



Sydenham Primary School Newsletter

# Reception Visit



Look at how much fun Robins and Goldfinches had when they visited Think Tank science museum in Birmingham this week!

# Think Tank



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child  
Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture





Pupils saw stars in the planetarium and had a great time in the Little Brum gallery.

Noah took a ride in a limousine!




Julie got a make-over.




Anais had a check-up in the GP surgery.







Amy and Selina crawled through the tunnels.



Sienna enjoyed the soft play.



Raina and Harriet had fun with jets of air.



Rico met a skeleton!





The children learnt about different mechanisms.



Leah practised brushing her teeth.





# Journalism Club

**Miss Glenny has just started a journalism club and, this week, her roving reporters carried out an exclusive interview with Mrs Westwood. Hot off the press, here's what they found out:**

**What is your name and job?** My name is Juliette Anne-Marie Westwood and I am the Executive Headteacher of Sydenham Primary School.

**How long have you worked at Sydenham?** 24 years and four months.

**What inspired you to do your job?** When I was younger, I wanted to work as a psychologist for the Prison Service but I did work experience at my local primary school and absolutely loved it. There are lots of teachers in my family and this also inspired me to work in a school.

**What do you like about working here?** I love the children and the staff—they are polite, friendly, kind and so helpful. I also really enjoy working with Miss Glenny and Miss Challand to make the learning at school really exciting.

**What's the hardest thing about your job?** Every day there are lots of problems that need to be solved. This can be challenging.

**Where do you get all your ideas for the school from?** From the children, the teachers and the parents—it's a team effort! I also read a lot of books and get ideas from the computer and television. I am passionate about learning and learn something new every day at school.

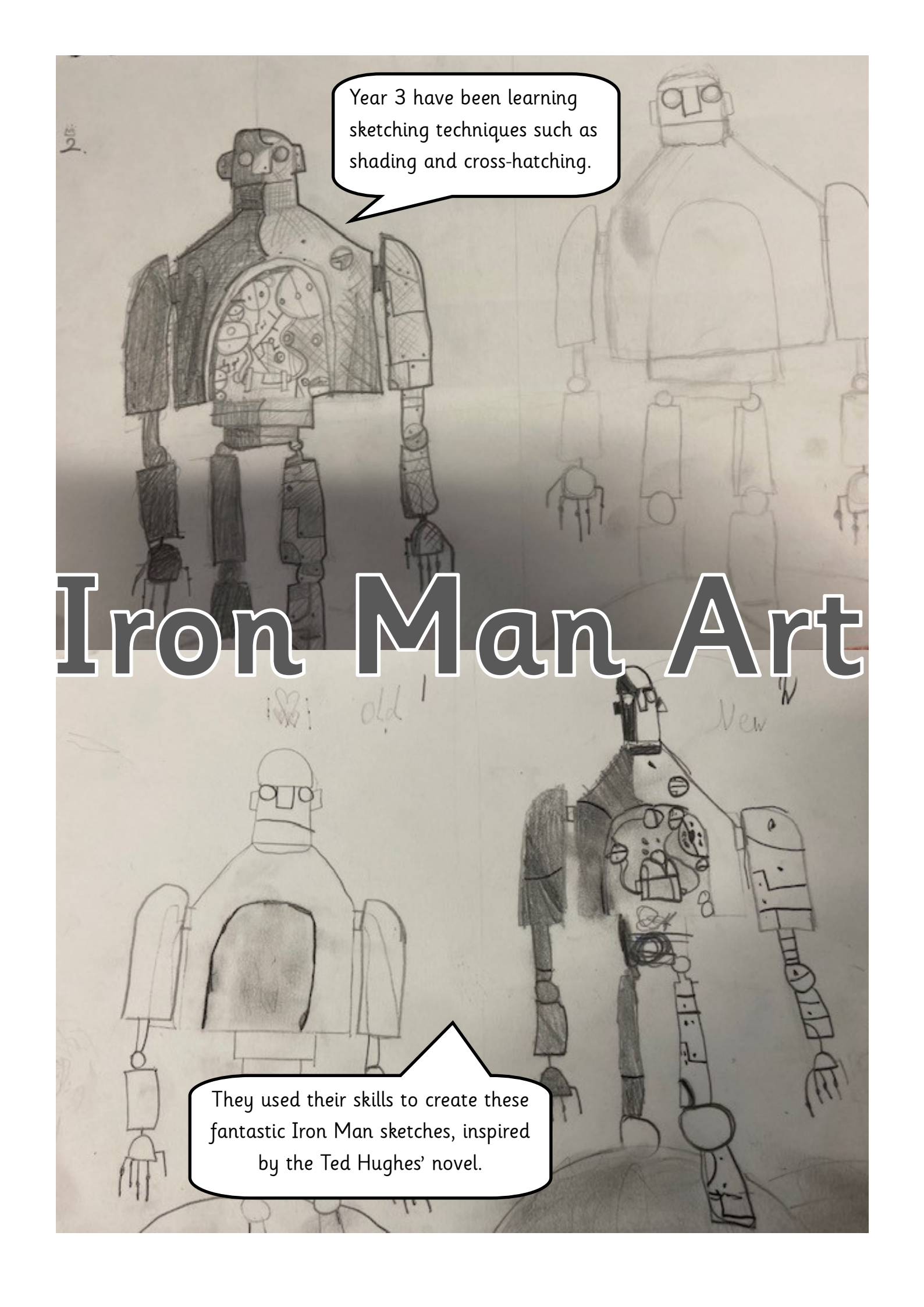
**What's your favourite season?** I love the colours of Autumn, the snow in Winter and the flowers in Spring. Summer is lovely because you can go to the beach and when I'm by the sea I feel free.

**What's your favourite snack?** Cake! I like all the naughty things I'm afraid. Cake is the answer to everything!

**What's your favourite joke?** Oh no! I'm not very good at telling jokes! This is the first joke I learnt as a child: What's black and white and red all over? A newspaper.

**Thank you, Mrs Westwood.**



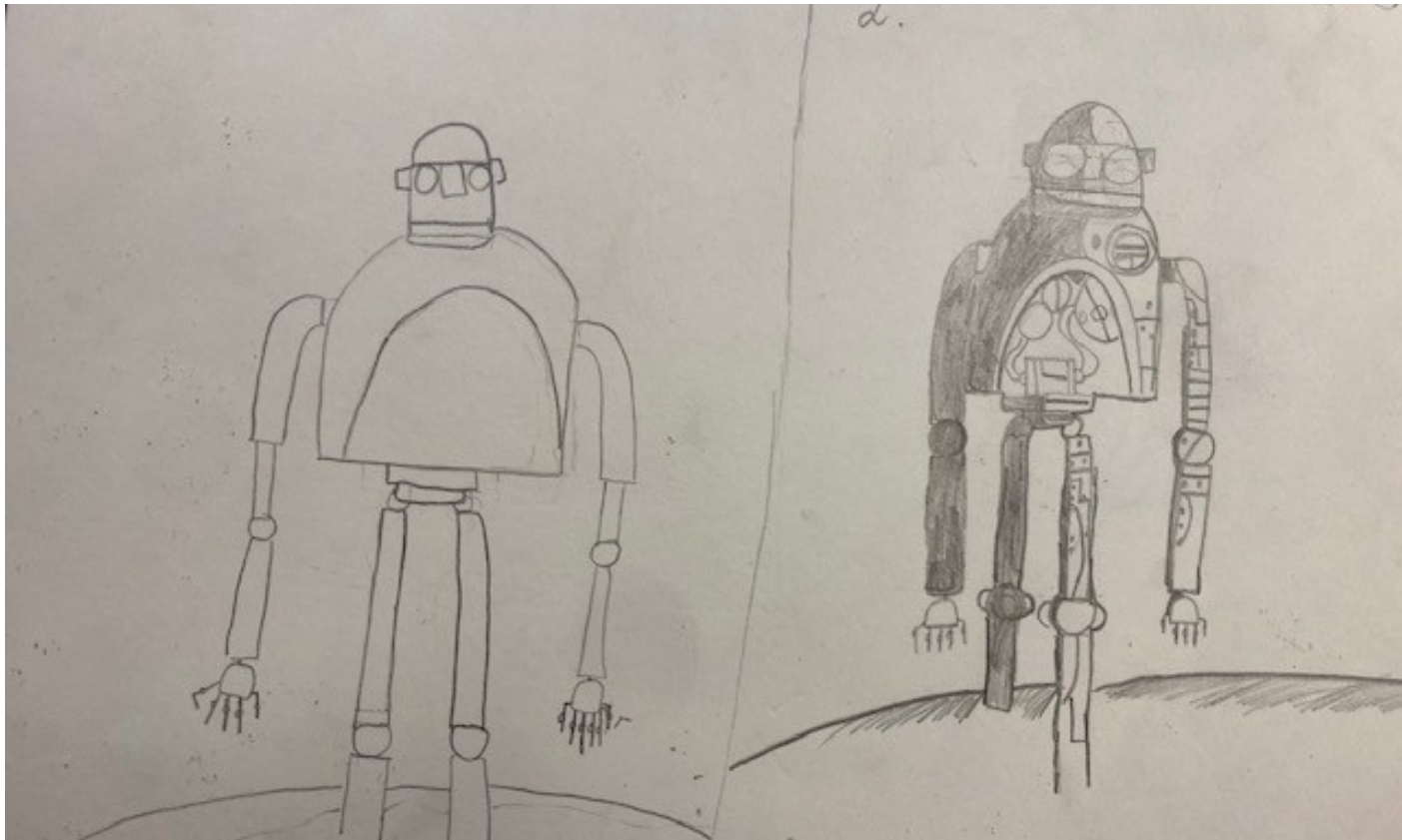


Year 3 have been learning sketching techniques such as shading and cross-hatching.

# Iron Man Art

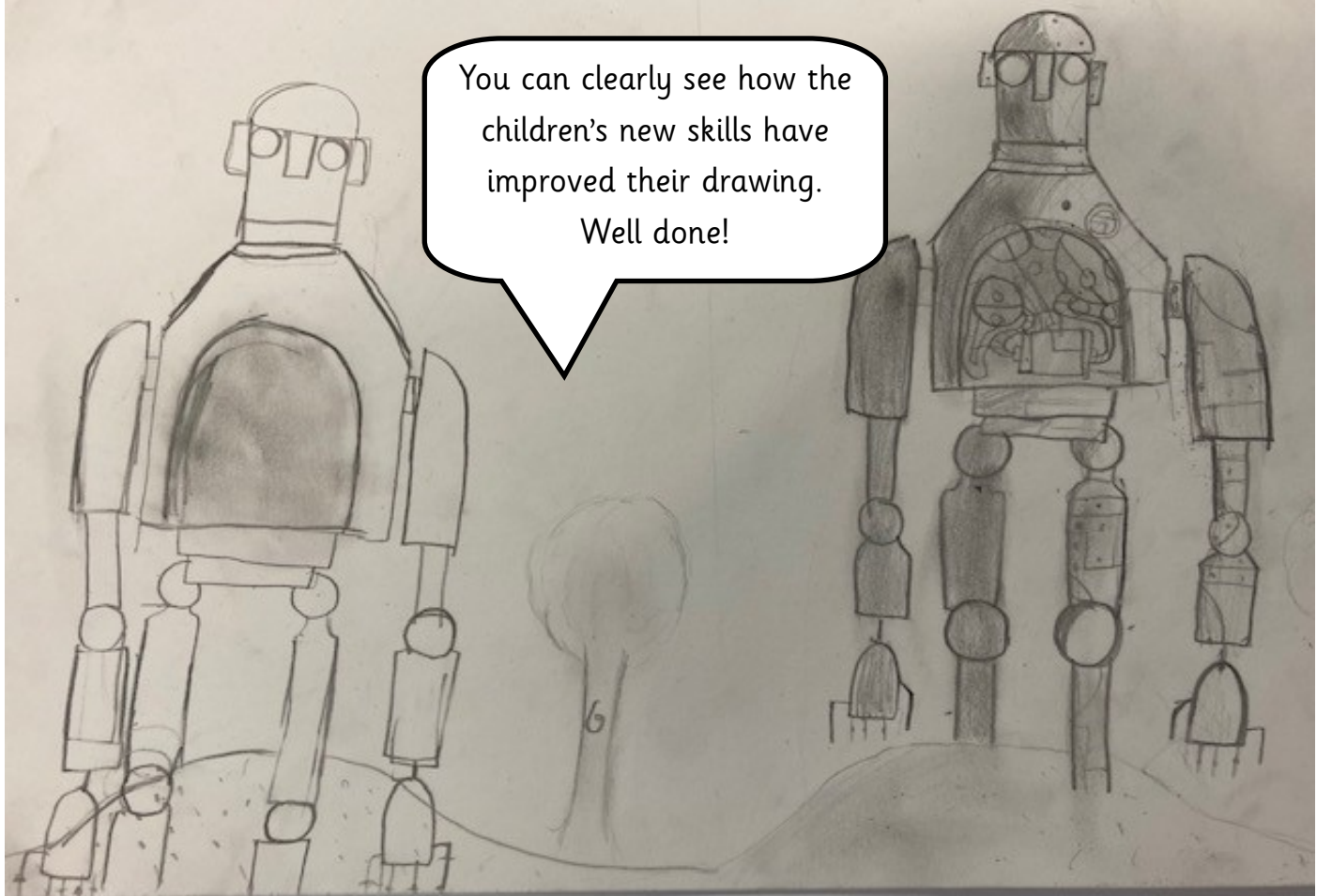
They used their skills to create these fantastic Iron Man sketches, inspired by the Ted Hughes' novel.





# Iron Man Art

You can clearly see how the children's new skills have improved their drawing. Well done!







Y4 have been enjoying listening to music from around the world.

# Y4 Get on Down!



The children had fun dancing to the different genres.

Favourites were K Pop from Korea, the Haka from New Zealand and tango from Argentina



# History Quality Mark

**As you will know from our previous newsletters, Sydenham was recently awarded a silver quality mark by the Historical Association. We have now received their report on History teaching and learning at school. Here are just a few of the things the assessor liked:**

- Pupils can articulate the purpose and value of History as a key subject area in the school. They enjoy History, are well motivated and can make connections between the topics they have studied.
- The school has a good range of resources to make learning exciting and relevant.
- History features frequently in assembly themes such as Armistice Day and Disability History Month.
- The school are members of the Historical Association, and teachers have attended training to enhance their knowledge and skills.
- The curriculum is clearly planned, broad and balanced and explicit consideration is given to progression of knowledge , understanding and skills. It is also diverse, inclusive and relevant to the school cohort. The EYFS curriculum prepares pupils effectively for primary History, for example by teaching chronology through the study of pupils' family history and life stories.
- Key vocabulary is taught and consolidated through glossaries and word mats. Knowledge organisers and home learning activities are shared with pupils and parents for all History units
- The school has detailed progression grids covering the substantive and disciplinary knowledge across key stages. These grids are used by teachers for assessment and by the subject leader during moderation meetings.
- Cross-curricular work is a regular aspect of the pupils learning and regular History themed trips help to build cultural capital.



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

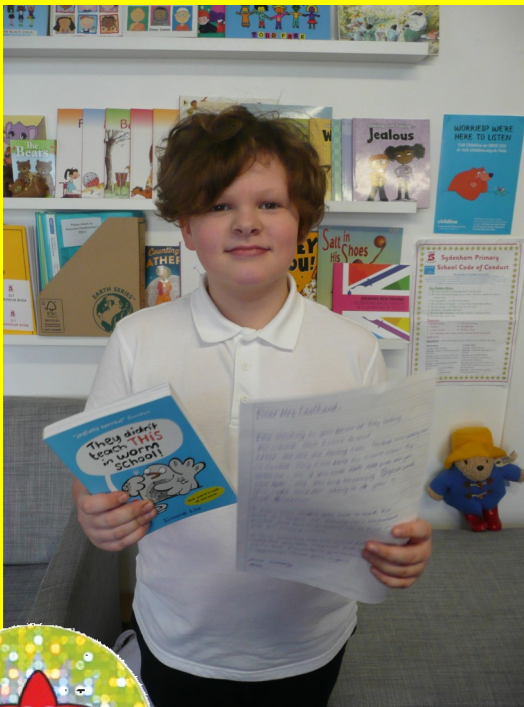
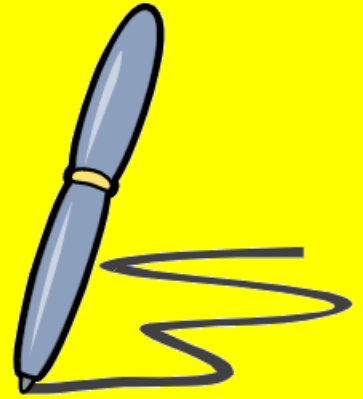




# Celebrating Writing

**We are feeling very proud of Archie this week!**

Archie brought me a letter that he had written asking whether we could buy a copy of a new book entitled *'They Didn't Teach **This** in Worm School!'* by Simone Lia because he was so excited to read it.



Archie has learned how to master writing in a persuasive style, as I felt that I couldn't say no; and Archie's classmates are now eagerly waiting for Archie to finish reading the book so that they can read it too!

Persuasive writing is writing that is designed to make the reader agree with the writer's viewpoint. Children learn this style of writing in Key Stage 2, through analysing and creating adverts, posters, travel brochures, and writing letters on important issues such as climate change and pollution.

## Features of persuasive writing:



**INTRODUCTION  
AND SUMMARY**

**EMOTIVE LANGUAGE**

**EXAGGERATION**

**RHETORICAL QUESTIONS**

Dear Rishi Sunak,

Most people would agree that we use far too much plastic.

Have you ever seen plastic bags tangled in trees, along the road or even floating in water? Of course you have, because they are so lightweight, and easily picked up by the wind. They kill our wildlife and make our streets look messy.

Can you be responsible enough to end this pollution and save our world by banning plastic bags altogether?

Yours sincerely,

Maybe the next time your child would like you to agree with their viewpoint, you could ask them to write you a persuasive letter so that they can practise their skills!



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



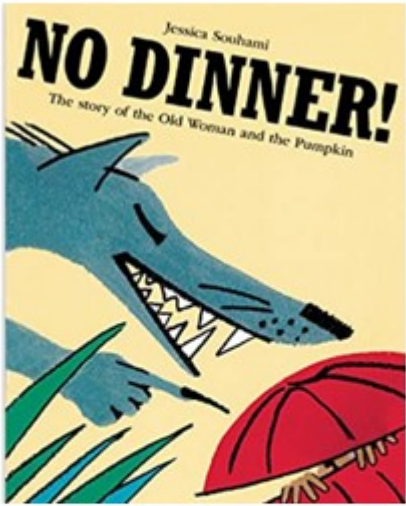
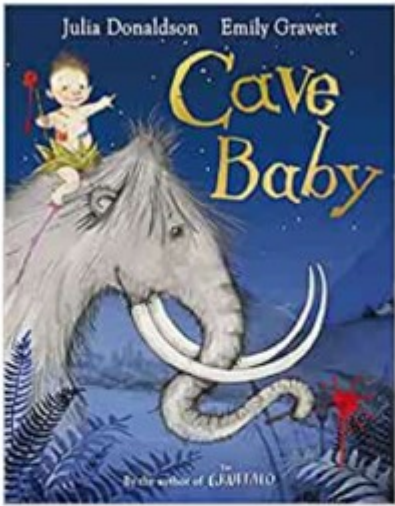
# World Book Day 2023

## Save the date

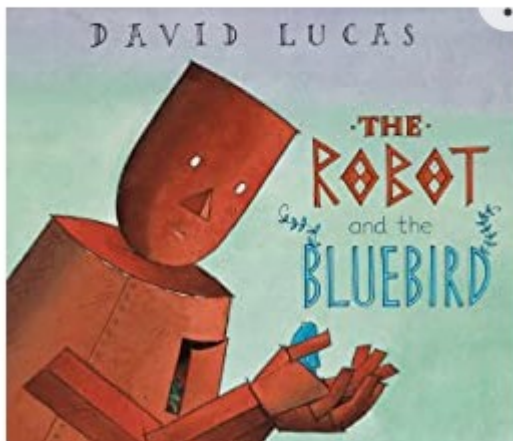
WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
2 MARCH 2023

A reminder that World Book Day this year is on Thursday 2nd March 2023, and we have lots of fun and exciting activities planned for the whole of that week to celebrate!

Once again, each year group has chosen a book to explore for this special week, and we invite children to **dress up in clothes linked to our chosen books** on Thursday 2nd March:

Reception	Year 1
	
Ms Knight, Mrs <u>Harrad</u> and Mrs Cox would like the children to come to school dressed as a <b>wolf</b> , <b>tiger</b> , <b>bear</b> , a <b>pumpkin</b> or their <b>favourite food</b> !	Mrs Lee, Mrs Emmett and Miss Daly would like the children to come dressed as a <b>bear</b> , <b>leopard</b> , <u>tiger</u> or in their <b>pyjamas</b> !

### Year 2



Mrs Prager and Miss Mason would like the children to come to school dressed as a **robot** or a **bird**!

### Year 3



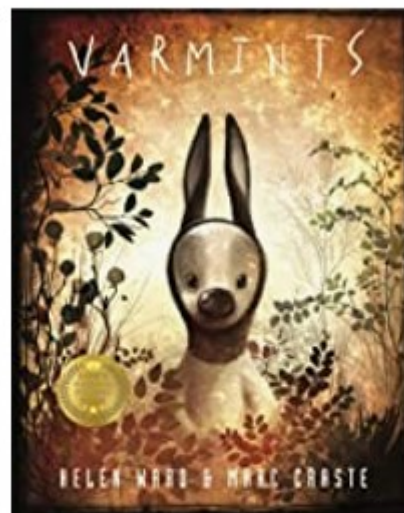
Mr Lee, Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Rastall would like the children to come to school dressed as their **favourite book character**!

### Year 4



Mrs Madahar and Mrs Keys would like the children to come to school dressed as **Vikings**!

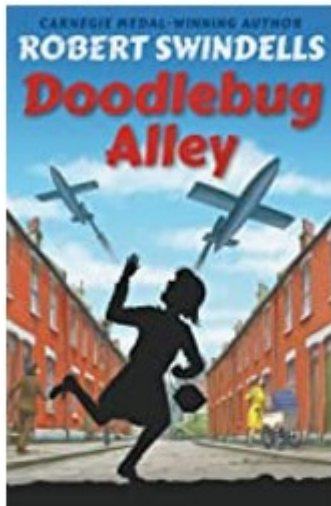
### Year 5



Miss Ellershaw and Miss Dalton would like the children to come to school dressed as **minibeasts**!



## Year 6



Mrs Van der Sterren and Miss Ball would like the children to come to school dressed as World War 2 **evacuees!**

Please do not feel obliged to spend money on a costume. A home-made costume using what your child already has will be perfect for this fun day!

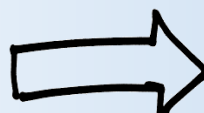


Some of last year's creations!



NATIONAL  
**BOOK**  
tokens

Every child will receive a £1 book token that can be put towards a book of their choice or swapped for one of these free books which are available in many shops.



Introducing 2023's  
£1/€1.50 books  
for all ages





# HAVE YOUR SAY!

## Warwickshire's SEND and Inclusion Service Offer

Take part in our consultation and help to shape the future SEND and Inclusion Service.

How to respond:

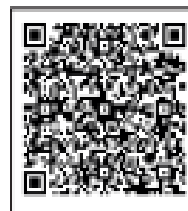
- Attend one of our drop-in or online events
- Respond online at [ask.warwickshire.gov.uk](https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk)
- Call Freephone 0800 408 1558 (Mon-Fri, 9am - 5pm)
- Email [sendchange@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:sendchange@warwickshire.gov.uk)

**Consultation closes  
26 February 2023.**



 /WarksLocalOffer

 Warwickshire  
County Council



Scan for more information  
including online survey,  
consultation events and  
Easy Read versions



# Job Opportunity



Bayleaf Cookery School (who run the after-school cookery club at Sydenham) are looking for a class leader to run after-school cookery clubs at Sydenham and other Leamington primary schools, starting immediately.

No specific experience is required, just enthusiasm for cookery and enjoyment of working with children. The pay is £14 per hour for 12.5 hours per week.

If you're interested, please contact Andrew on 07976 623 727 or [andrew@bayleafcookeryschool.co.uk](mailto:andrew@bayleafcookeryschool.co.uk).



# Diary Dates

Monday 30th January	Y5 Bikeability sessions
Monday 30th January	National Story Telling Week begins.
Tuesday 31st January	Y1 ED Puffins class assembly at 10.15am —parents and carers warmly invited to attend.
Tuesday 31st January	Family Learning reading session, 1.45—3.00pm
Thursday 2nd March	Chef from the Royal Academy of Culinary Arts working with Y5 pupils.
Tuesday 7th February	Y4 SM Wagtails class assembly at 9.15am —parents and carers warmly invited to attend.
Tuesday 7th February	Road safety sessions for Y2
Wednesday 8th February	Fire Service visiting Y1
Friday 10th February	Fire Service visiting Y5
Tuesday 14th February	YR RK Robins class assembly at 10.15am —parents and carers warmly invited to attend.
Tuesday 14th February	Family Learning reading session, 1.45—3.00pm
Wednesday 15th February	Parent-Teacher Conferencing
Thursday 16th February	Parent-Teacher Conferencing
<p>Monday 20th - Friday 24th February, school closed for half-term holiday.</p> <p>Pupils return to school on Monday 27th February</p>	
Monday 27th February	Book Week
Wednesday 1st March	Katie Sahota, author, visiting school
Thursday 2nd March	World Book Day— children come to school dressed as a character linked to their class story book.
Tuesday 7th March	Y4 RK Starlings class assembly at 9.15am —parents and carers warmly invited to attend.
Thursday 9th March	Y3 Roman Day
Tuesday 14th March	YR HC Goldfinches class assembly at 10.15am —parents and carers warmly invited to attend.
Tuesday 21st March	Y5 SD Woodpeckers class assembly at 9.15am —parents and carers warmly invited to attend.

Tuesday 28th March	Y2 CP Wrens class assembly at 10.15am —parents and carers warmly invited to attend.
Thursday 30th March	Bike marking from 2.30pm—come along and have your bike security marked
Friday 31st March	MUFTI Day—bring 50p if your child comes to school in their own choice of clothes
Friday 31st March	Y3/4 Bikeability sessions

Monday 3rd—Friday 14th April, school closed for the Easter holidays

Pupils return to school on Monday 17th April

### **PE Kit**

Please make sure that your child has the correct PE kit in school on the day of their lesson with Onside Coaches. Kit includes black shorts, white T shirt and trainers. For colder weather, please also provide joggers and a hoodie. All kit should be clearly labelled with your child's name and stored in a bag. Thankyou.

### **Parent/Carer– Teacher Conferencing**

Don't forget to book your ten minute teacher conferencing slot—details of how to book were sent this week via email. Conferencing is an opportunity for you to meet with the class teacher to learn more about your child's academic progress. Meetings will take place face-to-face in your child's classroom. You will have the chance to see your child's school books and ask any questions, raise concerns or ask advice. Please remember to stick to time so that other families aren't kept waiting. If you require a longer appointment, please let your child's class teacher know.





# Sydenham Superstars



Y1R and Key Stage Two



Key Stage Two