk](mailto:hello@gogomakers.co.uk)

**T:** 01926 935377

“ My Daughters last words  
last night before falling asleep...  
“I love GO GO Makers,  
it's magnificent!” ”

Mum, Clair

Inspiring young minds to think BIG!



**RATED 5 STARS ON GOOGLE**

# Diary Dates

Tuesday 18th January	Y4 Viking Day.
Monday 24th January	Y1 visit to St Mary's church
Friday 28th January	MUFTI (non-uniform) day. Bring 50p to wear your own choice of clothes. All proceeds to School Fund.
Monday 31st January	Author (Katie Sahota) visiting school to deliver assembly to all classes.
Wednesday 9th February	Vision screening for Reception pupils.
Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th February	Parent/Carer and teacher conferencing via Microsoft Teams—book your appointment on ParentPay.
Friday 18th February	MUFTI (non-uniform) day. Bring 50p to wear your own choice of clothes. All proceeds to School Fund.
<b>Monday 21st February—Friday 25th February, School closed for half-term holiday.</b> <b>Children return to school on Monday 28th February.</b>	
Tuesday 1st March	Y6 health and wellbeing questionnaire (delivered by the School Nursing Service.)
Wednesday 2nd March	Y4 visit to Lillington Library to watch a performance of "The Power of Possibilities."
Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day—more details soon!
Wednesday 23rd March	Y4 participate in "Voice in a Million" at Wembley.
Friday 25th March	MUFTI (non-uniform) day. Bring 50p to wear your own choice of clothes. All proceeds to School Fund.
<b>Monday 11th April—Friday 22nd April, school closed for the Easter holidays.</b> <b>Children return to school on Monday 25th April</b>	





# Sydenham Superstars

Photo coming soon!

Reception, Year One & Year Two



Years Three & Four

# Sydenham Superstars



Years Five & Six

Wishing you a happy  
and healthy 2022.

On behalf of all the staff  
at Sydenham, Happy  
new year! We're  
crossing our fingers that  
all our lovely families  
thrive and prosper in  
2022.

Have a super weekend.  
Best wishes from Miss  
Glenny.