

Space Ship Lands



Year One were surprised to find a mysterious, silver spacecraft in the Forest School area on Tuesday.

They investigated the craft carefully, wondering why it was there and who might have been travelling inside.



On closer inspection, the children discovered a message written in sticks and spelling out the word, "HELP!" They also spotted strange footprints running away from the scene.

If you see anything else suspicious, please let Year One know.



in Sydenham!



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



GOLD AWARD



Alien Crash!



What happened?

We found a dramatic crash scene in our Forest School area!



We found a broken spaceship with a 'HELP' message written in sticks.



Who could this belong to?

Where has the alien gone?



We found alien footprints running away from the scene!

Black Lives Matter



**SAY NO TO
RACISM!**

Many of you will have enjoyed reading poems written by Tayyaba during the last lock-down. We published several in our newsletters and they really helped to cheer us all up.

We're thrilled to say that Tayabba has picked up her pen once again and written another inspirational poem—this time on the theme of **Black Lives Matter**. We think it's her best poem so far. Keep on writing, Tayyaba. The world needs poets!

Black Rights

What is black?

Black is beautiful, unique and a gift of colour,

So please hear my voice.

My heart breaks when I hear you have lost another loved one,

So enough is enough!

We hold your hands and unite with the world and say:

“Let them breathe; let them breathe.

Let them live; let them live.”

We stand close by you,

Hand in hand, shoulder to shoulder,

Until your justice, equality and freedom is given.

Oh yes, we shall indeed!

A hope of celebration to be seen soon,

That will be remembered in history to come.

By Tayyaba (Y3)



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 2: Non-discrimination

Bonfire Night

Reception celebrated Bonfire Night this week in the Forest School area. The children learnt how to stay safe around the fire and enjoyed watching the logs burn. They talked about what the fire needs to stay lit and why it's important to extinguish it properly.



Coming to England

This week, in school we've been thinking about the topic of migration, in particular the journey to England taken by families from the West Indies on the ship, The Empire Windrush in 1948. Older pupils learnt about life back home in the West Indies and why families were motivated to start new lives in England. Through research, drama, poetry and music, children were able to empathise with the travellers. They then imagined they were on board The Empire Windrush and wrote diary entries explaining their hopes, fears and regrets. Younger pupils concentrated on the idea of a journey and wrote sentences about real and imaginary trips.

I woke up this morning beside Mum and Dad and I could hear Calypso music and seabirds and people dancing to the music. The big waves were splashing people. People dancing! I have been on the boat for twenty days. Oh, how I miss Grandmother's hugs and the water in my backyard and the fish too.

I miss mangoes for dinner and the food here is yucky! I miss the palm trees in my home. I was so sad when the palm trees waved goodbye.

When I get off the boat, I hope there is good stuff in England. Will things turn out right? Will I see Grandmother again?

By Mason (Y2)

I woke up this morning on the deck and a storm was coming. I couldn't think of any wars. It sounded like bellows of bombs. The deck was creaking. The crew were arguing about what direction the boat should go.

Oh, how I miss my shining grandma, my mum that cooks like a chef and my dad that is so good at football and especially mango mornings.

When I get off the boat, I dream that I finally get to be a teacher and have friends.

By Aeris (Y2)



Coming to England



I can see a cat.
I can see a tree.
I can see a chick.
I can see an apple.
By Sophia (YR)



Unbelievable! I got a ticket for The Empire Windrush! I ran for my life to the stall selling tickets outside my local shop. Three were three left. I paid my £28.00. My heart was racing...YES! I had my ticket. I felt a bit sad to leave my family but, at the same time, I was excited.

When I get to Britain, I'm going to be an engineer. In Jamaica it's hard to find jobs. I'm taking all my key items including a photo of my family. I know this is my future.

(By Logan, Y6)

Today was the day! A day to remember—the 24th May—and now one day until I get to the beautiful city of London. It has been hard. The weather is not very warm at all but I will have to get used to it. The food is not quite five star but at least it'll fill me up. I do feel pretty sea sick but that's normal. There are quite a lot of things to do on the boat. My personal favourite is the calypso band. The music is so peaceful and calming.

(By Rueben, Y6)



I heard someone say we were in Britain so I rushed out of my cabin and sprinted on to deck. We had arrived at Tilbury docks and it was magical. Everyone gasped when they saw the hundreds of eyes staring into our souls.

There were cars, lights and colossal buildings. I was trying to hold back my tears of joy but I couldn't; they just came streaming down my face. I took out my grandmother's golden cross...

(By Raajan, Y6)

Coming to England



Y6 Drama

Parents' Evenings

Pupil Progress Reviews

Dear Parents and carers

We will be holding remote parents' and carers' evenings on Microsoft Teams on:

Wednesday 2nd December 3.30-6.00pm

Tuesday 8th December 3.30-6.00pm

Wednesday 9th December 3.30-6.00pm

Good news! Parents' Evenings just got a whole lot easier because you can now book your appointments online through Teachers2parents.

We will send a link to your mobile phone or email address next week (**booking will open on Wednesday 11th November**), which will take you to our online booking system to select a time convenient for you. Please follow these simple steps to book your slot:

1. Click the link that you receive through text and/or email to take you to the confirmation page. You will need internet access to do this.
2. Enter your child's first name to continue. If you have more than one child, any of their first names will work.
3. Next you will be taken to the booking page. This will show your children, alongside all of the teachers that you can book in with.
4. Click 'Please Choose' to be shown a list of available times that you can click to book. This will even give you the option to add any notes that you might want the teacher to see before the meeting.
5. After you have entered any notes, please click 'Book this Slot' to complete your booking. When the button has turned green you know your booking has been made.
6. At any time before the Parents Evening, you can click the link on your phone or email again to check your booking time or even un-book by clicking the green booked button.

Make sure you book your parents' / carers' evening as soon as possible after booking opens on Wednesday 11th November to ensure you get the best time for you.

Please note that we are only able to email the booking link to the first contact on Teachers2parents. Where families are split, we politely request that the first contact sends the Microsoft Teams link to the second contact (regrettably, we are currently unable to offer more than one online session per child due to time constraints).

Booking will close on Friday 20th November. If you are experiencing technical difficulty booking, please telephone or email the school office.

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You will receive a written summary of your child's achievement so far this term on Friday 27th November, which will form the basis of your discussion with your child's class teacher.

Christmas Lunch



We will be serving a special Christmas menu on Thursday 17th December

Sadly, we're unable to offer our traditional Christmas dinner in the hall this year. However, we'll do everything we can to make lunch special for each class with music, crackers and the following festive, deli-bag menu:

Pigs-in Blankets hot dog

or

Best of British, Quorn, vegan sausage with stuffing hot dog

ketchup or cranberry sauce

Served with Criss-Cringle potatoes, Rudolf's carrots and red pepper sticks
chocolate ice cream and Juice carton.



If you would like to book a Christmas Deli Bag for your child please log in to parent pay to book your meal under the payment item **Christmas Deli Bag 17/12/20**. You must book your request by **Tuesday 17 November 2020** as our kitchen will need to place their food order.

Although all children in KS1 receive a Universal Free School Meal, we would be really grateful if you could still log in to make the booking to assist us with giving numbers to Educaterers. Similarly, if your child is in receipt of a free school meal please also still log in to Parent Pay to make the booking for your child.

The cost of the Christmas deli bag is £2.25 and payment should be made via your Parent Pay account prior to December 17th 2020. If you child does not want a deli bag on this day, they will still receive a cracker and be able to join in with the rest of their class bubble.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school office
if you have any queries.



Safeguarding Resources



Please use the poster below to help to keep your child safe. You can also download the 'We all have the right to feel safe' guide for parents and carers by copying and pasting the link below. Into your browser:

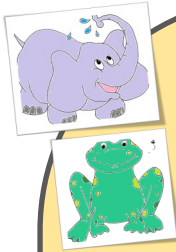
<https://www.protectivebehaviourstraining.co.uk/publications/we-all-have-the-right-to-feel-safe-booklet>



PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

- 1 Talk to children and babies about feeling safe and keeping safe. It's never too early to start.
- 2 Always give children the reason for any decisions you have made – it helps them to understand 'why?' ...'Because I say so' is not a good enough reason!
- 3 Help to build your child's confidence and self esteem. Praise them often. People who choose to bully or who are dangerous to children will often pick out less confident children or those who spend time or go out alone.
- 4 Listen to your children, especially when they are trying to tell you about things that worry them. Let children know that you will always take them seriously and do whatever you can to keep them safe.
- 5 Let children know they never have to do anything they don't like with an adult or another child - even if it is someone they know. Practise this at home by never making them kiss or hug an adult if they don't want to.
- 6 Teach children to trust their own 'Early Warning Signs' or 'gut feelings' about people and situations.
- 7 As soon as children are able to understand, teach them their full name, address and phone number. Practise these with them until you are sure they can remember.
- 8 In most situations, children under about eight years old shouldn't be out alone. Even when out playing with older children, they need to be kept in the care and sight of an adult or a much older child who is mature and trustworthy.
- 9 Never leave young children in unsupervised play areas in shops or parks. Don't leave them alone in the car or outside a shop, not even for a few minutes.
- 10 If you are in a crowded place, keep children in a pram or buggy, hold hands tightly or use reins. Don't walk ahead of small children who can't keep up. Remember it only takes a moment for toddlers to wander off.
- 11 You can start teaching children simple rules about personal safety from as young as two or three. Tell them clearly that they must never go off with anyone, not even with someone they know, without first asking you or the adult looking after them.
- 12 Teach older children safe ways of crossing roads, going shopping and asking adults for directions and let them practise these with you until you are sure they have understood. Help children decide who would be the safest adults to talk to if they need help or get lost (e.g. Police officer, shop-keeper, someone with a young child).
- 13 When children are mature enough to be out alone, make sure they tell you: Who they are going out with, Where they are going (and how to contact them), When they will be back.
- 14 In busy public places arrange somewhere to meet in case you get separated, like an information desk or specific shop/bank.
- 15 Keep electronic devices and televisions in public areas of your home, not in children's bedrooms. Monitor what your children are watching & looking at. Encourage children to talk with you if they feel uncomfortable about anything they come across.
- 16 There is no law that states the minimum age that a child can be left alone. However, it is an offence to leave a child alone when doing so puts him or her at risk. Never leave a baby or young child alone at home, whether asleep or awake. Most children under thirteen should not be left for more than a very short period and no child under sixteen should be left overnight.

No matter how much you teach your child about safety, remember the limits of their age and maturity.



Sydenham Superstars



YR LS

Mrs Scholes has chosen **Henry** as superstar for his fantastic writing. Henry loves to make up stories and has even written a book. He forms his letters correctly, uses initial sounds to help with spelling and even includes finger spaces and capital letters. Well done!

YR HC

Wiktor is the YR HC superstar. Over half-term Wiktor baked pumpkin muffins and took photographs. Mrs Cox and Hrs Harrad were both very impressed with his hard work and enthusiasm.

Y1 EL

Mrs Lee would like **Ramneek** to be superstar because she has shown a really positive attitude to learning in class. Ramneek always tries her best, perseveres and has a go at the tasks set. Well done, Ramneek. Mrs Lee is very proud of you.

Y1 CD

Parneet is this week's superstar. Parneet has been reading at home with real enthusiasm. In class, Miss Daly has noticed that she is independently applying phonic strategies when reading and is making brilliant progress. Keep it up!

Y2 CP

Mason has had a fantastic week at school and is Miss Peter's choice as superstar. Mason has been helpful at lunch time. He has also produced a very thoughtful and caring piece of writing about the Windrush. He really got into character and could empathise and describe the emotions of the passengers on board ship.

Y2 RK

Manvi has been chosen as Y2 RK superstar for being a wonderful poet. Manvi is a fantastic word-smith and loves to magpie vocabulary. She has written some fabulous poems that have made Miss Knight feel very proud.

Y3 JL

Mr Lee would like to make **Saachi** his superstar this week. Saachi is a star every week in class. She is a brilliant talk partner, has a positive attitude to learning and is always smiling! Well done Saachi on being a model pupil.

Sydenham Superstars

Y3 CR

Jackson has been chosen as superstar because of his wonderful handwriting. Jackson has practised at home and now forms his letters beautifully. He is a quiet but conscientious pupil who always behaves well and sets a good example. What a star!

Y4 SM

Mrs Madahar has chosen **Lily** as superstar. Lily read her writing about the Windrush aloud to the class this week and impressed everyone with her use of empathy and adjectives. Lily's positive attitude is an inspiration to others. Well done!

Y4 AH

The Y4 AH superstar is **Dylan**. Over the half-term holiday, Dylan found a recipe for Anglo– Saxon bread on the Internet. He had a go at making it with his mum and took photographs. Mr Hawes is very very impressed with Dylan's enthusiasm for his Topic. You're a star, Dylan.

Y5 CB

Miss Ball has chosen **Jaiden** as superstar this week. Jaiden has been working hard in class and has shown a real growth mindset when learning. He has impressed Miss Ball with his ability to have a go and keep on improving. Fantastic!

Y5 JE

Harrison is the Y5 JE superstar. Harrison has had a great week in school and made a brilliant effort to learn the model text and actions in English lessons. He has shown a super recall of the text and tried so hard with his writing. Miss Ellershaw is very proud of your hard work, Harrison.

Y6 KG

Miss Gillespie has chosen **Talia** as her superstar. Talia has shown a positive attitude in maths even though the learning is challenging for everyone in Y6. She has been a fantastic talk partner and group member, cooperating and including others all week.

Y6 JvS

Rueben is the Y6 JvS superstar for his thoughtful response in RE lessons. The class have been talking about the sensitive topic of death. Rueben was able to share his own beliefs about death and talk about other religious attitudes to reincarnation and the afterlife. He was articulate and respectful towards other people's opinions.

School Information

School Closure—Staff Training

You'll have received a text message this week explaining that **school is closed on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th November**. This is to provide staff with the two consecutive days necessary to complete annual safeguarding training.

Christmas Performances

Sadly, we're unable to present our usual Christmas concerts this year due to Covid. This is a real disappointment as I know that our concerts are a highlight of the school calendar for many of you. Instead, we're hoping to film each bubble performing a Christmas song or instrumental piece. These films will be uploaded to YouTube so that you can watch them at home. We're hoping to capture some festive, magic moments that will brighten your Christmas celebrations.

Poppies

If you would like your child to receive a poppy in honour of Remembrance Day, please send in a donation. All money will go towards the Royal British Legion. Donations should be given to your child's class teacher from Monday 9th November.

Family Support

These are challenging times for many families nationally. Please do not hesitate to contact us confidentially if you would like any support. The agencies below may also be of help:

Warwickshire Welfare Scheme www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme

Bereavement support helpline@cruse.org.uk / 0808 808 1677

Family Information Service www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies

Domestic Abuse Helpline www.nationalhelpline.org.uk

Citizens Advice Bureau www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Young Carers - 02476 217740

Samaritans Helpline 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org

Childline 0800 111

Flu Vaccinations

A reminder that the date for pupils to receive their flu vaccinations is Monday 30th November. A letter will be sent to you electronically approximately two weeks before this date. The letter contains a link to an online consent form. The immunisation team will vaccinate one "bubble" at a time, decontaminating their working area in between each bubble and at the end of the session.

Donation of laptops from the Royal Shakespeare Company

We are very excited and grateful to have been donated some laptops by the Royal Shakespeare Company due to our special relationship as one of their Associate Schools. Our thanks go to the R.S.C benefactor, Sir Peter Rigby, the Executive Chairman of SCC and Rigby Group. The laptops and wi-fi dongles will be life-enhancing for children, particularly during this time when pupils are relying more heavily on remote learning and digital access in the wake of the pandemic. This donation will help to ensure families have access to a computer and connectivity in their home. Family names will be selected in a prize draw to win one of the laptop kits, and notified in the coming week of how to collect their device.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 18th November

Deadline to order Christmas lunch on Parent Pay.

Friday 20th November

Deadline to book Parents' Evening appointments on Teachers 2 Parents.

Monday 23rd November

INSET—school closed for staff safeguarding training.

Tuesday 24th November

INSET—school closed for staff safeguarding training

Friday 27th November

MUFTI Day. Bring 50p to wear your own choice of clothes.

Friday 27th November

Autumn Term achievement summaries emailed to parents/carers.

Monday 30th November

Flu vaccinations.

Monday 30th November

Y2 Phonics screening all week.

Wednesday 2nd December

Parents' Evening, 3.30—6.00pm.

Tuesday 8th December

Parents' Evening, 3.30—6.00pm.

Wednesday 9th December

Parents' Evening, 3.30—6.00pm.

Thursday 17th December

Christmas lunch.

Friday 18th December

MUFTI—bring 50p to wear your Christmas jumper or a festive outfit.

Friday 18th December

BREAK UP

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Monday 4th January

INSET—school closed for staff training.

Tuesday 5th January

Children return to school.

Best wishes from everyone at Sydenham. Have a fabulous weekend.

From Miss Glenny (Associate Headteacher)