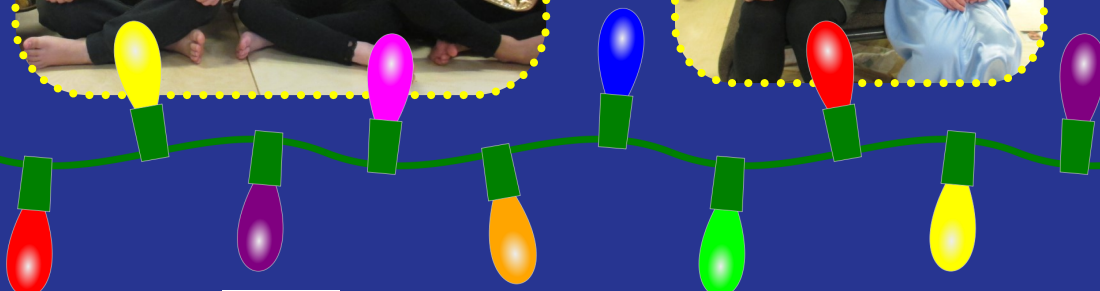


# The Nativity

Reception made us all very proud on Wednesday when they performed a delightful Nativity. It was a joy to watch.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



GOLD AWARD



# RSC Shakespeare Ambassadors



The children you can see in the picture above are our newly appointed Shakespeare Ambassadors. There are 600 Shakespeare Ambassadors across the country who all believe that the arts matter. They have taken on this position of responsibility to advocate for Shakespeare and the Arts in education and the wider community.

On Wednesday, the Shakespeare Ambassadors received training from Holly and Lily who both work with the RSC Youth Advisory Board. They helped the children to consider their role more deeply and plan different activities they would like to hold in order to promote arts in school and the local community.

We are very proud of our Shakespeare Ambassadors and look forward to them putting all their ideas in to practice.



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



# Christmas Hoops

We hope you like the Christmas hoops hanging in the hall. Every child has made a decoration which they can take home at the end of term. The photograph below shows the Year Two hoop which bears the message, "we are all unique, like snowflakes." This message very much reflects the ethos of our school.

We are all unique



like snowflakes.

# Y4 Art Exhibition



Here's a sneak preview of the work Year Four are creating in preparation for their art exhibition. The theme for the exhibition is "bioluminescence" - a natural phenomenon which the children have learnt about as part of their Blue Abyss topic. Year Four parents and carers are invited to attend the exhibition on Tuesday 10th December from 4.45—5.30pm in the classroom.



# Archery Club



**This year, we are working with a company called Supported Learning to deliver a range of more unusual sports clubs to groups of children. All the clubs are free of charge and pupils are individually selected to attend. Last week our first club, archery, started. We are also hoping to offer fencing, trampolining, badminton and Kwik Cricket later on in the year.**



**UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**Article 29: Goals of Education**

## Charity Fund Raising

Thanks to your generosity, we have raised £88.36 for the Royal British Legion poppy appeal. Our Dare to be Different MUFTI day also raised £113.50 for the mental health charity Young Minds.

Bags2 School also raised £166.40 for the PTA.

Thank you for your support.



# Anti-Bullying

As part of our work on anti-bullying, we are promoting the importance of kindness which is enshrined in our school rule, “we are kind and helpful; we don’t hurt anyone’s feelings.” Your child should have brought home a copy of this kindness advent calendar as part of their homelearning. Please encourage them to complete as many tasks as possible.



## KINDNESS CALENDAR: DECEMBER 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Encourage kindness. Share the Kindness Calendar with others	2 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about	3 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today	4 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	5 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	6 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	7 Make gifts to give to people who are homeless or feeling lonely
8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	10 Count your blessings: list the kind things others have done for you	11 Give someone your place in a queue (in traffic or in a shop)	12 See how many different people you can smile at today	13 Buy some extra items and donate them to a local food bank	14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one
15 Visit an elderly neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you meet today	17 Thank people who do things for you but you may take for granted	18 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment	19 Give away something that you have been holding on to	20 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	21 Shop locally and support independent producers
22 Invite over someone who would otherwise be alone	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Offer spontaneous hugs to your loved ones and friends	25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!	26 Encourage others to join you outside and enjoy time in nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat	28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy
29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciated their gift	31 Plan what extra acts of kindness you will do in 2020...	<p><b>“Do your little bit of good where you are; those little bits together overwhelm the world” ~ Desmond Tutu</b></p> 			

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**

**#DoGoodDecember**



[www.actionforhappiness.org](http://www.actionforhappiness.org)

Your happiness is part of something bigger



Join the movement for a happier and kinder world

A blue night sky with a large white star and many smaller stars. In the foreground, silhouettes of a nativity scene are shown on a dark hill. On the left, three camels are walking. On the right, a donkey stands near a manger where Mary and Joseph are seated. Two palm trees are on the far right.

# Christmas Concerts 2019

Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend  
their child's Christmas carol concert on the  
following dates in the school hall:

**Wednesday 11th December: Years One and Two from  
9.30—10.15am.**

**Thursday 12th December: Years Three and Four from  
2.00—2.30pm.**

**Friday 13th December: Years Five and Six from 2.00—  
2.30pm.**

Year 6 recorders will also be playing at ASDA in aid of  
Myton Hospice on Thursday 19th December from  
1.45—2.45pm.

# Father Christmas



**On Friday 13th December we will be taking children in Reception, Year One and Year Two to Warwick Arts' Centre to watch a performance of "Father Christmas" by Raymond Briggs. Please see the letter sent home in book bags for more information.**

Join Santa as he awakes from a dream of sun, sea and sand only to find it is the busiest day of the year: Christmas Eve.

Watch as he prepares his Christmas deliveries, feeds his reindeer and finally takes flight into the snowy night.

This heart-warming adaptation is full of merry touches with plenty of live music, songs and playful puppetry. It's a perfect introduction to theatre for young children who won't be able to look away as secret doors and hidden hatches are revealed in this beautifully visual show.

**"Magnificent"** ★★★★★ The Observer

**"Magical"** ★★★★★ The Upcoming

## YR/1/2 Christmas Theatre Trip

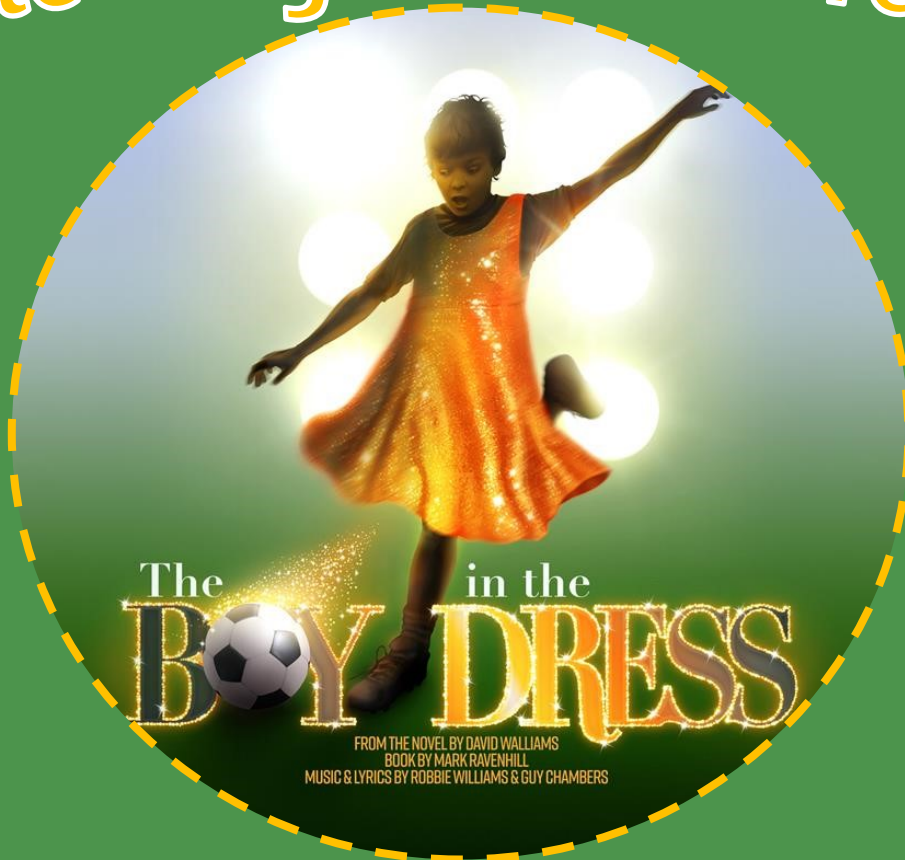
UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture





# The Boy in the Dress



**On Wednesday 15th January, we will be taking children in years 3/4/5/6 to The Royal Shakespeare Theatre to see a production of David Walliams', "The Boy in the Dress."**  
**Please see the letter sent home in book bags for more information.**

Dennis is 12 years old and his school football team's star striker. But when Mum leaves home, life is tough. The only reminder Dennis has of Mum is a photo of her in a beautiful yellow dress. A dress rather like the one on the cover of *Vogue* on sale at Raj's newsagents. And also a bit like the one that Lisa James, the coolest girl in the school, is sketching in her note book. What do you do if you like both football and dresses? And what will Mr Hawtrey the headteacher do when he discovers that his strict uniform code has been broken by a boy in a dress?

David Walliams' heart-warming comedy is brought to the stage for the first time in a musical with all new songs from Robbie Williams and Guy Chambers, script by former RSC playwright in residence Mark Ravenhill and in a production for all the family directed by RSC Artistic Director Gregory Doran.

## KS2 Theatre Trip



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture

# Lateness

Follow our top tips to help you arrive at school on time every day!

- **Be organised:** Prepare as much the night before as you can—sandwiches/lunch money, uniform/PE kits, books and homework.
- **Get a good night's sleep:** A good bedtime routine is vital for children regardless of their age. (Beware of children watching TV or playing computer games in their bedroom beyond their bedtime.) Many children do not get enough sleep so are tired in the morning and reluctant to come to school.
- **Limit screen time:** Limit access to the television and electronic before school. This is a distraction for all.
- **Have a morning routine:** Ensure that you get your child up early, allowing time for them to be washed and dressed without rushing. Ensure breakfast is eaten to kick start their metabolism and give them energy for the day ahead.
- **Leave plenty of time:** - Leave for school earlier than necessary. Arriving early is less stressful for all. Children have the time to socialise and parents are more relaxed. Try parking away from the school and walking part way. Walking has proven to help with concentration in school.
- **Be consistent:** Keep a good routine during the school holidays and weekends. This makes returning to school easier for everyone.

**The law states that once a child is registered in a school, it is the parents/carers legal responsibility to ensure their regular and punctual attendance.**

Being late can cause anxiety, confusion, embarrassment and loss of learning time for your child. Every minute of lateness adds up:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| * 5 minutes lateness per day                   | = | up to 1 whole DAY missed every TERM.          |
| * 15 minutes lateness per day                  | = | 2 whole WEEKS missed every YEAR.              |
| * 50 minutes late <i>once</i> a week (9.40 am) | = | 1 whole DAY missed EVERY HALF Term            |
| * 50 minutes late ONCE a week                  | = | 1 whole WEEK missed every YEAR.               |
| * 50 minutes late every week                   | = | 90% attendance over a year.                   |
| * 90% attendance during primary school         | = | nearly a full year missed. (130 days missed.) |



**UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**Article 3: Best interests of the child.**

# Tree Planting



As you might know, Sydenham currently holds the Silver Woodland Trust Green Trees Award which recognises the work of schools who improve the environment and promote outdoor learning.

Last Friday, Mrs Ashworth and Tim Naylor (governor) plus some of our Eco Ambassadors and Woodland Ambassadors planted trees in the Forest School area. Pupils planted saplings supplied by The Woodland Trust. They will form a mixed hedgerow including crab apple, dogwood and hazel. We hope this variety will increase the diversity of wildlife visiting our Forest School area and help the environment.



**UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**Article 3: Best interests of the child.**

## Other Information

### **Lunch Arrangements for the YR/1/2 Theatre Trip**

Reception, Year One and Year Two are visiting Warwick Arts' Centre on Friday 13th December to watch a performance of "Father Christmas" by Raymond Briggs. All children will have an early lunch before boarding the coach at 12.25pm. **The kitchen will provide a free packed lunch on this day for every pupil.**

### **Food Bank Vouchers**

Christmas can be an expensive time of year. If you are struggling for money and need a food bank voucher, please contact Miss Fennelly using the main school office telephone number.

### **Healthy Eating**

We are noticing that some children are bring packed lunches from home which contain large amounts of junk food. Please provide a healthy mix of foods for your child and try to limit sweet treats to one small item. Some children are also bringing drinks containing high levels of sugar. We recommend water, milk or fruit juice as a healthy alternative.





# Attendance Matters

...every school day counts!

**Well done to Y3 JML who had the highest attendance at school this week with a brilliant 98%**

Attendance for other classes this week was as follows:

Y3 JL	96%
YR RK	96%
Y5 RA	96%
YR LS	95%
Y4 SM	95%
Y4 AH	95%
Y2 AP	95%
Y1 EL	95%
Y2 CP	95%
Y1 CD	94%
Y5 CB	94%
Y6 KG	94%
Y6 JvS	93%

**Please note that our school attendance target is 97%. The minimum acceptable attendance, as stipulated by Warwickshire Local Authority, is 95%.**

**Low attendance results in poorer educational progress and attainment.**

# Lateness

Follow our top tips to help you arrive at school on time every day!

- **Be organised:** Prepare as much the night before as you can—sandwiches/lunch money, uniform/PE kits, books and homework.
- **Get a good night's sleep:** A good bedtime routine is vital for children regardless of their age. (Beware of children watching TV or playing computer games in their bedroom beyond their bedtime.) Many children do not get enough sleep so are tired in the morning and reluctant to come to school.
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- **Leave plenty of time:** - Leave for school earlier than necessary. Arriving early is less stressful for all. Children have the time to socialise and parents are more relaxed. Try parking away from the school and walking part way. Walking has proven to help with concentration in school.
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**UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**Article 3: Best interests of the child.**

# Diary Dates

Tuesday 10th December	YR Christmas Crafternoon, 2.00—3.00pm
Tuesday 10th December	Y4 Art Exhibition, 4.45—5.30pm
Wednesday 11th December	Y1 and Y2 carol concert, 9.30—10.15am in the hall. All Y1/2 parents/carers are warmly invited to attend.
Wednesday 11th December	Rainbows tea party at 2.45pm.
Thursday 12th December	Y3/4 carol and recorder concert, 2.00—2.30pm in the hall. Y3/4 parents/carers are warmly invited to attend.
Thursday 12th December	Y1/2 Christmas Crafts, 9.15—10.45am, small hall.
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Crafts for Y1 & 2, 9.15—10.45am. (This event is now full.)
Thursday 12th December	Y6 height and weight checks.
Friday 13th December	Y5/6 carol and recorder concert, 2.00—2.30pm in the hall. Y5/6 parents/carers are warmly invited to attend.
Friday 13th December	YR/1/2 visit Warwick Arts' Centre to watch a performance of "Father Christmas" at 1.30pm.
Monday 16th December	Rocksteady concert at 2.00pm.
Monday 16th to Wednesday 18th December	PTA Present Wrap Room.
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas Lunch.
Thursday 19th December	YR Christmas party, PM.
Thursday 19th December	Pop-up planetarium in school for Y1
Friday 20th December	MUFTI/Christmas jumper day. Please bring a donation of 50p per child for School Fund.

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Monday 23rd December 2019—Friday 3rd January 2020**

**Return to school on Monday 6th January 2020**

**School will be closed on the following dates for INSET (teacher Training) in 2020:  
Friday 31st January, Monday 20th April, Monday 20th July.**



# Sydenham Super Stars!



Congratulations to all of this week's YR/ KS1 Sydenham Super Stars!

# Sydenham Super Stars!



Congratulations to all of this week's KS2 Sydenham Super Stars!

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes from Miss Glenny and Miss Challand