

## Welcome Back! We've Missed You All

Welcome back to the Summer Term! It's lovely to be in touch with you once again through this weekly newsletter. We hope it helps you feel connected to others and a valued member of our Sydenham Primary School community. This seems particularly important under the current, challenging circumstances.

Some very special celebrations took place over the break and we would like to say to you all a belated:

## Happy Vaisakhi Happy Easter



Thank you for sharing so many wonderful photographs and messages showing the exciting things you did during the holiday. We were very pleased to see so many of you enjoying the sunshine in whatever outside space you were able to access.



**Children,** well done for getting back in to the routine of doing your school work again. All the grown ups at school are very proud of you. Keep on using your Learning Characters and you will be successful.

**Parents/Carers,** thank you for resuming your role of home educator. We appreciate your continued support and commitment to your child's education. It is making a real difference!

**Best wishes, from Miss Glenny**

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

**Article 29: Goals of Education**



# Trial Online Lessons



This week some teachers trialled online lessons using Microsoft Teams. Thank you to the families who agreed to participate in the trials—your feedback is very valuable in helping us roll this out to other classes. Early indications are that the lessons went well, despite a few technological issues which we hope to be able to rectify.

We realise that many of you are struggling with your internet connection, do not have electronic devices at home or are in a position where the whole family is having to share one device. We understand how frustrating this must be for you! However, we will keep exploring the possibility of online lessons as they could be a useful addition to the tasks being sent electronically each week. Please be reassured that we will continue to send work to your child via email or **in cases of emergency** can provide a paper pack.

# St George's Day



St George's Day was celebrated on Thursday this week and we saw some lovely examples of learning linked to this event. Well done, everyone.

The holy month of Ramadan also began this week. Best wishes to all families are taking part in this important part of the Islamic calendar.

# Ramadan



# Story Writing

Lots of children are writing the most fantastic stories from home and we love receiving them. Here is one wonderful example!

WARNING! THIS STORY HAS SOME SCARY MOMENTS SO, GROWN UPS, PLEASE READ BEFORE SHARING WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN.

## The Thing

One day in the moon light forest, a team of twenty hunters went looking for 'The Thing'. The forest now only has bare trees with Autumn leaves scattered across the floor. Nothing new has grown in this forest since the mythical beast was born. This forest used to be the most majestic forest you have ever seen. The reason why forest started to die is because the first time 'The Thing' was wounded, its blood scattered across the forest floor and soaked into the ground and poisoned the trees and soil. Legends say, once this Mythical beast dies, his blood turns good and will revive all trees and soil in a matter of seconds. The only downside is he cannot die of age.

Now let me give you some background about 'The Thing' this incredible beast doesn't have a name so it's known as 'The Thing'. However, it is feared by many people. There's only one image of it and this shows it's made from many different animals. He has a turkey's head, one chicken wing, one duck wing the chest of a bear, the stomach of a cow, a pig's tail and two rabbit feet. The reason it is feared is because it can swallow you whole in one gulp!

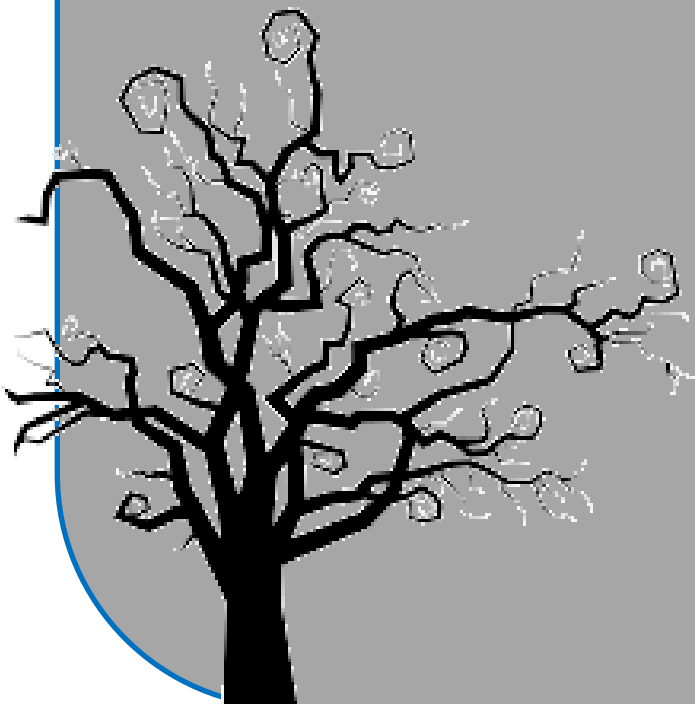
Anyway, enough background - back to the story. The team leader was the only survivor from the most recent attack so more hunters had been sent to join him. One rainy evening, the hunters were about to slip into their sleeping bags until 'CRUNCH' the ground shook violently and they all stood up... "Arrrrggghh," shouted someone. "It's here," screamed another. A battle took place, they had lost all hope in killing it, as their leader was now dead and there were only five of them left. Until, "Ha...wooooo" a pack of ferocious hungry wolves led every single creature that was living in the Moonlight Forest to go and attack 'The Thing'. The five hunters hid behind the trees and shot at it when they had a clear sight.

Eventually 'The Thing' fell into pieces. All the different body parts were scattered along the floor; it's blood everywhere. It all went silent and they all sat on the floor thinking about all the losses that had happened that day because of this beast. All the animals started to leave in different directions and the hunters took the body of 'The Thing' in a big net back to the city.

The next day, on the news they were all interviewed and were named 'the five most heroic hunters, to have ever set foot on land'. Bravely, one injured wolf went back with them and he also got some credit in destroying the legendary beast.

After that, they renamed the forest the 'Mythical Woods'. As legend says, everything came back to life once the dead beasts blood is spilt and the forest was beautiful once again, with green majestic leaves and ponds with sparkly, crystal clear water.

By Logan Furness, Y6 JvS







# Every Cloud...

Although many of us are struggling with self-isolation, it's good to reflect on the positives in life. Here are a few "good news" stories to cheer you up.



Lots of children are reading more books. Oscar read his first "Famous Five" adventure over the Easter break. Lots of the teachers grew up reading these books. There are lots more exciting stories in the series, Oscar!

Thanks to lovely weather and reduced levels of pollution, we are enjoying clearer skies. This has allowed Molly and Charlie to enjoy star gazing in their back garden.



Many of you are enjoying more free time to pursue hobbies and interests. Some people are even discovering new talents. Cameron is becoming an accomplished artist and Brooke is developing her horse riding skills..



Families are having much more time to spend together and children are having the chance to learn life skills by helping out around the home. Dominic and Zara have been gardening.



We are seeing heart warming acts of kindness on a daily basis. Ella, in YR LS, sent this lovely email to Mrs Scholes this week exemplifying how important it is to be thoughtful.

My mummy wanted me to tell you what a helpful, kind girl I have been. I helped mummy carry washing up the stairs and she didn't ask me to. I just wanted to be kind to her. Mummy says I have been very patient and caring to Evie as she is only 2 and she doesn't understand as much as me at sharing but she's learning from me a lot. I have also done some good tidying up and I have been doing lots of reading over the Easter holidays too and a little bit of maths.



# has a silver lining

# Special Mentions



Let's hear it for Lucas in Y6 JvS who is really enjoying story writing. This week he created an anti-bullying story featuring his friends Oscar and Harrison. Mrs V and Miss Glenny loved the fact that there was a school intercom system in the story. We think this could be quite useful!

Well done to Daniel in Y6 JvS who has achieved four Bronze certificates on Mathletics. Wow!

Congratulations to Dexter in Y2 AP who became a big brother over the Easter holiday. He now has a beautiful baby sister called Mercy.

More lovely baby news: Mrs Marin-Garrido has given birth to a baby girl called Eli. Felicidades!

## Reception Admissions

As you will know from the email sent earlier this week, Warwickshire County Council Admissions have made an error with our school numbers for September 2020, allocating only 30 places even though we have space for 60 children.

Thank you for all your support in this matter. Please be reassured that senior leaders are working closely with Admissions to rectify this error. **At present, we do have places in Reception for September. If you or any of your friends/family are interested in taking up a place, please contact Admissions or get in touch with the school via email or telephone.**

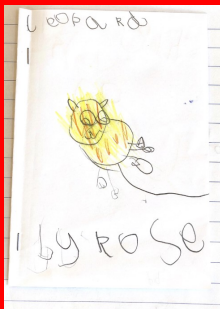
# Sydenham Superstars

## YR LS

Mrs Scholes would like to nominate two superstars this week: Laila for her lovely project work on butterflies and Scarlett for taking on the task of looking after 2 guinea pigs! Well done, girls.



## YR RK



Miss Knight's superstar this week is Rose. Miss Knight has chosen her for working so hard on her 'leopard' book. She has clearly been concentrating and improving, both in her illustrations and her handwriting. Well done, Rose. What a star!

## Y1 EL

This week Mrs Lee has chosen Joven to be her Sydenham Superstar. Joven has shown a fantastic attitude towards his learning since we left school in March and is using all of his learning characters. Joven is working hard every day to make sure he completes all of his tasks to a high standard. He has also drawn some lovely pictures and made some amazing models out of recycled materials. Keep up the wonderful work Joven

## Y1 CD

Miss Daly's superstars this week is Isla. She has impressed Miss Daly with her perseverance and attitude towards her learning. She is always wanting to improve her work and independently trying different ways to achieve this. At home she has adjusted to these strange times and has found a wonderful balance. She completes all her work to a high standard and around this she fills her day with exercise and a variety of art activities. She has created some beautiful pieces. This week, Isla rode all the way to Warwick Castle and back completing a whopping 8 mile bike ride! Well done Isla! Miss Daly is so very proud of you and is missing your smiley presence lots!





Here is your virtual sticker to  
print and wear with pride!



## Y2 AP

Miss Parsons' superstar this week is Anika. Anika works so hard at school and it's great to hear that she is working just as hard at home. Anika has been very busy over the Easter holiday: baking, drawing, making and she has learnt her 2,3,4,5 and 10 timetables off by heart! WOW! Miss Parsons always thoroughly enjoy seeing what she gets up to! Well done Anika, keep it up!



## Y2 CP

This week Miss Peters is thrilled and delighted to have chosen Harvey as Sydenham Superstar. Both Miss Peters and his mum are super proud of the effort he is putting into his handwriting, spelling and English work. He has amazed Miss Peters with his fantastic spelling scores and his results in Mathletics. He has been taking part in lots of active Math learning too and Miss Peters is so impressed. She particularly loved his model of Big Ben! Keep up the brilliant work Harvey



## Y3 JM-L

Mrs Lloyd has chosen Josh as her superstar this week for his great work on Mathletics. Josh has kept up to date with the activities set and Mrs Lloyd has been really impressed to see that he has used his growth mindset to challenge himself to keep improving his scores. Well done Josh .

## Y3 JL

Tyler has wowed Mr Lee with his hard work and determination whilst working at home. He is using lots of our Learning Characters: having a go, trying his best, concentrating and enjoying his learning. It's been so pleasing to see Tyler reading books and completing work independently, in addition to working creatively with his mum to create super work. Well done Tyler, keep it up

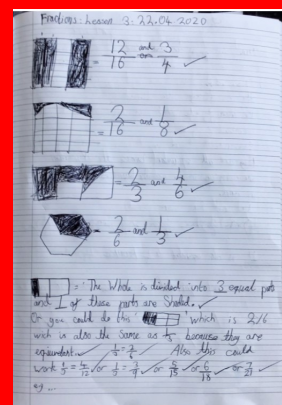


## Y4 AH

Keshav has been chosen as the Y4 AH superstar this week. He has worked very hard at home and submitted learning to Mr Hawes on a daily basis. Tasks have included videos, stories, Powerpoints and maths activities.

## Y5 CB

Sarvesh is the Y5 CB superstar this week for trying exceptionally hard with maths and English. He's done some amazing learning on equivalent fractions and written some super sentences about a threat in the classroom (to do with the Jumanji board game!)



## Y5 RA



Miss Arundel would like to choose Edy as her superstar. He has been emailing her his amazing learning every day which he's clearly put lots of effort into. He designed an imaginative theme park map, has been learning about fractions and wrote some fantastic relative clauses. He's even stuck his timetable on his wall so that he can tick off each activity as he goes. It's been wonderful to see Edy working so maturely, independently and proactively!

## Y6 KG

Miss Gillespie would like to nominate Elsa as her superstar this week for her diligent hard work online, constantly having a go when learning gets tricky. Elsa has missed school so much that she has even been wearing her school uniform at home! She is staying so positive and jolly.



## Y6 JvS

Mrs V would like to choose Logan as her Y6 JvS superstar. Logan has been very enthusiastic about writing and has created some lovely pieces of work which have impressed his family and Mrs V. Keep it up, Logan.



# Free School Meals Vouchers

You may be aware that during the school closures, the Government have implemented a voucher scheme for our families who are registered for free school meals. A company called Edenred UK are working the Department for Education to deliver supermarket vouchers to these families.

This support is either in the form of an e-code that you can redeem online from a supermarket or, if you do not have a working email address, we can print a voucher for you.

Our school office will have been communicating with you via email regarding this as, unfortunately, Edenred are experiencing extremely high volumes of applications and this has meant significant delays in your vouchers being sent to some of our families.

Should you wish to contact us about this scheme, please contact [admin2622@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2622@welearn365.com) but please rest assured we are working to ensure you receive your vouchers as soon as possible.

Best wishes from Sarah Beck

(School Business Manager)

# Spring-Term Learning Reviews

Your child will shortly be receiving an email with your child's Spring Term Learning Review attached. This document is a summary of your child's attainment during the Autumn and Spring terms and it replaces Parent's Evening which was cancelled due to Coronavirus.

Please note that the review is a summary of your child's learning so far this academic year. It does not contain next-steps or targets for improvement as school is currently suspended. Please be reassured that the work sent home by class teachers is very carefully planned and will help your child to close gaps in their learning or maintain their current levels of attainment.

Due to reduced administrative capacity at school, it is taking us a little longer than usual to send all the reviews. Children in Reception, Year One and Year Two should receive their reviews today (Friday 24th April.) Children in Key Stage Two will receive their reviews early next week.

Thank you for your patience.



## Easter

Easter Bunnies hop in Spring  
Such a lovely sight they bring  
The trees are blossoming in the warm sun rays  
What a joy to see these days

Bulbs are planted, seeds are sown  
With hope they will be fully grown  
Light warm breezes can be felt  
Spring flowers and cut grass are also smelt

Spring brings Easter, such a treat  
With hunts, prizes and chocolate to eat  
I solve a clue to find a yummy delight  
So excited to find chocolate eggs, what a delicious sight!

**By Dylan Randhawa, Y3 J M-L**

