

My First Day at School



Welcome back to school, Everyone! We hope you all enjoyed your summer holiday and managed some sort of a break, even if it was just a staycation.

It's been absolutely fantastic having all the children back together again and in class every day. Although government guidelines mean that we're having to adapt our usual school routines, pupils have been very positive about their learning and have enjoyed spending time with friends. Our teachers and teaching assistants are really enjoying their new classes and are making learning fun and engaging both in the classroom and outdoors.

It's a privilege getting to know our delightful new Reception pupils and we're very impressed with the way they have settled straight in to school life—the photographs on the next page show what a positive start they have made to their education.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 28: Right to Education



We Love School



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 28: Right to Education

Glad to be Back

Year Six explain why they're glad to be back at school:

I've missed all the different subjects.

I really pleased to see my friends again.

It's good to have a proper teacher who can explain things.

This is a lovely school.

It's great to mix with more people and be outside.

Learning at school is more interesting than at home.

I need a break from my brother!

I'm so excited about being with my new teacher.

I can't wait to do Maths!

I have a healthier routine when I'm at school.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 28: Right to Education

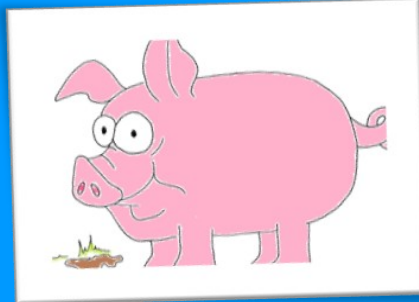
Our Learning Characters

These are the characters we use at school to help us develop a good attitude to our learning and **GROW** our brains!

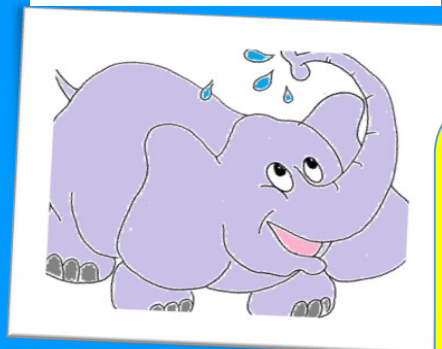
Concentrate.



Have a go.



Never give up.



Cooperate.

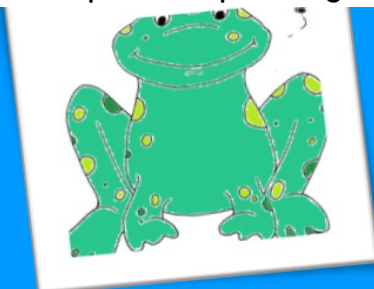
Be curious.



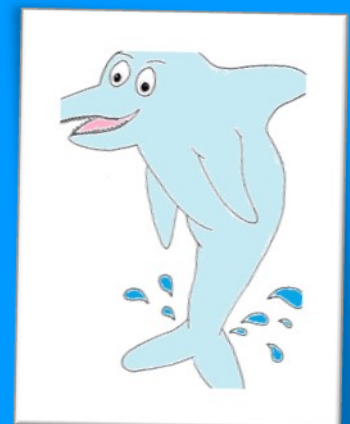
In class this week we have been thinking about having a positive attitude to learning so that we keep on trying even if things are hard.

When we think like our characters, we become learning superheroes!

Keep on improving.



Enjoy learning.



Use your imagination.



Learning is Fun



Across school, children are enjoying a broad and balanced curriculum with lots of active learning. We're so proud of the way our pupils have embraced their learning with positivity and a real desire to be successful.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education

Super Sewers

Year 5 have been sewing constellations as part of their learning on Space. Well done!



Information for the Forthcoming Year

Even if you are an existing parent, please take the time to read the following information which includes some important changes.

School Meals

A reminder that all infant children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to a free school meal. School dinners for juniors (years 3, 4, 5 and 6) now cost **£2.25**. Please pay using Parent Pay.

PE Kit

For health and safety reasons it is vital that your child has a full PE kit, **including trainers**, on the day of their lesson with Onside Coaches. Pupils will require black shorts and a white T shirt as well as jogging bottoms and a sweat top when the weather gets colder (as lessons may still take place outside.) All kit must be named and placed in a separate, labelled bag. **Please note that canvas pumps are no longer recommended for sport as they do not provide enough ankle support.**

Lateness and Absence

Classroom doors are currently open between 8.40am and 8.55am every morning ready for a prompt start to the school day at five to nine. Please remember that lateness causes disruption to a child's learning and can make children to feel upset and anxious.

Code Word

If your child is being collected from school by a person who is not a named contact, they will need to share a code word with the class teacher. This is a safeguarding precaution. To obtain the code word, please contact the office and then share it with the person responsible for collection. Please note that the code word changes on a daily basis.

Parent's Evenings

Families of children in Y1—6 should have received a Welcome Meeting Powerpoint via email. Please take the time to view this presentation as it contains useful information about your child's year ahead. We anticipate that you will have the chance to meet individually with your child's new class teacher via Microsoft Teams during the Autumn Term—dates to be confirmed. This meeting will be an opportunity to share information with the teacher and keep up to date with your child's academic progress.

MUFTI (non-uniform) Days

We regularly hold MUFTI (non-uniform) Days when pupils are invited to wear clothes of their own choice to school. We do ask that clothing is safe, suitable for the weather and not revealing in any way (so no high heels, flip-flops or crop-tops, please!) MUFTI Days are fund raising events to support School Fund so please provide a donation of 50p per child if they choose to wear their own clothes. All donations are spent on buying extra resources that help to make learning even more fun.

MUFTI Dates for the Autumn Term are as follows:

Friday 25th September

Friday 23rd October

Friday 27th November

Friday 18th December—Christmas jumper day!

Parking/School Gates

For reasons of health and safety, parents/carers must **not** use the school car park to drop off / collect their children at the start and end of the day unless they hold a disabled, blue badge. The gates will be locked from 8.30—9.15am and 3.00—3.30pm. Please inform the school office if you are a blue badge holder and they will arrange for the caretaker to unlock the gates to allow you entry/exit to the school site.

Home Learning and Book Bags

Home learning is a wonderful way to become involved in your child's education. It also promotes time management and academic discipline as well as being a fun way to practise skills or find out new things.

Your child should have already received a new home learning book. Class teachers will stick homework into your child's book each week. We will try hard to give your child several suggested activities related to their learning in school, so that everyone feels able to achieve something. You may choose to do one or two of the suggested activities, or may find that you have time to do all of them! Children are also expected to read at home on a regular basis and learn any spellings they are given. Children from Y1 – 6 must also practise their times tables. Please ensure your child has their book bag and reading book in school every day. If you have any difficulties with homelearning, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Medical Appointments and Medication

Please try to make medical / dental appointments out of school hours, so that your child does not miss out on any of her / his learning. Thank you, in anticipation of your support.

If your child requires regular medication such as an asthma inhaler or an Epipen, please inform the school office who will give you the relevant paperwork to complete. Please note that school staff are not allowed to routinely administer prescription medicines (such as antibiotics) to pupils. If your child requires antibiotics three times a day, we recommend that you administer the medicine before school, after school and before bed. Alternatively, you may come in to school and administer the medicine yourself at lunch time.

Covid-19 Safety Precautions

Please follow the one-way system whilst on the school site and maintain a physical distance from others. We appreciate that this may mean it will take a little longer to drop off and collect your child - please allow for this when planning your schedule for the day. More information about the measures we have taken to comply with government health and safety guidelines can be found in the letter sent to parents week beginning Monday 24th August. Please note that office staff cannot visit class "bubbles" to deliver PE kit or packed lunches that arrive late at school so please ensure pupils have all necessary equipment with them on arrival at school.

Eye Tests

Some children have returned to school and are having difficulty with their eyesight, perhaps because it has been more difficult to access eye tests during lock-down. If your child wears glasses, please make sure they are fit for purpose and in school every day. Thank you.

Nut Allergies

We currently have several pupils in school who suffer from a severe nut allergy and have been prescribed an EpiPen. In extreme cases, exposure/ingestion of nuts can cause Anaphylaxis. With this in mind we politely request that parents/carers refrain from bringing nuts to school. Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation.

School Photographs

If it is safe, the school photographer will be visiting to take individual pictures of children on Tuesday 24th November. We will confirm this date after the half-term holiday.

Online Safety

All children in school are taught how to stay safe online as part of our Computing curriculum. If your child does have electronic devices, please check that they are being used appropriately and set up correct privacy settings and parental controls—the following links will be helpful in this matter:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Internet-Matters-Booklet-Discovery-Digital-at-Primary-School.pdf>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

We would urge you to be particularly vigilant with mobile phones and to check that your child is using them appropriately on a regular basis.

The minimum recommended age for using WhatsApp is 16 years. Tik Tok is 13 years.

An important Change to our Before and After School Clubs

As parents who use this service are aware, due to COVID-19 we are running our breakfast club and after school Butterflies club in bubbles this term. Please be aware that we cannot accommodate any ad hoc bookings and any requests for a place must be made via email.

If you wish to use this service, please email admin2622@welearn365.com and request a contract. A contract will then be sent out to you and your request will be considered. Please note we only have a very small number of places left in each bubble.

With effect from Monday 14 September 2020, all bookings will be chargeable irrespective of whether your child attends or not. If your requirements have changed since initially completing your contract please contact Sarah Beck via email.

School Office

Please be aware that our school office is temporarily closed to visitors due to Covid-19 restrictions. If you have a query or need to pass on information, please telephone or email and we will be happy to respond to your query or concern.

School Meals

Our lunch menu for next week can be seen below.

Your child may choose either a hot deli bag, a cold deli bag or a baked potato with cheese. Please note that the baked potato is also served with vegetable sticks, a dessert and a carton of juice.

If your child is a vegetarian, please look carefully at the options for each day before making your choice.

This is a temporary menu, suitable for serving in the classroom. Once class "bubbles" are allowed to mix again, we hope to return to our normal service in the dinner hall.

Applying for Free School Meals

All meals are free for pupils in Reception, Year One and Year Two. Although families must pay for lunches after this point, you may be eligible for free school meals if you receive certain benefits or have an annual income of below £16,190. You can apply for free school meals online by visiting:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>



Educaterers Hot and Cold Deli Bag Menu Week 3 – w/c Mondays 14/09, 5/10, 2/11, 23/11, 14/12.

Monday

(v) Cheese Sandwich (D.G.SB.), Chocolate Cracknel (G.), Juice Carton



or

British Red Tractor Chicken Fillet Wrap
(G.)

Tuesday

British Sliced Turkey Wrap (G.), Yoghurt (D.), Raisin Box, Juice Carton



or

(v) Veggie Hot Dog
Linda McCartney veggie sausage (G.SB.SU.)

Wednesday

Tuna Mayo Soft Bap (G.F.E.) Up Beet Chocolate Cake (G.E.), Fresh Fruit, Milkshake (D.)



or

Lowerhurst Farm Organic Beefburger in Bap
(G.)
(vegetarian only) 2 x Veggie Fingers in a Bap (G.)

Thursday

British Roast Chicken Soft Bap (G.), Zesty Orange Cookie (G.), Fresh Fruit, Milkshake (D.)



or

Hot Dog
featuring our award winning pork sausage (G.SU.)
(vegetarian only) Veggie Hot Dog (G.SB.SU.)

Friday

(v) Cheddar Cheese Wrap (D.G.), Fruit Muffin (G.E.D.), Juice Carton



or

Fish Fillet Finger Bap
2 x Fish Fingers (F.G.)

Please note all deli bags are served with either vegetable sticks or salad.

A drink is provided with each meal, water is also available on request.

Ketchup is offered with the hot bap of the day

Presentation may vary to that shown in the photographs.

Meals may be served in bags or on plates depending on where they are to be served and eaten.

Key

V = vegetarian
D = Dairy
N = Coconut / Nuts
S = Sesame
E = Egg
G = Gluten/Wheat
F = Fish
M = Mustard
SB = Soya
SU = Sulphites



www.educaterers.co.uk

Menu may change to meet customer preferences.

Tel: 01926412999

Email: contactus@educaterers.co.uk

educaterers A FOOD STORY

Allergies

Please contact your school cook for information regarding the content of dishes and products on our menu.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 24: Health



A health and wellbeing update from your school nurse team

The Warwickshire School Health & Wellbeing Service is still here to provide support - even if this may be given in a different way to usual! Here's our latest newsletter with useful links, wellbeing advice, and details of how you can get help when you need it.

World Suicide Prevention Day

World Suicide Prevention Day takes place every year on the 10th September. The objective is to bring organisations and communities together to raise awareness of how we can create a world where fewer people die by suicide.

To support Suicide Prevention Day, we've put together some activities, information and resources for children and young people.



Support network and Stay Safe activities

It's important children and young people are aware of their support network and strategies for staying safe when they have periods of low mood or are struggling with their mental health. These activities can help identify coping strategies and organisations and individuals they can talk to when they need to - the details of support services below can be added to this.

[Activity one \(suitable for younger children and SEND\): hand drawing support network](#)

[Activity two: PAPYRUS Stay Safe plan](#)

Who to talk to if you need some help

If you're a child/young person and you have feelings about suicide or wanting to hurt yourself, it's really important to speak to a trusted adult. There are a number of services who can help, you can get their contact details here: compass-uk.org/cyp-services

Why not save some of these to your phone?



Did you know...

Suicide is the biggest killer of young people - male and female - aged under 35 in the UK.

In 2018, over 6,500 people died of suicide in the UK - around 18 per day.



Useful links



Back to school resources

NHS Every Mind Matters - back to school resources for all: cutt.ly/nhs-back-to-school

For parent/carers - Young Minds - what to do if your child is anxious about school: cutt.ly/ym-school-anxiety

For children and young people - Young Minds - coping with anxiety about going back to school: youngminds.org.uk/blog/coping-with-anxiety-about-going-back-to-school/



Wellbeing activities for at home



Draw or paint a portrait of you and your friends or family.



Find a green space and go for a walk. Try and spot 5 things you don't normally see.



Try out some of these healthy recipes that use seasonal veg: nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/dinner#seasonal



Emotional and mental health resources

Resources for professionals, parents/carers and young people: camhs-resources.co.uk

NHS Every Mind Matters
nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters

Young Minds Coronavirus support:
cutt.ly/young-minds-coronavirus

RISE resources: cwrise.com



Your school nurse team is here to help!

We know these times can be unsettling for children, young people and families. Our school nurse team is here to provide support with any concerns or questions about health and wellbeing: get in touch using the details below for free, confidential advice.

Parents/carers

Service mainline: 03300 245 204
Text Parentline: 07520 619 376

Children/young people aged 11–19 years

Text ChatHealth: 07507 331 525



www.compass-uk.org/services/warwickshire-school-health-wellbeing-service

Further links for children & young people around suicidal feelings
youngminds.org.uk/find-help/feelings-and-symptoms/suicidal-feelings

cutt.ly/childline-suicidal-feelings

nhs.uk/conditions/suicide/

helpguide.org/articles/depression/teenagers-guide-to-depression.htm

For SEND

Video for young people & young adults with learning disabilities about suicide prevention/staying safe:
youtu.be/6ZpjtVAgJns



COVID-19 family guidance

Information for Warwickshire families:
warwickshire.gov.uk/fis

Warwickshire FIS family newsletters:
<https://cutt.ly/FIS-newsletters>

Support accessing food:
cutt.ly/accessing-food-advice

Refuge Domestic Abuse Service Warwickshire:
Call 0800 408 1552
cutt.ly/refuge-warwks

For urgent support with mental health for children and young people, please call the 24/7 CW RISE supportline:

02476 641 799 between 8am and 8pm
0300 200 0011 outside these hours



Just a quick question that's been on my mind the past few days

No problem, we're here to help. What's on your mind?



Well done to Y4 AH who had the highest attendance at school this week with 96%.

Attendance for other classes this week was as follows:

YR HC	81%
Y6 KG	85.0%
YR LS	86%
Y1 CD	88%
Y4 SM	91%
Y3 CR	91%
Y2 CP	92%
Y2 RK	92%
Y5 CB	93%
Y6 JvS	94%
Y1 EL	94%
Y3 JL	94%
Y5 JE	95%

The minimum acceptable attendance, as stipulated by Warwickshire Local Authority, is 95%. Low attendance results in poorer educational progress and attainment.

Please note that our school attendance target is 97%.



Sydenham Superstars

Mrs Scholes Class (YR LS)

Mrs Scholes has chosen **Bethany** as her superstar. Bethany is growing in confidence and has managed her feelings really well this week. She has been such a kind girl and a lovely friend to others in class. Well done, Bethany!

Mrs Harrad/Mrs Cox's Class (YR HC)

Viram is the YR HC superstar. He has been a happy and enthusiastic member of class who has become more and more confident every day. Well done, Viram. You have made a brilliant start at school.

Mrs Lee's Class (Y1 EL)

Mrs Lee has chosen **Scarlett J** as her superstar this week. Scarlett has persevered with her handwriting and really concentrated on her letter formation, just like our eagle Learning Character, Super effort, Scarlett!



Miss Daly's Class (Y1 CD)

Henry has been chosen as Y1 CD superstar. He has come to school every day with a great big smile on his face and has been a fantastic role model for others. Henry has concentrated on his learning and made great progress.

Miss Peter's Class (Y2 CP)

The Y2 CP superstar is **Poppy**. Miss Peters is so impressed by Poppy's hard work and is thrilled to hear from Mrs Napier that her reading is coming on in leaps and bounds. What a star!

Miss Knight's Class (Y2 RK)

Miss Knight has chosen **Amber** as this week's superstar. Amber has been a cooperative member of the class who is able to ask for help when learning something new. This is really helping her to make fantastic progress.



Mr Lee's Class (Y3 JL)

The Y3 JL superstar is **Aryana**. She has come back to school and got straight on with her learning without making a fuss. She has been a fantastic member of the class and is being like our dolphin Learning Character, enjoying her learning.



Mrs Christensen/Mrs Rastall's Class (Y3 CR)

This week, **Kelsie** has been chosen as superstar. Kelsie transferred her maths language and learning into her English lessons in a really impressive way. She was able to use what she knew about the “part-part-whole” model of number and apply it to her thinking about instructional writing. Well done, Kelsie!

Mr Hawes' Class (Y4 AH)

Mr Hawes has chosen **Sara** as his class superstar. Sara has been using all of her Learning Characters and showed a brilliant growth mindset when learning about Roman numerals. Mr Hawes was impressed by her perseverance and desire to improve.



Mrs Madahar's Class (Y4 SM)

Chloe is this week's Y4 SM superstar. Chloe has been enthusiastic about her learning, has made a super effort with all tasks and has tried her best in everything that she has done. Chloe, Mrs Madahar says you are a joy to have in the classroom.

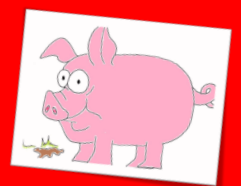
Miss Ball's Class (Y5 CB)

Miss Ball has chosen **Valerie** as this week's superstar. Valerie is new to school and has settled into class really well. She has worked hard, completed all tasks and concentrated well. Miss Ball is very proud of you, Valerie.



Miss Ellershaw's Class (Y5 JE)

Miss Ellershaw has picked **Yeleen** to be her superstar. Yeleen has returned to Sydenham after moving away and we're so pleased she's back. She has shown a positive attitude and worked independently. Well done!



Miss Gillespie's Class (Y6 KG)

Imi is the Y6 KG superstar. Imi showed a great growth mindset during her writing on fossils. She was able to edit, improve and add extra information to her work, showing brilliant perseverance.



Mrs Van der Sterren's Class (Y6 JvS)

This week's superstar is **Jessica**. Jess showed a fantastic maths mindset when exploring the Fibonacci sequence and was brilliant at reasoning and explaining her thinking.

Dates for your diary...

Mufti (non-uniform) Days

Friday 25th September

Friday 23rd October

Friday 27th November

Friday 18th December—Christmas jumper day!

To all of our lovely Sydenham Families:

Have a great weekend and a well earned rest. See you all again on Monday.

From Miss Glenny and the team.

In-Service Training (INSET) Days

School will be closed for staff continuing professional development on the following dates:

Monday 23rd November 2020

Monday 4th January 2021

School Photographer visiting for individual photographs—provisional date dependent on Covid restrictions.

Tuesday 24th November 2020.

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 26th October 2020—Friday 30th October 2020.

Christmas Holiday

Monday 21st December 2020—Friday 1st January 2021

Pupils return to school on Tuesday 5th January (school closed on 4th January for staff training.)

Free Reconditioned Laptops

Riccardo have very kindly donated another three reconditioned laptops for distribution to families who may not have access to adequate technology. Each device has been tested for electrical safety, has Microsoft Word pre-loaded and comes with a mains cable and carry bag.

If you would like to be considered for one of the laptops, please email or ring the school office.

Thank you to Riccardo for their generosity.