

# Lockdown Learning at School

Warm greetings to each and every one of you from all the staff at Sydenham Primary School. We hope that you are safe and well and remaining positive despite the many challenges you may be facing.

Although most of you are continuing your learning at home, some children are eligible for schooling. Mrs Westwood and Miss Glenny are in school every day to help look after these children and keep things running smoothly—there is still lots to do! The teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, midday supervisors and cleaners all take it in turns to come to work in school. Aggie, our lovely caretaker, is also on site at the start and end of each day to help keep the building hygienic, safe and tidy. Likewise, Anne (our brilliant cook) is here every morning preparing hot meals. Each afternoon, one of our fantastic Onside Coaches, Miss Whitehead, joins the team to lead PE sessions and keep everybody on their toes. Mrs Murphy also pops in to teach Music lessons every couple of weeks. Meanwhile, the teachers are busy organising home learning tasks, Mrs Manley is overseeing the learning of pupils who have a Special Educational Need or Disability and our team of Designated Safeguarding Leads are working together to keep everybody safe. We are all supporting each other to ensure that we make the best of this difficult situation. We couldn't do this without the cooperation of parents and carers so thank you for your help—we really appreciate this.

Only a handful of children are coming to school every day and things are different!

The "class" consists of children from Reception to Year Six, making learning sometimes tricky! Despite this, pupils have shown an admirable attitude. They have remembered to socially distance from each other and wash their hands frequently throughout the day to stay safe. Older children have done a super job supporting younger peers and some lovely new friendships have been made.

We are very proud of everybody who is part of our school community!



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

**Article 29: Goals of Education**



**GOLD AWARD**



# Learning Characters

At school, we use Learning Characters to help children understand how they can become good learners. Each character represents a different attribute or skill associated with effective learning. The characters are part of every lesson and school assembly. Pupils are encouraged to use the characters when they are finding something difficult or are stuck with a task. They teach pupils that sometimes learning is hard work but, if we keep on persevering, we can be successful. The characters help children to develop a “growth mindset” and become independent learners able to rise to a challenge.



Mange distractions.  
Break things down.  
Get lost in the task.  
Draw diagrams.  
Make jottings.  
Plan and think things through.

## Concentrate



Work hard.  
Practise lots.  
Keep going.  
Ask for help.  
Start again.  
Try new strategies.  
Take a brain break.

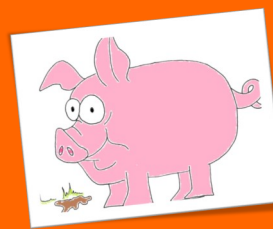
## Never give up



Ask questions.  
Notice things.  
Research.  
Ask, “What if?”  
Think of possible reasons.

Look for patterns and connections.

## Be curious



Have a growth mindset.  
Learn from mistakes.  
Don't worry if it goes wrong.  
Be excited to try new things.

## Have a go

# Learning Characters

If your child sometimes lacks motivation to complete their online learning or shies away from tasks which they find more difficult, you might like to use the Learning Characters to motivate them.



Be creative.  
Let your imagination go.  
Think up new ideas and questions.

## Use your imagination



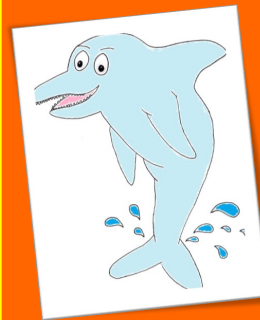
Review your work.  
Identify your best bits.  
Try to be better than last time.  
Take small steps.  
Don't compare yourself to others, only yourself.

## Keep improving



Listen to others.  
Be tolerant.  
Be kind if you disagree.  
Say when you don't understand.  
Explain things to help others.

## Be cooperative

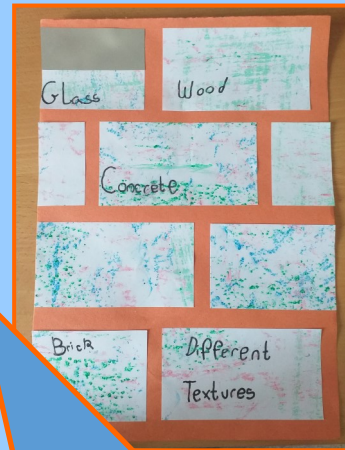
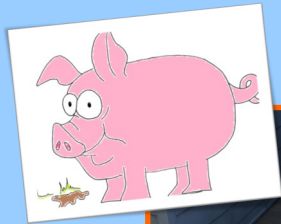


Feel proud of your achievements.  
Feel your neurons connecting and your brain growing.  
Use what you have learnt in real life.  
Know you can do it if you practise.

## Enjoy learning



# Y2 Learning Characters



Willow is like the eagle because she concentrates on her learning and gets lost in the task.

Lewis has a go like our pig. This week, he took his understanding of coin rubbing from Maths and used it to show the different materials around his home for Science.



Joshua is curious like the cat, creating this wonderful map based on the poem "The Owl and the Pussy Cat."



Despite having Chicken Pox, Lucas remembers to be like the elephant and never give up. He is enjoying being creative with mum baking cakes and colouring.



# Y2 Learning Characters

Shivani keeps on improving like the frog. She took part in an online lesson this week on rhyming couplets then wrote this lovely poem.

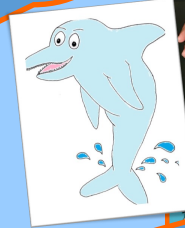
Food Poem

Baking good is fun

What to bake?  
shall I bake a cake?  
will it be fun?  
Or shall I bake a bun?  
The oven will be hot?  
Shall I ask for help? Why not?  
Oh no!!! The oven burnt the bun!

like the first  
an online  
rhyming c  
this lovely

by Shivani  
Y2CP



Ameya is like the dolphin—  
she enjoys her learning  
(especially reading!)



Tommy and Alice are motivated by the unicorn to be creative. They have made these fabulous maps and models.





# Y6 Creative Writing

**Y6 watched a short film online telling the following story:**

A beautiful dancer spends all of her life stuck at the top of the clock tower. She spins on her toes incessantly in order for the clock to work. One day she becomes curious about the world outside, especially the balloons that float past her window. As she steps into the outside world something has changed. All the colour has gone from the world and everything is frozen in time. The only thing that can bring it to life is our beautiful dancer, powering the clock again...

**Children were then asked to write a diary entry from the point of view of the dancer. This is Nuvya's wonderful response.**

Dear diary,

Today was the day, the day I would break free! Break free from this claustrophobic, miniature cage. Get away from this place of gloom. No more dancing... or so I thought...

I'll start at the beginning. There I was twisting and turning; moving my arms gracefully; dancing like professional as I have done for a long time. As you know diary, I have been working at the clocktower for a really long time. Turning the clock is crucial. I couldn't stop thinking about what life would be outside the clocktower. I thought that my job and my life would be stuck in the clocktower forever. As my red gown spun, the thud of the clocktower felt like a heartbeat. Suddenly, a shadow cast upon the filthy floorboard and disturbed my perfect pirouette.

What was it?

A green orb was dancing towards the window then up to the heavens. For years, I have analysed the festooned buildings, unsullied pathways and the multi-coloured world below. The sun was gleaming in my eyes. Today, the air was potent with hope. I bounced happily down the spiral stairs, eager to know what it is like outside the clocktower.

Although I was nervous, I knew it was my destiny. I pushed the door with all my mighty. Unfortunately, all was not like I hoped. To be honest diary, I was shocked. What was once glorious now was dull and tedious, it was like a grey carpet covering the ground. Cracks were emerging in the ground. The disintegrate buildings stood lifeless like a mono-chrome photograph from years ago. Everything was grey and still. My heart broke; this was not where I meant to be. What have I done to this beauty? My legs felt like heavy steel. Distraught, disheartened and debilitated the green orb was nothing but a lifeless grey. A tear cascaded down my soft cheek. I glanced at the clocktower and then sadly stared back at this mysterious land.

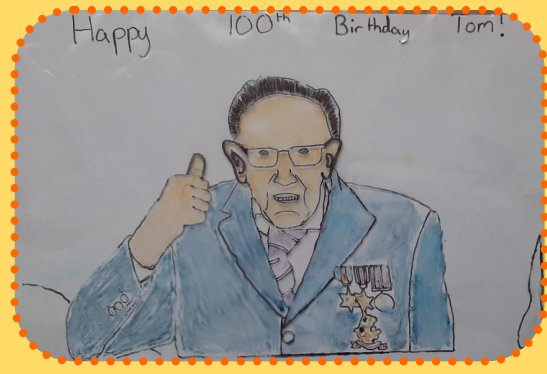
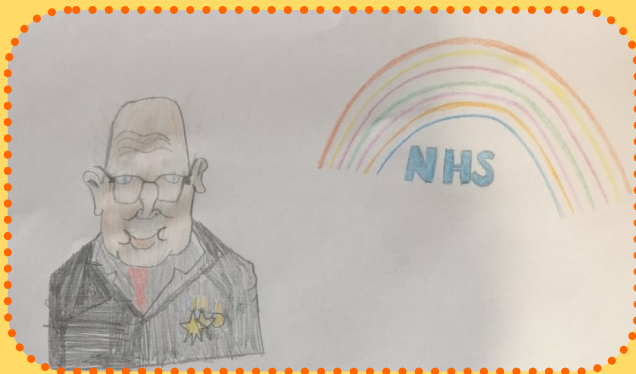
At that moment, I knew I had to go back. My sacrifice could save this beauty. I spun once more. Moving my arms gracefully, I twisted and turned once more. Tick, tick, tick the clock's hands twitched.

Speak soon my friend,

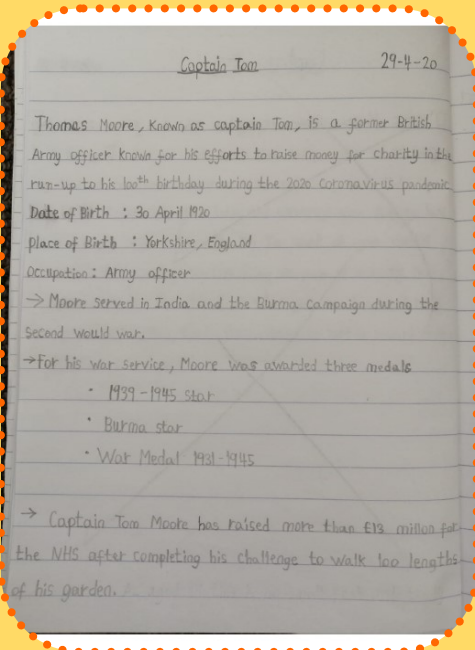
Bella

# Captain Tom Moore

Many of you will know the inspiring story of war veteran, Captain Tom Moore who has helped to raise over thirty million pounds for the NHS by walking in his garden despite being the grand old age of ninety nine years. Some children have been inspired to learn about Captain Moore's life and to create work in tribute to his achievements. It was the captain's one hundredth birthday on Thursday and we would like to take this opportunity to wish him many happy returns.



## Tom's poem



Born on 30<sup>th</sup> of April 1920, Tom Moore was a no one.  
He went on to fight in World War 2 and survived the bombs and so on.

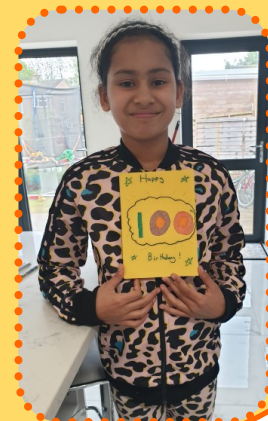
When it was over, he came back a hero  
To fight a new fight and take corona down to zero  
He had a goal to raise £1000 for the NHS.

£29.3 million was raised for his success.

He walked his garden 100 times to celebrate his big day,  
100 year old, hip hip hooray. 100 years old happy birthday!

Tom you inspire me to do something good.  
I am going to become a footballer as I should.

By Noah Bennett (Y4 AH)



# Online Lessons

Miss Glenney was very happy to join so many of your trial online lessons this week. She wasn't able to attend all the lessons but she popped in to Mr Lee and Mrs Madahar's Science sessions, Ms Knight's reading session and Miss Daly's phonics workout. Despite some technical teething problems, all the lessons were fantastic .

Well done to all of you who were invited to attend a lesson and were able to join. A huge thank you as well to our brilliant teachers—they were all quite nervous about teaching in this way but overcame their fears and did an amazing job, as always. Teachers are already preparing more lessons for next week which will, hopefully, involve a wider range of pupils. There will be more information coming soon.

## Bayleaf Cookery Videos

Bayleaf Cookery School are continuing to upload videos showing you how to make a selection of delicious recipes. The latest (for "the best ever chocolate brownies") can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4d8B9aiAHfQ>

## Free School Meal Vouchers

The Edenred website which issues Free School Meals vouchers now seems to be running more smoothly. Please check your email and click the "redeem" button to access your barcode.

Please note that Free School Meals is not the same as Universal Infant Meals. To find out if you are eligible for Free School Meals, please visit:

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



# Staying Positive

Laughter can be the best medicine during times like these. With this in mind, we thought you might like to see these lovely photographs which we hope will raise a smile.



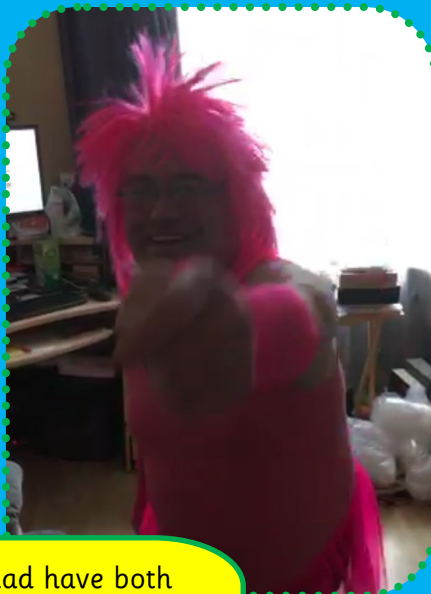
Lucas was allowed to give his mum a makeover at home. He decided to transform her in to the superhero Harley Quinn. We think he did a fabulous job.



Thank you, Belinda for being such a good sport and for giving us permission to share your photograph. You really are a superhero!



Olivia and her grandad have both been enjoying the Joe Wicks PE sessions. Love the coordinating outfits! Well done Grandad and thank you for sharing your picture.



Plamena is well known at school for her amazing costumes. She always comes to school on dress-up days wearing wonderful, themed outfits. Here she is dressed as the Easter Bunny.



# Making Histories



As you know, Sydenham Primary School is a huge supporter of creativity and we love to give pupils the opportunity to experience the arts at first hand. During lock down this is very difficult but, fear not, help is at hand from Leamington Art Gallery and Museum who have launched a fabulous online ceramics exhibition which can be visited at:

[https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/royalpumprooms/homepage/45/making\\_histories](https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/royalpumprooms/homepage/45/making_histories)

The exhibition is curated by Bea and Isaac's mum who works at the museum. She has done a wonderful job and we would urge as many of you as possible to visit the exhibition.

Families visiting the page the page will also see directions to 'Arty Tots', which are suggestions for little children and also an adult art page; suitable for KS2.



## Leamington Museum & Art Gallery

# Adult and Community Learning

## **Welcome to Family Learning in Warwickshire.**

Family Learning is part of the Adult and Community Learning Service. Family Learning enables families to learn together, recognising that parents are the child's first educator. Our courses are run in schools, nurseries and community venues; with activities designed to enable parents to learn how to support their child's learning.



At this time we are working to support families at home in a variety of different of ways:

- We have developed a series of fun challenges which we will email to our current learners and also share online
- We will be presenting these challenges online through ZOOM
- We will be available to support families through email, 'phone and online
- We will provide a variety of online sessions, including storytime and parenting

Please contact us if you would like to discuss how we can further help you to support your child/ren at home.

Lynn Hussain: [lynnhussain@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:lynnhussain@warwickshire.gov.uk)





## Telephone Support for Parents

Warwickshire Educational Psychology Service (EPS) is offering direct access telephone consultation to parents and carers during the Covid-19 pandemic.

This service is available for 4 afternoons each week (Monday to Thursday) for parents and carers who live in Warwickshire and who feel they may benefit from consultation with an Educational Psychologist to support them with concerns that they may have at this time.

Concerns might include:

- How to talk with a child/young person about COVID-19 and any worries associated with it
- How to help children/young people to engage with learning whilst at home
- How to support behaviour that can be challenging or difficult to manage
- How best to look after your own and/or your child's mental and emotional well-being on a daily basis

If you would like to arrange a telephone consultation with an Educational Psychologist, please phone 01926 742921 or email [eps@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:eps@warwickshire.gov.uk).

You will be asked to provide the following information:

- Your name
- The telephone number you would like to be contacted on and an email address
- A brief description of the area in which you would like support
- You or your child's school if relevant (if your child is not already known to the Educational Psychology Service, we will not take their name or record details of the conversation)

You will be offered the next available telephone timeslot that an educational psychologist has available and they will then phone you back at that time.



# Warwick District Children & Family Centres Virtual Timetable (via Facebook) Monday 27 April-Friday 1 May

**Believe in  
children  
Barnardo's**

Monday 27 April

## Baby Time with Helen

Today's Songs include:  
Hello Song  
Humpty Dumpty  
Grand Old Duke of York  
Horsey, Horsey  
Peek a Boo!  
Stroking Baby's Cheek



Tuesday 28 April

## Toddler Songs with Liz

Today's Songs include:  
Hello Song  
Baa, Baa Black Sheep  
Horsey, Horsey  
Old MacDonald  
Once I caught a fish alive

### Activity: Kim's Game

You will need:  
A tray, a tea towel or cloth and a  
choice of objects

Wednesday 29 April

## Baby Time Activity

Today's Activity is:

### Treasure Basket

An activity to promote holistic  
learning and an opportunity to  
introduce lots of new words!



Thursday 30 April

## Toddler Time Activity

Today's Activity is:

### Recycled Bottle Crafts

You will need: Empty cleaned  
out bottles, paints, pens, string,  
ribbon, wool, glue, tape—any  
craft item available to use!



Friday 1 May

## Story Time with Sally

Today's Story is:

### Dear Zoo

by Rod Campbell



## Health Visiting Team and Midwife Contact Details

Lillington Health Visitors - 01926 887309

Warwick Gates Health Visitors - 01926 626531/626536

Kingsway Health Visitors - 01926 626531

Cape Road Warwick Health Visitors - 01926 400001 Ext 239

Dale Street Health Visitors - 01926 887309

Kenilworth Health Visitors - 01926 852087

Warwickshire Health Visiting Text Chat Service: 07520 615293. Monday to Friday—9am-5pm

Providing information, advice and one-to-one support for families with  
children and young people aged 0-25 across Warwickshire

**Early Help and Targeted Support Team—Duty Phone Line:**  
**01926 412412**

**Monday to Friday from 9:00am-4:00pm**

Information and advice can also be found on the Children and Families  
pages of the Warwickshire website:  
[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies)

## Other Useful Contact Details

Citizens Advice Bureau—Lillington: 07990 070328. Stratford: 07825 654605. [www.casouthwarwickshire.org.uk](http://www.casouthwarwickshire.org.uk)

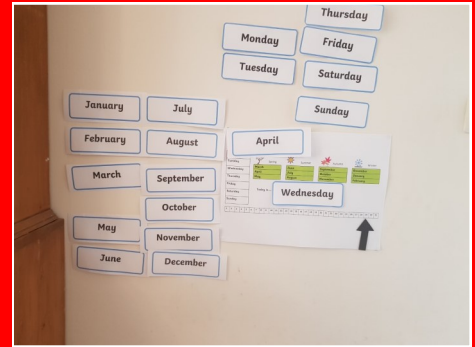
Warwick District Foodbank - 07850 293383. [www.warwickdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.warwickdistrict.foodbank.org.uk)

**Follow us on Facebook at: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/warwickchildrenscentres/>**

# Sydenham Superstars

## YR RK

Ms Knight is thrilled to choose **Lance** as her superstar. She has picked him because he and his mum were kind enough to be guinea pigs for an online lesson this week. Lance has also responded so brilliantly to home learning by setting up the calendar you can see in the photograph. Well done Lance!



## YR LS



**Jiya** is Mrs Schole's superstar this week. Jiya has started coming to school this week because her mummy works at Warwick Hospital. She has coped with the change really well and been so kind and helpful at school. Jiya, you're a star!

## Y1EL

This week, Mrs Lee has chosen **Gurtaran** to be her Sydenham Superstar. Gurtaran has really impressed Mrs Lee with his positive attitude to learning and all the wonderful work he has completed over the last couple of weeks. This half-term Year One are learning all about 'Paws, claws and whiskers'. Gurtaran was very excited about the start of this topic, so he looked through his story books at home to see how many different animals he could find. Gurtaran also decided that he wanted to do some extra work on his favourite animal, the giant panda. Gurtaran made a wonderful presentation full of lovely pictures and fantastic facts about the giant panda. Keep up the amazing work Gurtaran!



## Y1 CD



Miss Daly's superstar this week is **Adele**. Adele has impressed Miss Daly with her attitude to learning at home. Her enthusiasm and desire to challenge herself has made her very successful with her work. She has adopted a very independent approach to activities and her parents have shared how proud they are that she gets straight on with tasks with no questions asked. It is noticeable how Adele is continuing to use the Learning Characters, especially the Concentrating Eagle, to help her slow down when she writes and remember capital letters. Well done Adele, Miss Daly is so very proud of you. Keep up the excellent work.



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



## Y2 CP

This week Miss Peters has chosen **Lola** for her fantastic attitude to her learning, especially her Maths. She has been enjoying learning all about money and measurement. She also participated in her first Microsoft Teams lesson and told all her friends about the wonderful cookies that she has been baking. Well done Lola!



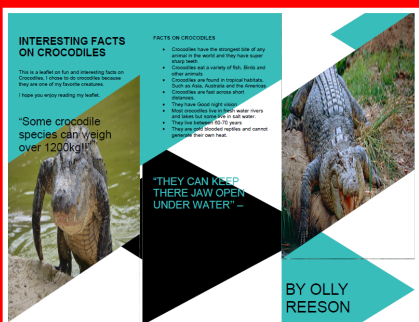
## Y2 AP

Miss Parsons' super star this week is **Defne**. Defne is a ray of sunshine! She always comes into school with a smile on her face. She shows enthusiasm and positivity to any task no matter how hard it might be. She has a caring nature and is a friend to all. She has been a real asset to Sydenham Primary School and will be dearly missed. Miss Parsons wishes her every success in the future and good luck to her and her family with their move to Turkey. Defne will always be a Sydenham superstar.

## Y3 JL

This week, Me Lee's super star is **Noah**. Noah has continued his fantastic attitude towards his work and shown great motivation to complete his work each day. His standard of work is very high and he pushes himself to complete each task to the best of his ability. In addition, Noah wrote some mental maths questions for the class, which his friends have been really pleased to complete. What a star – keep it up

## Y3 JM-L



Mrs Lloyd has chosen **Olly** as her superstar this week for his wonderful growth mindset and resilience. Over the last few weeks, Olly has continued to work really hard at home on all aspects of his learning and has created some great pieces of work such as his fabulous Crocodile Leaflet. Well done Olly.



## Y4 AH

Mr Hawes would like to nominate **Noah** as his class superstar. He has been working incredibly hard since the very first week of learning at home. He has challenged himself with his writing, maths, science and PE. Mr Hawes has really enjoyed seeing the photos of Noah cooking balanced meals this week, including chilli and lasagne. In addition, he composed a wonderful letter to Captain Tom, which explained how inspirational he was to Noah and his family. Well done Noah, keep up the great work.

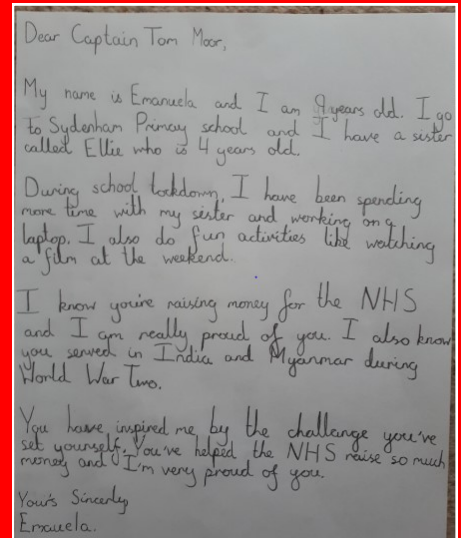
# Sydenham Superstars

## Y4 SM

Mrs Madahar would like to choose two superstars this week.

The first is **Chloe-Rose** who has worked incredibly hard on her home learning. She has been sending evidence of her work daily and has impressed Mrs Madahar with all her written work and maths. Keep up the great work Chloe-Rose.

**Emma** is the second superstar. She has impressed Mrs Madahar on a weekly basis with the commitment and dedication she has shown to all her home learning activities. She has completed all her work to a high standard and has shown a fantastic attitude to her learning. I thoroughly enjoyed reading her lovely letter to Captain Tom Moore which explained the inspiration and pride she felt prompted by his actions. I couldn't agree more Emma! Well done.



## Y5 CB

**Connor** is the Y5 CB super star this week. He has completed an informative power point on amazing facts about rollercoasters. As well as this, he has also completely filled his orange book with lots of learning so is obviously putting in lots of effort at home. Well done, Connor!

## Y5 RA

Miss Arundel would like to choose **Isabelle** as superstar this week. Isabelle has been getting up early every day and starting her work by herself straight away. Miss Arundel is very impressed by this mature and hard working attitude! In the trial video lesson this week, Isabelle was smiley and enthusiastic, just like in school. Throughout the lesson, Isabelle showed a fantastic growth mindset and she focussed really well on the task at hand. She should be very proud of herself.

## Y6 JvS

Mrs Van der Sterren has picked **Arni** as her superstar this week. Arni has worked really hard at all her lessons and created a fabulous Powerpoint Presentation this week all about fingerprints. It included text and images as well as a fascinating slide explaining the different types of fingerprints we have. Well done, Arni!

## Y6 KG

Miss Gillespie has chosen **Marley** as superstar this week because she has used so many of her learning characters to remain positive and bright through the challenges of learning at home. She was amazing in our online lesson, being co-operative and helping friends to try to log in, supporting Miss Gillespie with the technology and showing a wonderful attitude to learning. She has improved so much in her writing! Each week she's sending typed stories and written tasks. Marley has really shown that she is enjoying learning by completing each task with care and attention. A pleasure to read!



# Take a Breath...



Covid is just not a phrase or a phase,  
But a learning place,  
To slow down our pace,

This is really a phase to slow down,  
And give time to ourselves,

We all were busy doing big things  
but now is the time to enjoy small  
things,

And enjoy our families and loved ones  
By doing little, little things,

This week's poem has  
been penned by Swayam  
It reminds us to  
appreciate the small  
things in life.

Stay safe and well,  
Everyone.

Lots of love and positivity  
from Miss Glenny and the  
Sydenham team.

By:

Swayam Sahni (Y4 AH)

