

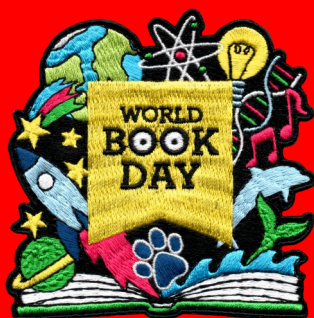
World Book Day



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

3 MARCH 2022

25 YEARS



On Thursday, we celebrated World book Day. It was such fun seeing the children's amazing costumes and hearing them talk so enthusiastically about their favourite stories. Well done!

As part of our celebrations, throughout the week each class has been exploring a different high quality picture book. Classroom doors have been decorated to match the theme or setting of each story and children have created their own books inspired by the text they're studying. We're so proud of everyone's hard work and love of reading. Sydenham really is a place full of beautiful book-worms!



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



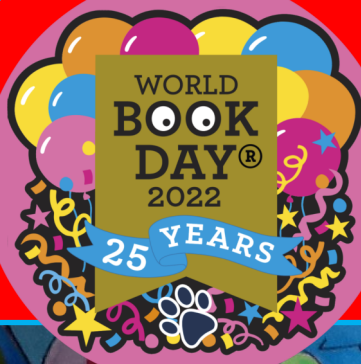
Knock, Knock!



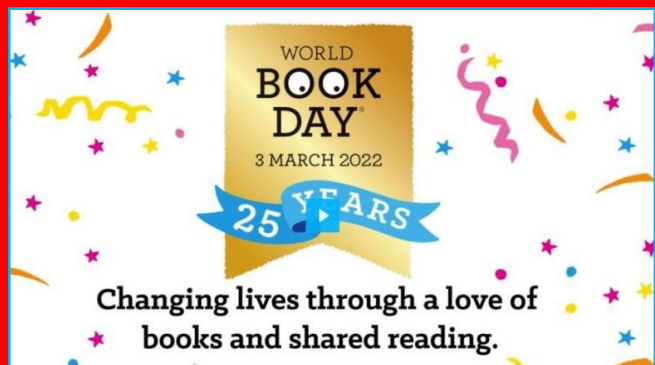
Who's There?

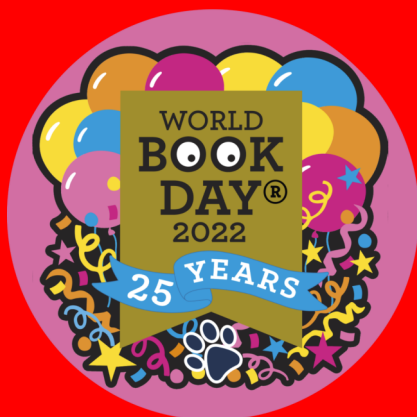


Look at our amazing classroom doors.



What fantastic costumes!





What fantastic costumes!



Don't forget to use the World Book Day token that you were given this week.



Say Hello to our Y3 Romans

On Monday, Y3 spent the day living as Romans. Pupils experienced life as a gladiator, handled reproduction artefacts and even played Roman games

Friends, Romans, Sydenham—lend me your ears!







"Highly Sprung" Performance

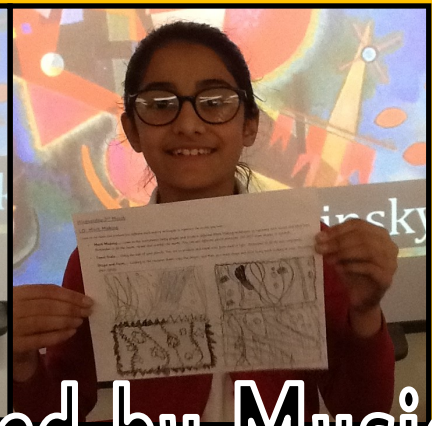
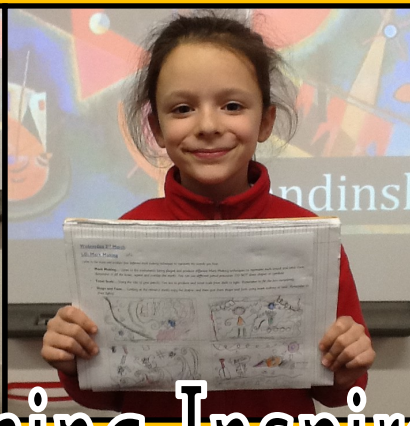
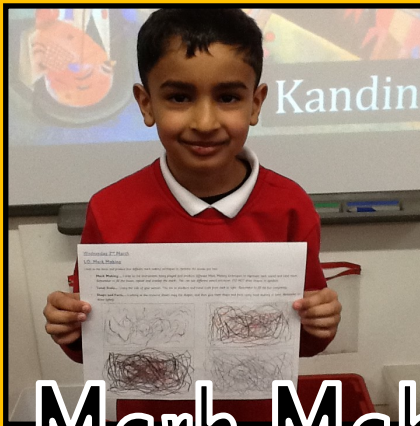


Year Four visited Lillington Library on Wednesday to watch a performance called "The Power of Possibilities" by the fantastic theatre company, "Highly Sprung." The show was based on the theme of climate change and explored what we can do to halt global warming.

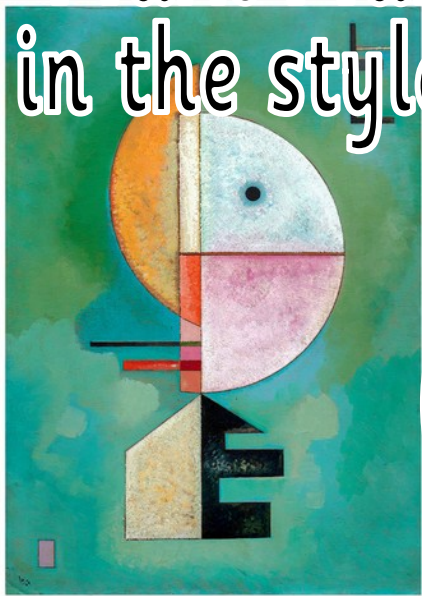


Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture

Y2 & Y4 Artists



Mark Making Inspired by Music in the style of Wassily Kandinsky



Drawings inspired by illustrator, Nick Sharratt



Solidarity



If you have something to say, share your opinion now as you will not be alone,

Let's work together to be brave and strong so we protect each other.

If we have solidarity within our communities and country then we can accomplish harmony and peace in our world,

With our power we can have solidarity, uniting all of us.

It doesn't matter if you are big or small, you can still make a difference,

Then our friendship will grow and grow, amazingly and positively.

By Tayyaba (Year Four)

She has written this brilliant poem all about sticking together and standing up for what's right.

Tayyaba was inspired by Miss Glenney's assembly this week on the theme of solidarity.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 14: Freedom of Thought, Belief and Religion

Y2 Special Visitor

Year Two have welcomed special visitor, Nasreen, into their classrooms to talk to about kindness in the context of Islam. Pupils were lucky enough to hear her read from the Qu'ran in Arabic and listen to her talking about 'Zakat'. Nasreen then asked the children to think about ways that we can show kindness.

"Play with someone if they are sad" (Luca)

"Be kind to each other then you will be blessed by God". (Tanu)

"You can be kind if someone is sad. You can help them if you are rich and share money". (Anvikkashri)

"We should share food with each other in case they do not have any food". (Taran)



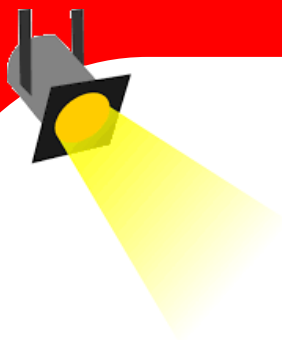
"You could say you love someone". (Charlie)

"If a child doesn't have a family let them come in your family". (Kiran)

"If a child doesn't have a family we could adopt or foster them". (Ella)

"Share your money. Share everything. Share your heart". (Penny)

"Give food and water to the poor". (Athena)



Spotlight on reading at school

At our school, children are given a book to take home to read which is colour banded to represent the level at which a child is reading. Below is a copy of these colours and the associated levels so that you can get an idea of how this works.

Remember that every child is different, and some will be further along this scheme than others.

Children in the Infant classes and those who are reading at the earlier stages of the banded system are generally given one reading book to take home to practise their reading (some children are given more than one book depending on their stage, their confidence and how often they read to an adult at home). Children are also encouraged to pick an age-appropriate book of their choice from the library. This book is often too difficult for a child to read solely by themselves, so this is a book for the adult to read to their child. This gives parents and carers an opportunity to share with their child what reading aloud should sound like, as well as supporting their child's listening and comprehension skills. In fact, reading aloud to your child is still really important as they get older and more able to read themselves, even up to Year 6; because they are able to fully immerse themselves in the story without having to do any of the hard work themselves. This website gives some really good tips and research about how and why reading aloud to older children is so important: <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/blog/carry-on-reading-aloud-the-benefits-of-sharing-books-with-older-children/>

Year group	Age	Book band level
Reception	4-5 years old	Lilac
		Pink
		Red
		Yellow
		Light blue
Year 1	5-6 years old	Green
		Orange
		Turquoise
Year 2	6-7 years old	Purple
		Gold
		White
		Lime
Year 3	7-8 years old	Brown
		Grey
Year 4	8-9 years old	Dark blue
Year 5	9-10 years old	Dark red
Year 6	10-11 years old	



Spotlight on reading at school

Some questions that teachers get asked by parents and carers are:

“Why hasn’t my child’s book been changed yet?” and “Why hasn’t my child moved to the next book band level?”

Generally speaking, books are changed in the Infant classes once a week. This is because children need the opportunity to read a book several times at home in order to develop a variety of reading skills — decoding the actual words in order to be able to read them at a good pace; gaining an understanding of what is actually happening and why; and then reading with greater fluency once the book has become familiar. Reading their reading book alongside listening to their library book, and reading other familiar books that they have at home typically takes a week.

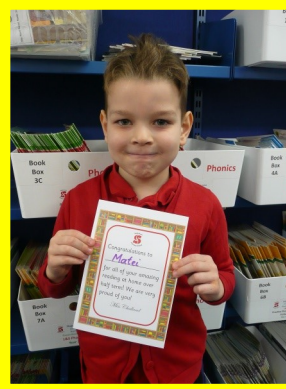
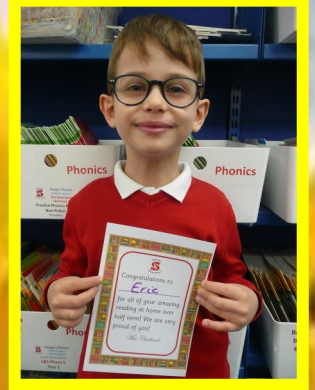
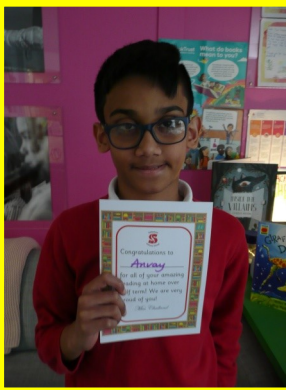
Teachers do not move children on to the next book band level unless they are certain that a child is ready in a number of ways: The teacher is listening out for how fluently a child is able to read — if they are reading each word robotically, even if they can recognise every word, they are not yet ready to move on. Equally, if children are able to read quite fluently, but cannot show their understanding of a text through reading with expression (e.g. rising up when reading aloud a question, emphasising a particular word in a sentence) or by not being able to answer questions about what is happening or why, they are not yet ready to move on.

Children who are more confident readers and who are reading longer chapter books will change their reading book less regularly. However, it is important to remember that even when children are confident to read every word in the book, we must always check their understanding both at school and at home. For example, do they get the gist of the story? Are they able to read between the lines (inference)? Are they aware of what some of the unfamiliar vocabulary means? Then we know that they are really developing as readers!

I hope that this has been useful! Miss Challand

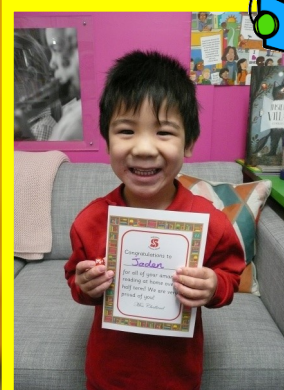
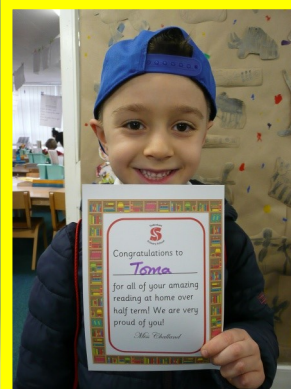
Celebrating Reading

We are so proud of all of the children who completed the half term reading challenge - to read on at least seven occasions over half term. They are Sydenham Super Stars!



This certificate was awarded to 38 children for last half term's challenge. This half term, this number has more than doubled!
WELL DONE, EVERYONE!





As promised, there are many more children's photos to look forward to on next week's newsletter (due to me running out of colour certificates this week!).

Read for Good

*Once you learn to read,
you will be forever free.*

Fredrick Douglass

Today marks the final day of our Read for Good sponsored read.

Thank you so, so much for all of your sponsors, both online and in school so far. I cannot wait to share with you the grand total in next week's newsletter. Please remember to send your child's sponsor form in on Monday to help us see how many children have been able to join in the event.



**Money can be paid directly online at
readforgood.org, or can be brought into
school.**

The Masked Reader



The 'Masked Reader' videos of our teachers reading stories in disguise on our YouTube channel have proved incredibly popular, with hundreds of views so far! The children still have time to return their quiz slips - Three lucky children's slips will be chosen at random next week, and those children will receive a bookish surprise!

Happy reading everyone! Miss Challand

Young Engineers Easter Workshops



Robot Rabbit Workshop

**Learn about idle gears and how to apply symmetry between gears.
Limited spaces available!**

Young Engineers Easter Workshop is a fun way to learn about mechanical engineering in a fun way. Each child will also receive a certificate as well as a FREE Easter gift for participating in the session.

Join us today and bring the STEM theory to life!

Monday 11th April at Myton School

Session 1: 9:30am to 11:30am

Session 2: 11:45am to 1:45pm

Session 3: 2pm to 4pm

Suitable for children between the ages of 6 and 11 years
£25 per child (sibling discount available at £23 per child)



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Diary Dates

Monday 21st February—Friday 25th February, School closed for half-term holiday.

Children return to school on Monday 28th February.

Monday 7th March	Freshwater Theatre Company visiting Y2 .
Thursday 17th/Friday 18th March	Y5 residential trip to Stratford
Monday 21st March	The Gonzaga Band performing Renaissance and Baroque music in school to Y4/5.
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.
Thursday 31st March	Y3 visit Chedworth Villa.
Wednesday 6th April	Junior silent disco (during the school day and free of charge.)

Monday 11th April—Friday 22nd April, school closed for the Easter holidays.

Children return to school on Monday 25th April

Thursday 5th May	Y3 visit The Cotswold Wildlife Park
Wednesday 18th –19th May	Y6 residential to Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge Gorge.
Wednesday 25th May	Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebration in school.

Monday 30th May—Friday 3rd June, school closed for Whitsun half-term holiday.



Sydenham Superstars



Reception, Year One & Year Two



Years Three & Four



Sydenham Superstars



Years Five & Six



Have a brilliant weekend, Everyone!

Best wishes from Miss Glenney

(Associate Headteacher)