



My First Week



At School

Welcome back to school! We hope you all had a restful summer holiday and your children have settled happily with their new teachers.

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our wonderful Reception pupils. They are all delightful and have made a very positive start to their schooling.

So, please sit back, relax and enjoy reading our first newsletter of this academic year.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



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Alien Invasion!



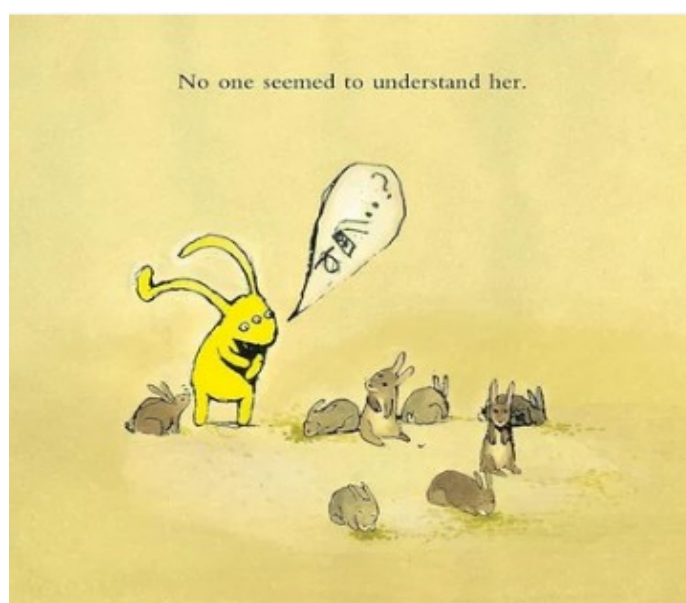
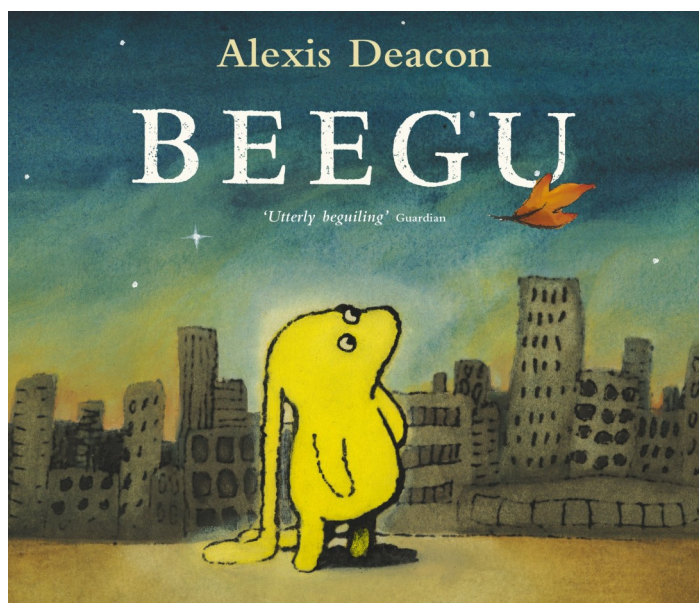
Year 1 embarked on an out-of-this-world adventure during Guided Reading this week. While watching CCTV footage of the school, the children spotted something extraordinary: a spaceship crash-landing just outside their classroom! Inspired by the mysterious event, they became expert detectives, heading outside to investigate the crash site and search for clues. The strange evidence they discovered sparked plenty of discussion and imaginative thinking as they considered who might have been flying the UFO and where they could have gone.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

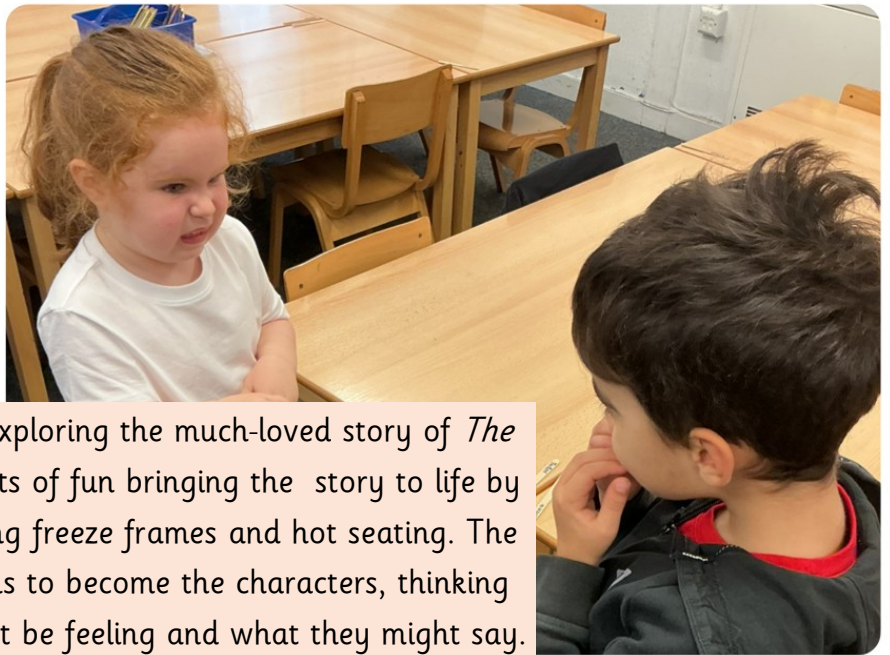
Article 29: Goals of Education

This exciting investigation introduced Year One's latest guided-reading text, *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon. The activity supported the Year One English National Curriculum by encouraging children to draw on background information, make inferences from evidence, predict what might happen next, and clearly explain and justify their ideas. These important comprehension skills help children look beyond the obvious, connect clues and develop a deeper understanding of characters and events. The mystery has certainly sparked plenty of curiosity and enthusiasm to discover what happens to Beegu next!

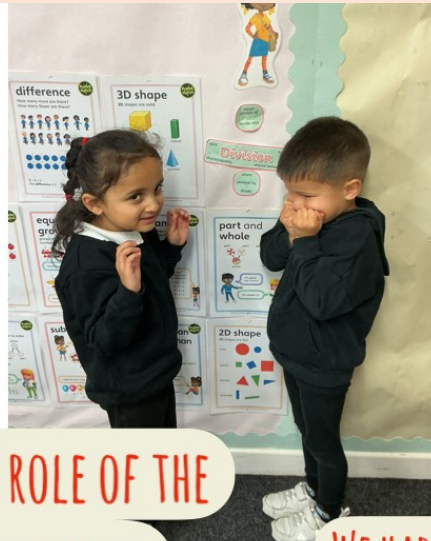


Alien Invasion!



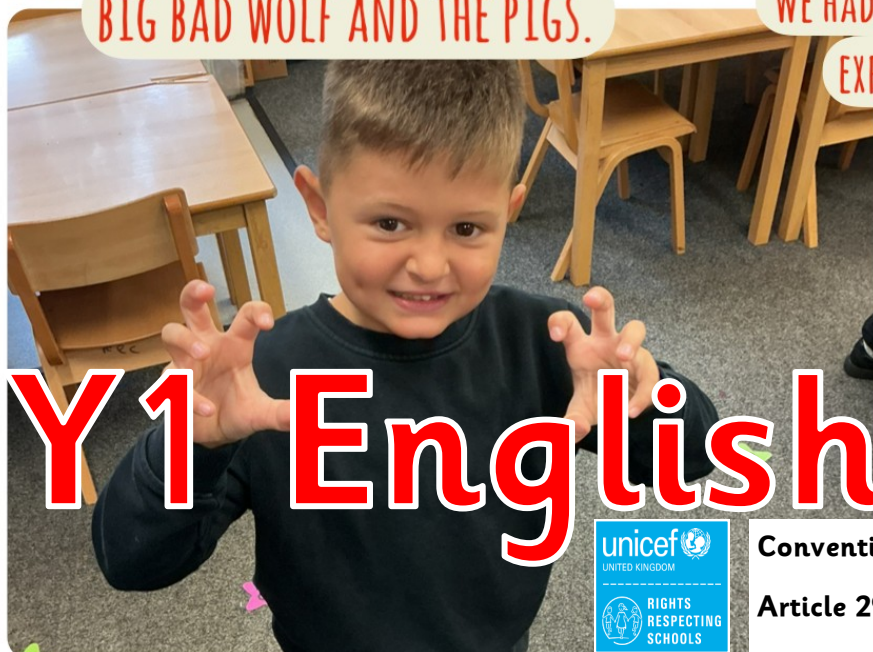


In English, Year 1 have been exploring the much-loved story of *The Three Little Pigs*. Pupils had lots of fun bringing the story to life by acting out different scenes using freeze frames and hot seating. The children used their imaginations to become the characters, thinking carefully about how they might be feeling and what they might say. There were some fantastic performances — and plenty of very convincing pigs and wolves!



WE TOOK TURNS IN THE ROLE OF THE BIG BAD WOLF AND THE PIGS.

WE HAD TO USE OUR BODIES, FACIAL EXPRESSIONS AND VOICES!



Y1 English



Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 29: Goals of Education



In Year 3 Maths, pupils have been learning how to identify and partition 2-digit and 3-digit numbers. They have explored how 2-digit numbers are made up of tens and ones, while 3-digit numbers are made up of hundreds, tens and ones. For example, the number 47 can be partitioned into 40 and 7, and the number 356 into 300, 50 and 6. Through partitioning, pupils are developing a deeper understanding of place value, which supports their learning in addition, subtraction and problem-solving. They have used place value charts, number lines and practical resources to explore and represent numbers in a variety of ways

Y3 Place Value



Year 5 are currently enjoying an exciting Science topic, *Forces and Mechanisms*. Last week, they learnt that gravity is a non-contact pulling force that acts on everything with mass, all the time. They also explored the work of scientists Galileo and Sir Isaac Newton to understand how our ideas about gravity have developed over time.



This week, pupils tackled the intriguing question: *"If gravity acts on everything all of the time, how does anything move upwards?"* To investigate this, they took their learning outside and used an air rocket launcher to explore how a larger upward force can act against gravity, sending an object soaring into the air before gravity eventually causes it to slow down and fall back towards the ground. It was fantastic to see the children applying their scientific understanding in a practical way – and, of course, there was plenty of excitement as pupils challenged themselves to see how high they could make their rockets go!



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Article 29: Goals of Education



Y5 Physics



Year 6 have been exploring the reliability of historical sources through their study of Anne Boleyn. In one lesson, pupils acted out the spread of rumours that circulated about Anne during her lifetime, including claims that she was a witch, had plotted against the King, and even had six fingers! The class discussed how such stories can spread quickly and considered how reliable these rumours were, learning that they should not be accepted as historical facts without evidence.

Y5 History



To start the year, Year 4 immersed themselves in storytelling through drama. The children worked together to act out a short story, using movement, facial expressions, tone of voice and body language to bring the characters and events to life.

Through role play and performance, pupils explored how the characters might be feeling at different points in the story and considered the reasons behind their actions and choices. This helped them develop a deeper understanding of character, emotion and motivation, while also encouraging them to think carefully about how a story unfolds.

The activity was a fantastic way to build confidence, teamwork and speaking and listening skills, while showing the children that stories can be explored in lots of creative ways. It was wonderful to see them throwing themselves into their roles and beginning the year with such enthusiasm and imagination!

Drama in Y4



This week, our Year 2 woodworkers focused on adding new skills to their toolboxes—if you'll pardon the pun! Before beginning their exciting projects over the coming weeks, the children learned how to use a range of tools successfully and safely. They practised sawing wood, making holes with hand drills, using screwdrivers, securing materials in vices and hammering nails accurately.

Although there was no finished product to take home this week, the children were developing the confidence, control and practical knowledge needed to turn their ideas into reality. This supports the Key Stage 1 Design and Technology curriculum, which encourages pupils to select and use different tools for practical tasks such as cutting, shaping and joining. Woodwork also develops valuable skills for later life, including independence, patience, problem-solving, risk awareness and the responsible use of tools.

Woodwork Club still has places available for any Year 2 children who would like to join us and create some exciting wooden products!

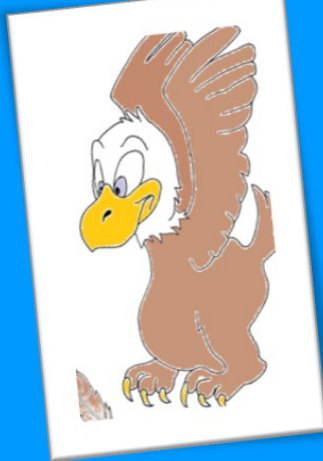
Y2 Woodwork Club



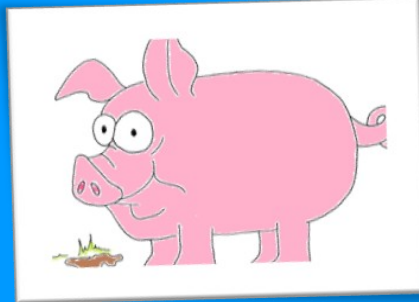
Learning Characters

These are the characters we use at school to help us develop a positive attitude to our learning and **GROW** our brains!

Concentrate.



Have a go.

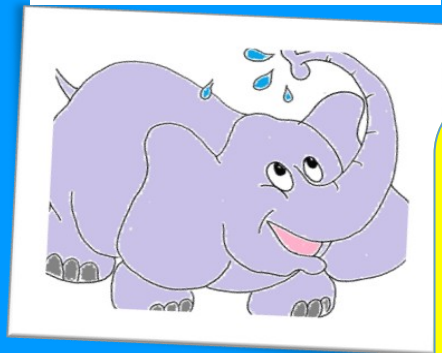


Cooperate.

Be curious.



Never give up.



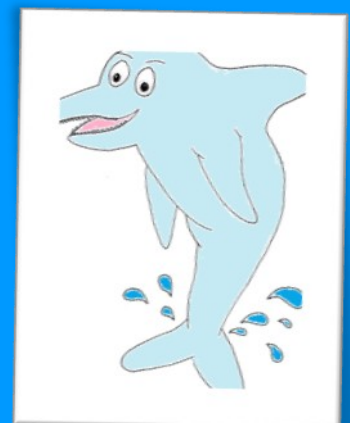
In class this week we have been thinking about having a positive attitude to learning so that we can keep on trying even if things are hard.

When we think like our characters, we become learning superheroes!

Keep on improving.



Enjoy learning.



Use your imagination.



A Message from the School Office

Please take a moment to read the following information regarding payments for school dinners in KS2, school trips, wraparound care, clubs and other school-related activities.

Our online payment system should be used for all payments. **We are a cashless school and can only accept cash in exceptional circumstances.**

Tax-Free Childcare Payments

We accept payments through the Government's **Tax-Free Childcare scheme** for Breakfast Club and After School Club. For further information about the scheme, please visit the Government website

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

If you choose to use this payment option, please email **admin2622@welearn365.com** each time you make a payment.

Your email should include:

- Your child's name
- The amount paid
- Whether the payment is for Breakfast Club or After School Club

Please be aware that, although you will have made the payment, we need to wait for our **weekly bank statement** before we can process the payment on your ParentPay account so there will be a small delay.

Outstanding Payments

We regularly send text messages to parents and carers regarding outstanding payments. We politely ask that you check your **ParentPay account regularly** to ensure that payments are up to date. Non payment for school meals and/or wrap around care may result in us withdrawing the service.

If you notice any charges that you do not agree with or believe may be incorrect, please contact the school office so that we can investigate this for you.

Please do not hesitate to contact either Sarah Beck or Anna Bolitho in the school office for any payment related enquiries.



Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Dimensions tool



Free online personalised self-care information & support for adults and children in Coventry & Warwickshire

Gratitude

Gratitude is the act of looking for things that make us feel happy and being thankful for them. For example, saying "thank you" to someone who did an act of kindness such as holding a door open for you, or telling your friend that you're happy they make you laugh and tell you funny jokes.

We can also be thankful to ourselves. We all have different skills and talents which bring us joy. What is yours? It might be skateboarding, cooking, sport or dancing. Whatever your skill or talent is, be thankful for it!

"Joy is the simplest form of gratitude." – Karl Barth

Notice the good in your life - practise gratitude

Look around, can you see something that makes you feel happy? For example, your best friend's smiling face. Listen, can you hear something that makes you feel happy? For example, music that makes you want to dance.

Being thankful for the good things in your life can improve your wellbeing and reduce feelings of frustration. It gives you the chance to reflect on the good things you have accomplished and have a more positive mindset.

Each day this week, try and notice three people/places/things that you are thankful for. Write these down on your phone or a notepad to be able to look back on and appreciate the positive aspects of your week.

Express gratitude

Show your appreciation to someone who did something nice. Say: "It was really kind of you to...", "It really helped me out when you..."

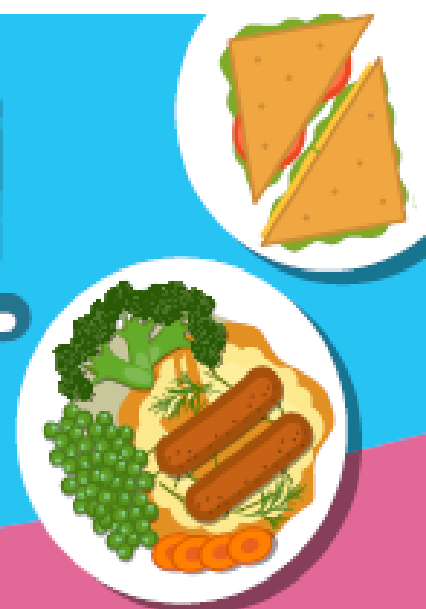
Tell the people in your life how you feel and what they mean to you. This can be as simple as "Mum, good dinner. Thanks!"

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS



School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

So much more than lunch...

A free school meal:

- creates healthy eating habits
- improves learning and behaviour
- saves money and time
- helps schools get extra funding

To find out more and for help to apply for free school meals, please contact:
freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk
or call freephone: 0800 408 1558

Did you know that claiming free school meals means that your child may get access to free school holiday activities and food?

HAF



Warwickshire
County Council

Can I apply?

Your child could be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- guarantee element of Pension Credit

You should still apply if your child is aged 4-7 and receives a universal free school meal

Some families who have no recourse to public funds are also eligible for free school meals, please see the webpages below for more details.

Depending on the benefits you receive and your level of income, your child may also get access to the Holiday Activities and Food programme and their school could receive extra funding for them. Find out more and apply at:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fsm



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RECEPTION

**GO GO
CREATORS**
ART

**GO GO
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STEM

**GO GO
ACTIVE**
SPORTS

**GO GO
GROOVERS**
DANCE



YEARS 1-2

**CREEPY
CREATIONS**
ART

**WEIRD
SCIENCE**
STEM

**SPOOKY
SPORTS**
SPORTS

**BOO-GIE
TIME**
DANCE

**GHOUL
GAMES**



YEARS 3-6

**DARK
ARTS**
ART

**MAD
SCIENCE**
STEM

**DARE TO
COMPETE**
SPORTS

**MONSTER
MOVES**
DANCE

**BATTLE
STARS**
GAMES



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MONDAY 26th UNTIL FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

LOCATIONS

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STEM

**GO GO
ACTIVE**
SPORTS

**GO GO
GROOVERS**
DANCE

**GOGO
CREW
JNRs**

YEAR 1-2

**CRAFT
CLUB**
ART

**SCIENCE
LAB**
STEM

**ACTION
STATIONS**
SPORTS

**SHINING
STARS**
DANCE

**TEAM
GAMES**

**GOGO
CREW
SNRs**

YEAR 3-6

**CR8
TIVE'S**
ART

**MAD
SCIENCE**
STEM

**SPORT
SKILLZ**
SPORTS

**STEP
UP**
DANCE

**BATTLE
STARS**
GAMES

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SAT 26TH SEPTEMBER | 1-3PM

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Diary Dates

Tuesday 15th September	Sonrisa Arts leading dance workshops with YR and Y1.
Monday 21st /Tuesday 22nd September	YR and Y1 attending a performance of “Dance in the Dark” at The Spa Centre.
Wednesday 23rd September	Y1 visiting The Wonder Dome planetarium in the school hall.
Thursday 24th September	Flu vaccinations YR—Y6.
Friday 25th September	MUFTI (non-uniform) day—please make a donation to School Fund via Parent Pay if your child chooses to wear their own choice of clothes.
Tuesday 29th September	Sonrisa Arts leading dance workshops with YR and Y1.
Tuesday 29th September	Y6 Swans class assembly at 9.05 —parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Thursday 1st October	Y1 Harvest assembly — Y6 parents/carers are warmly invited to attend.
Monday 5th October	School closed for INSET (staff training.)
Tuesday 6th October	Y6 Moorhens class assembly at 9.05 —parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Thursday 8th October	Tour of the school for Reception families 2027/28.
Tuesday 13th October	Height and weight checks for YR and Y6. Y6 Health Needs Assessment.
Tuesday 13th October	Y1 Puffins class assembly at 10.15am ——parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Tuesday 20th October	Y1 Kingfishers class assembly at 10.15am ——parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Wednesday 21st October	Parent’s Evening, 3.30—7.00pm

Diary Dates

Thursday 22nd October	Parent's Evening, 3.30—5.30pm.
Friday 23rd October	MUFTI (non-uniform) day—please make a donation to School Fund via Parent Pay if your child chooses to wear their own choice of clothes.
School closed for half-term holiday from Monday 26th October—Friday 30th October. Pupils return to school on Monday 2nd November.	
Tuesday 3rd November	Y5 Woodpeckers class assembly at 9.05 am— parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Thursday 12th November	Y6 Remembrance assembly at 9.05am— Y6 parents/carers are warmly invited to attend.
Tuesday 17th November	Y5 Kittiwakes class assembly at 9.05am— parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Monday 23rd November	St Mary's Church leading whole school assembly.
Friday 27th November	MUFTI (non-uniform) day—please make a donation to School Fund via Parent Pay if your child chooses to wear their own choice of clothes.
Tuesday 1st December	Y3/4/5/6 visit to The Belgrade Theatre to watch a performance of "Beauty and the Beast."
Wednesday 2nd December	YR/1/2 visit to Warwick Arts Centre to watch a performance of "The Gruffalo's Child."
Thursday 3rd December	Y1 Christmas performance at 9.30am— parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Monday 7th December	School closed for INSET (staff training.)
Tuesday 8th December	Y3 Christmas concert at 9.30am— parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 8th December	Y4 Christmas concert at 2.15pm — parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Wednesday 9th December	Y5 Christmas concert at 9.30am — parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Friday 11th December	Y6 Christmas concert at 2.15pm — parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Monday 14th December	Y2 Christmas concert at 9.30am — parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas lunch.
Wednesday 16th December	Reception Nativity and refreshments at 9.30am — parents/carers of pupils in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Friday 18th December	MUFTI— (non-uniform) day— come to school in a Christmas jumper or festive outfit . Please make a donation to School Fund via Parent Pay if your child chooses to wear their own choice of clothes.
School closed for the Christmas holiday from Monday 21st December— Friday 1st January. School closed for INSET (staff training) on Monday 4th January. Children return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2027. Please note that school will also be closed on Monday June 7th 2027 for INSET (staff training.)	



Sydenham Superstars



YR and Key Stage One



Key Stage Two