



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 14: Freedom of Thought, Belief and Religion



Seasons Greetings



From Reception

Seasons Greetings



From Reception

Deck the Halls



Christmas Decorations

Seasons Greetings



We made salt dough following simple instructions.

We using stencils to make Christmas shapes

After that we put them in the oven for 2 hours.

We then decorated them with glitter ready to put on our Christmas Trees.



Deck the Halls



Christmas Lunch





Christmas Parties



Charity Jumper Day



All Proceeds to Myton Hospice



Jake, in Year Two, was so inspired by his "Marvellous Monarchs" topic that he decided to write to the Queen and ask her a question. He was thrilled to receive a royal letter back all the way from Windsor Castle! Well done, Jake. We love your question and admire your curiosity and dedication to learning. Arise Sir Jake of Sydenham Primary School!

Dear Your Majesty

My name is Jake Marten walk
and we are learning about
you at school. I am 6
years old. I'm amazed how long
you have been our queen.
I was wondering when you are
100 years. Will you write a
letter to your self. Good
by.

WINDSOR CASTLE

7th December 2020

Dear Jake,

The Queen wishes me to write and thank you for your letter, in which you tell Her Majesty that you have been learning about her life and work.

Although The Queen is unable to reply personally to all the many letters she receives every day, Her Majesty was pleased to hear from you and much appreciated your kind thought for her at this time.

I enclose a little information about The Queen's Working Day, which I hope you will enjoy, and I am to thank you once again.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Hussey

Lady-in-Waiting

Marvellous Monarchs

Year One have made rockets, moon buggies and astronauts as part of their “Moon Zoom” topic. Pupils also made a stop motion animation using scenery and puppets of their own design. Out of this world, Y1!



Moon Zoom

We looked at and played with a range of moving vehicles. We observed and looked at how they moved.



We made simple moon buggies using corrugated cardboard or plastic, pushing axles through the voids and attaching wheels. We then tested our vehicles.



Moon Zoom

Winter Food Vouchers

If you are registered with the free schools meals office for your child to receive free schools meals you will be receiving an email for each eligible child you have from PayPoint Services (no-reply@paypointsvp.com.)

The email will include a voucher for you to redeem in the sum of £36.15 to enable you to purchase food for your child for the 2 week Christmas holiday . Please download and print the voucher and take it to your nearest paypoint store. The two stores nearest to school are McColls and Asda .

Invitation to Heartbreak Production's Live Streamed Carol Service

To watch Heartbreak Production's live-streamed carol service which features performances from some of our children, please click on the link <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqeW-42IsIYNGgrSo1vNm5Q> on Sunday 20th December at 6.00pm. If you can't watch live, the service is available to view on YouTube throughout the Christmas holidays.

For more information, please see the press release below:

Live Leamington Christmas Concert Helps the Helping Hands

Andy Guthrie and the Leamington Sings! Concert Choir put final touches to their virtual programme of Christmas music and words. 30 children from Sydenham Primary school will also star in Leamington's first ever online broadcast of a Christmas Carol Concert.

Local friends David Clargo and Maddy Kerr have teamed up with Leamington Town Council and Heartbreak Productions to create an event for people across the district and around the world. It takes place on Sunday 20th December at 6pm.

As well as music, festive readings and plenty of sing-along carols, the concert will premiere the Leamington Sings! Virtual Choir's rendition of 'It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!' Choir members have been rehearsing on Zoom for weeks and their special song will be played.

Co-organiser and concert host David Clargo says: 'It's been a tough year. So we thought let's get together for some Christmas sparkle, where people can join in and come together from the safety of their own homes.'

Alongside raising spirits, the concert hopes to raise money for Helping Hands to support the most vulnerable at this time of the year. Chief executive Lianne Kirkman says: 'We are so grateful to Leamington Sings! The concert will be a very special event and it is truly appreciated that it will be in support of Helping Hands.'

'All the work we do is powered by the great community around us in Leamington, Warwick and Kenilworth and this concert is a perfect example of that. It will help us to help our clients at a time of year which can be particularly difficult for them.'

The Leamington Sings! Concert will be broadcast live on YouTube on Sunday 20th December at 6pm. Full details at www.leamingtonsings.co.uk

Christmas Class Performances

Class performances are now available to watch on the school website. Enjoy!

Family Support at Christmas

A message from the school health team:

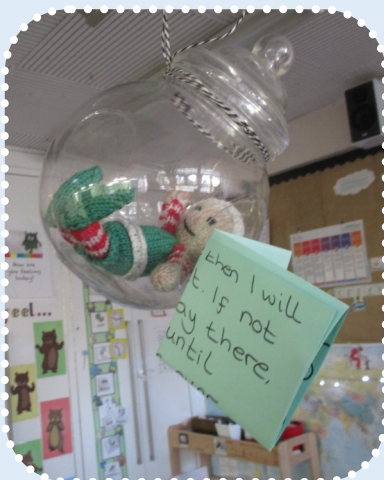
We are aware that after a year of upheaval and uncertainty, lots of parents/carers are trying to support their children with issues including challenging behaviour, difficult emotions, sleep disorders and many others. We would like to reiterate that help is available for Warwickshire families, and have posted this blog article - <https://www.compass-uk.org/news/parents/help-at-christmas/> Family support at Christmas.

Positive Cases of Coronavirus

Please note that Mrs Westwood will be monitoring her school email address up to, and including, Thursday 24th December **in case your child tests positive for Covid-19**. Please note that the self-isolation period has now been reduced to 10 days

If your child has a positive test, please email at: head2622@welearn365.com Please include your child's name, class, date they first showed symptoms, date of the test, and date of the positive result.

Reception Beat the Grinch!



This week, the mean old Grinch trapped Reception's elf and wouldn't let him go! The children wrote letters trying to persuade him to release the poor elf. They even made a Grinch trap filled with sweets as bait. Thankfully, their letters worked and the elf was freed in time for Christmas.

Reading News

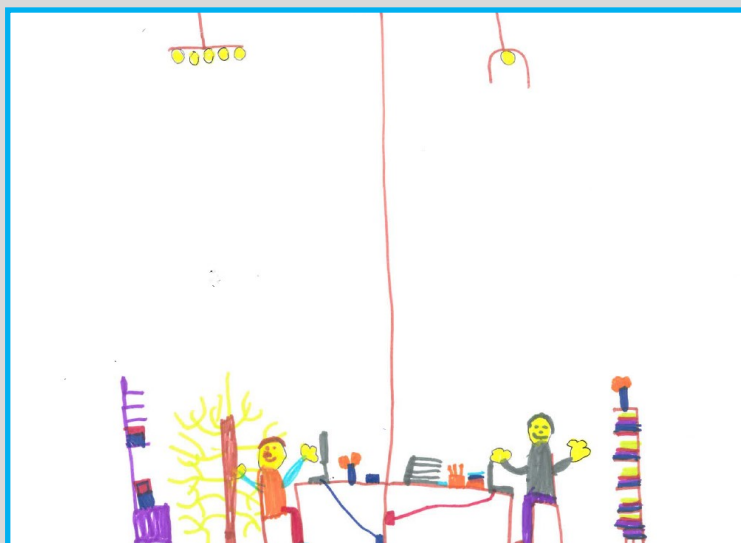
New Reading Books



Many thanks to The PTA for funding the purchase of new reading books. These texts provide appropriate challenge and consolidation for those children coming to the end of the reading scheme.

Reading Superstars


A big well done to all the children who have worked so hard with Mrs Napier on their reading this term. You've made brilliant progress and we're very proud of you!



This lovely reading picture, drawn by Freddie, was spotted by the Reading Recovery Network and is going to be featured in one of their promotional videos. We think it definitely deserves to be the star of the show.

Balancing screen time

internet
matters.org



5 top tips to support children and young people

1

Lead by example

Just like anything, **children copy their parents' actions and behaviour**. If you set boundaries for your own screen, it will be easier for your kids to do the same.

2

Set boundaries WITH your kids

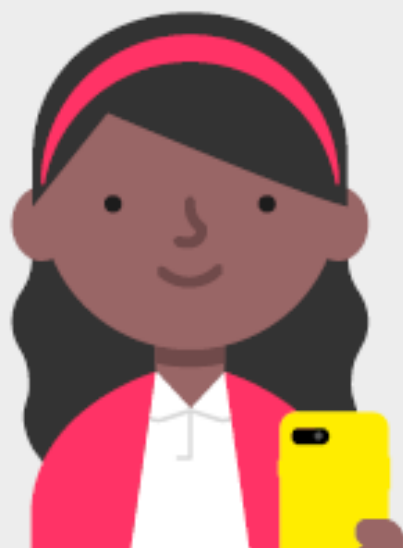
Get them involved in the process of **setting age appropriate limits** on how long they can spend online, at what times and on which platforms. Set up screen-free times or rooms where screens are out of sight and therefore more likely to be out of mind. Review these as they get older and give them the space to take greater responsibility for their screen use.



3

Ensure a healthy mix of screen activity

Make sure they have a **good balance of screen activities** that encourage creativity, learning & education, connecting with family & friends, as well as using devices for passively engaging with content.



4

Avoid using screen time as a reward

This will elevate the status of screen time above other activities and like using food as a reward **may encourage children to simply want more.**



5

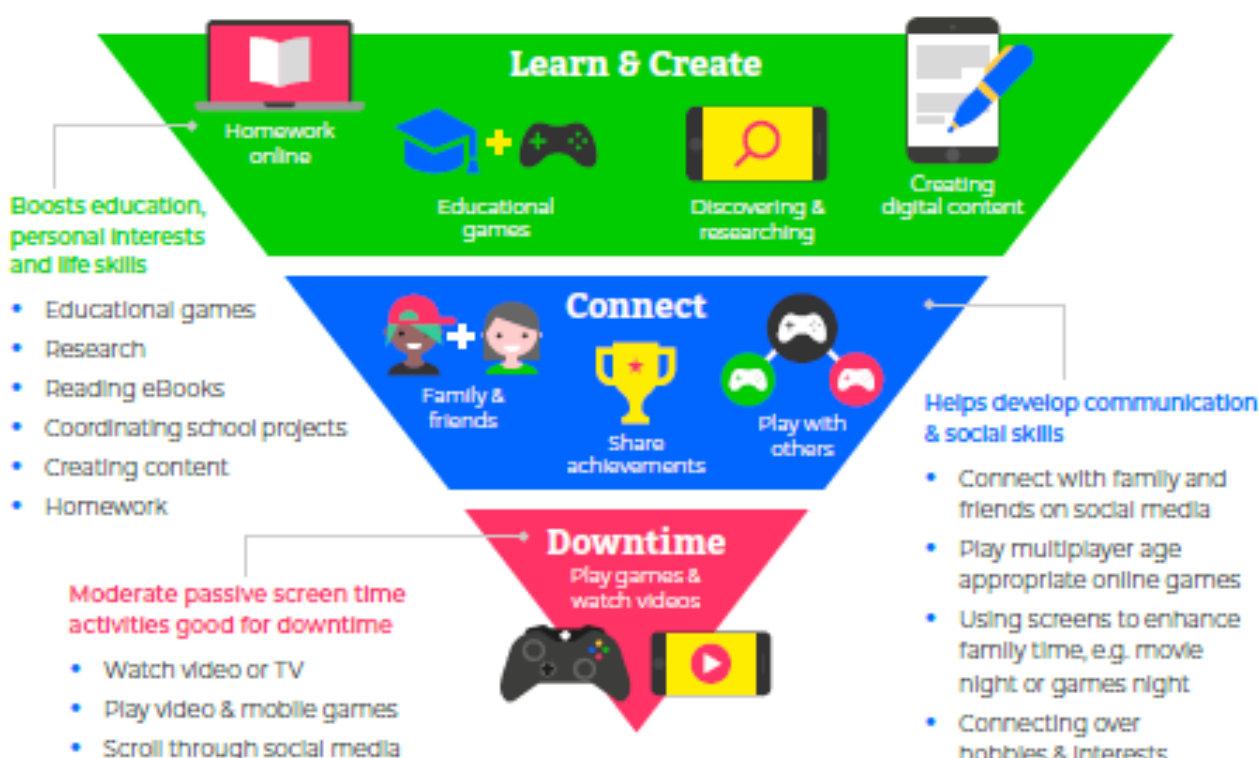
Physical activity & sleep are really important

Make sure screens are not displacing **these things** by keeping screens out of bedrooms at bed time and that you are creating opportunities for your children to be active each day.



Creating a balanced digital diet

Like a healthy meal, a healthy digital diet can help children **to develop good online habits**. Use our **digital diet tips** to help children prioritise screen time activities in a balanced way.



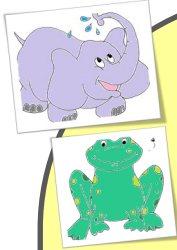
Visit internetmatters.org/screentime for more advice

InternetMatters

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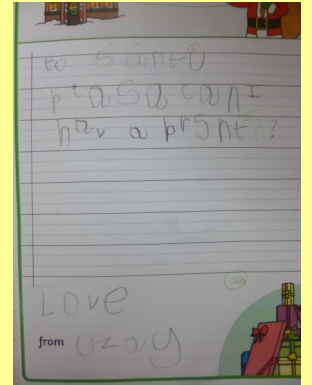
Sydenham Superstars

YR LS

Well done to **Shray** who is this week's YR LS superstar. Shray always tries his best in everything he does. He has lovely manners and is kind, cheerful and helpful. You've had a brilliant first term at school, Shray.

YR HC

Mrs Cox and Mrs Harrad have chosen **Uzay** as superstar for the lovely letter he wrote to Santa. Uzay used his sounds to help him write and even remembered to include a question mark at the end of his sentence.



Y1 EL

Demir has been chosen as Y1 EL superstar this week for the hard work he's putting in to his English work. Demir has really concentrated on his presentation, sentence structure and word order and wrote a fabulous set of instructions explaining how to build a snowman.

Y1 CD

Isla-Rose has been chosen as this week's superstar. Isla has concentrated well all week and shown brilliant listening skills. She has worked independently in lessons and sang beautifully during her Christmas performance. What a star!

Y2 CP

Miss Peters has chosen **Rocco P** as superstar in recognition of the super effort he's been making with his reading at home and school. Rocco has also produced some lovely Topic work and a great story based on "The Paper Bag Princess."

Y2 RK

The Y2 RK superstar is **Nisal** who has been chosen because of his determination in writing. Nisal has persevered and been like our elephant Learning Character, never giving up. You're starting to believe in yourself, Nisal and Miss Knight is very proud of you. Keep it up.

Y3 JL

Mr Lee has chosen **Tayyaba** as superstar for her growth mindset in Maths lessons. Tayyaba has worked so hard on the areas of maths she finds tricky and has been very appreciative of help from the adults in class. Well done, Tayyaba. You're making excellent progress.

Sydenham Superstars

Y3 CR

We have a maths superstar in Y3 CR—**Ajaaigar**. Ajaai has really worked hard to improve his mental maths and is making great progress with instant recall of his multiplication facts. This is helping him to speed up in lessons and complete his work. Well done!

Y4 AH

Holly has had a fantastic half-term and is Mr Hawes' superstar. Holly has made a big effort with her handwriting and is taking a real care with both the presentation and content of her writing. She is also a flourishing mathematician. Super progress, Holly!

Y4 SM

The Y4 SM superstar is **Mehtaab** who has been chosen because of her kindness, good manners and generosity. Mehtaab includes everybody in her games and is always friendly and patient. These are wonderful qualities Mehtaab.

Y5 CB

The Y5 CB superstar is **Abigail** who's been nominated by two of her classmates for being cheerful, funny and a great friend. Abigail is always well behaved and she makes sensible choices. She's a super talk partner and a great member of the class.

Y5 JE

Miss Ellershaw has chosen **Iara** as class superstar. Iara has really tried her best in maths and has done some lovely writing around the topic of World War One. Well done for using your growth mindset, Iara. You're a Sydenham superstar.

Y6 KG

George is the Y6 JvS superstar. George has a cheerful disposition in class and is always cracking jokes with others. He has impressed with his "have a go" attitude and ability to keep on trying, even when the learning is challenging.

Y6 JvS

The Y6 JvS superstar is **Harleen** who has been chosen for working hard at mental arithmetic and fractions. Harleen has put lots of effort in to using her times table to help recognise equivalent fractions. She has concentrated like the eagle Learning Character and made super progress.

Diary Dates

Monday 4th January

INSET—school closed for staff training.

Tuesday 5th January

Children return to school.

Tuesday 26th January 2021

School photographer taking individual portraits (providing this is deemed Covid safe and in line with government regulations.)

Even though Christmas may be a little different for us all this year, we hope you find moments of pleasure with the special people in your lives during the holiday. Let's hope that Santa visits all the lovely children from Sydenham Primary School!

Have a wonderful break and see you all in the new year.



Merry Christmas from Miss Glenny on behalf of all the staff at Sydenham Primary School.