

# Magical Music



Year Four began cello lessons this week led by a specialist teacher from County Music Service. During the first lesson, pupils practised warming up, learnt the different parts of the cello and had a first go at playing "pizzicato."



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture





Other exciting musical opportunities this term include samba lessons for Year Three and music technology sessions for Year Five. We also have Christmas carol concerts coming up for Years One to Six and, in the Spring Term, Year Four will be performing at Wembley Stadium as part of "Voice in a Million." So, there are certainly plenty of fun, musical activities to look forward to!

# Talk for Writing



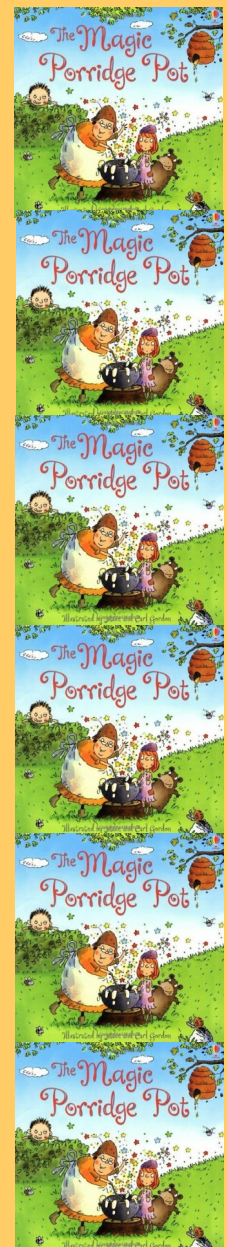
At school, we provide children with lots of opportunities to hear and learn traditional tales by heart. Here are Year One, acting out the story of "Little Red Riding Hood."



# Little Red Riding Hood

# The Magic Porridge Pot

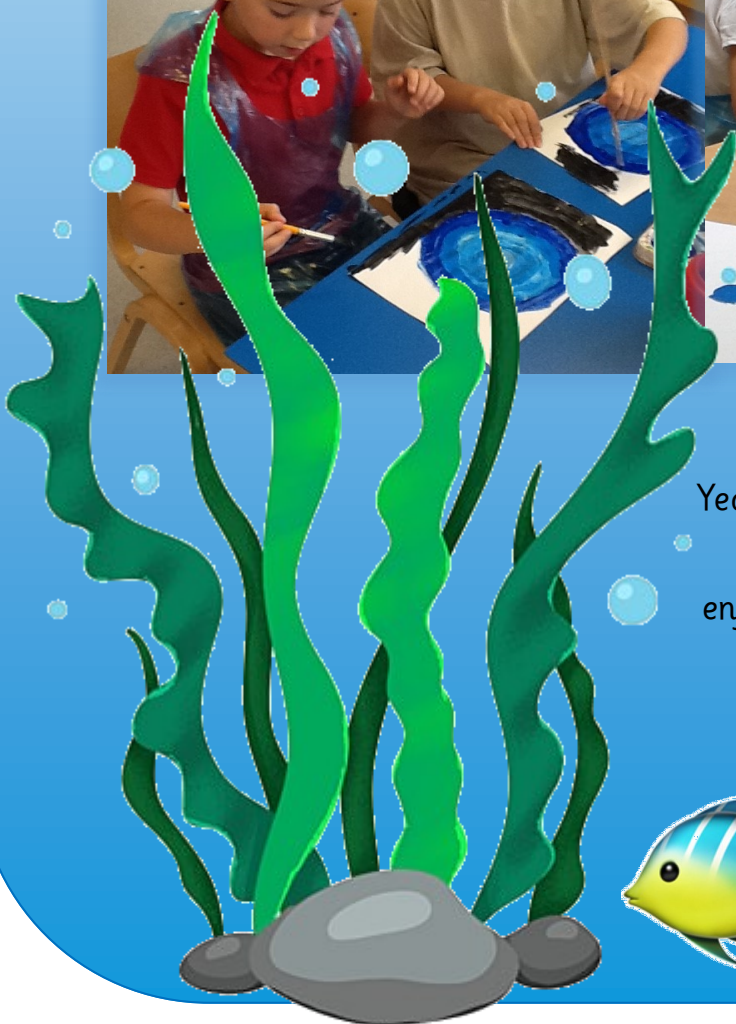
On Thursday, Year Two had fun following instructions to make porridge.



Next week the children will learn the story of "The Magic Porridge Pot."



# Blue Abyss



Year Four have been learning about the different layers of an ocean and enjoyed expressing their understanding through art.



# Online Safety Ambassadors



Meet our fantastic Online Safety Ambassadors who are working with Mrs Madahar to help keep everybody safe when using a laptop, PC, tablet, games console or mobile phone. The Ambassadors will be promoting online safety through assemblies, the newsletter and information posters. They will also share tips and rules about using app's so that everybody can chat, game and search for information safely.



# Reading

Some surprise packages arrived in the Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 classrooms this week! There was a buzz of excitement as they were unwrapped to reveal some brand new, newly published reading books for children to read at home. I really hope that the children enjoy reading their new books, and I look forward to hearing all about their favourites!



Year 5 and 6 also received a copy of the *Britannica All New Children's Encyclopedia* this week, and have started to delve inside for new, interesting facts.

**Happy reading, everyone! Miss Challand**



# Library visits

School library visits recommenced this week and the Reception classes were the first to go and choose a book to take home. Here are some lovely photos of them relaxing with a story.



# Home reading



We encourage every child to read at home at least 4 times a week here at Sydenham, and are **introducing a new incentive** to help encourage your little one!

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were introduced to their new 'Bedtime stories' bears in assembly this week. These bears will travel home with one child on a Friday to stay over for a weekend of bedtime stories, starting on Friday 24th September. **For your child to be nominated by their teacher to take a bear home, they need to have their reading diary signed by you every time they read please, and as often as you possibly can.** Reading daily makes such a huge difference to your child's ability to read and understand what they are reading.

# An invitation to our Year 1 Reading River

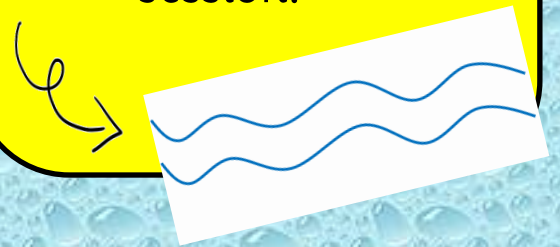
**1CD Wednesday 6th October 9.15-9.45**

**1EL Wednesday 20th October 9.15-9.45**

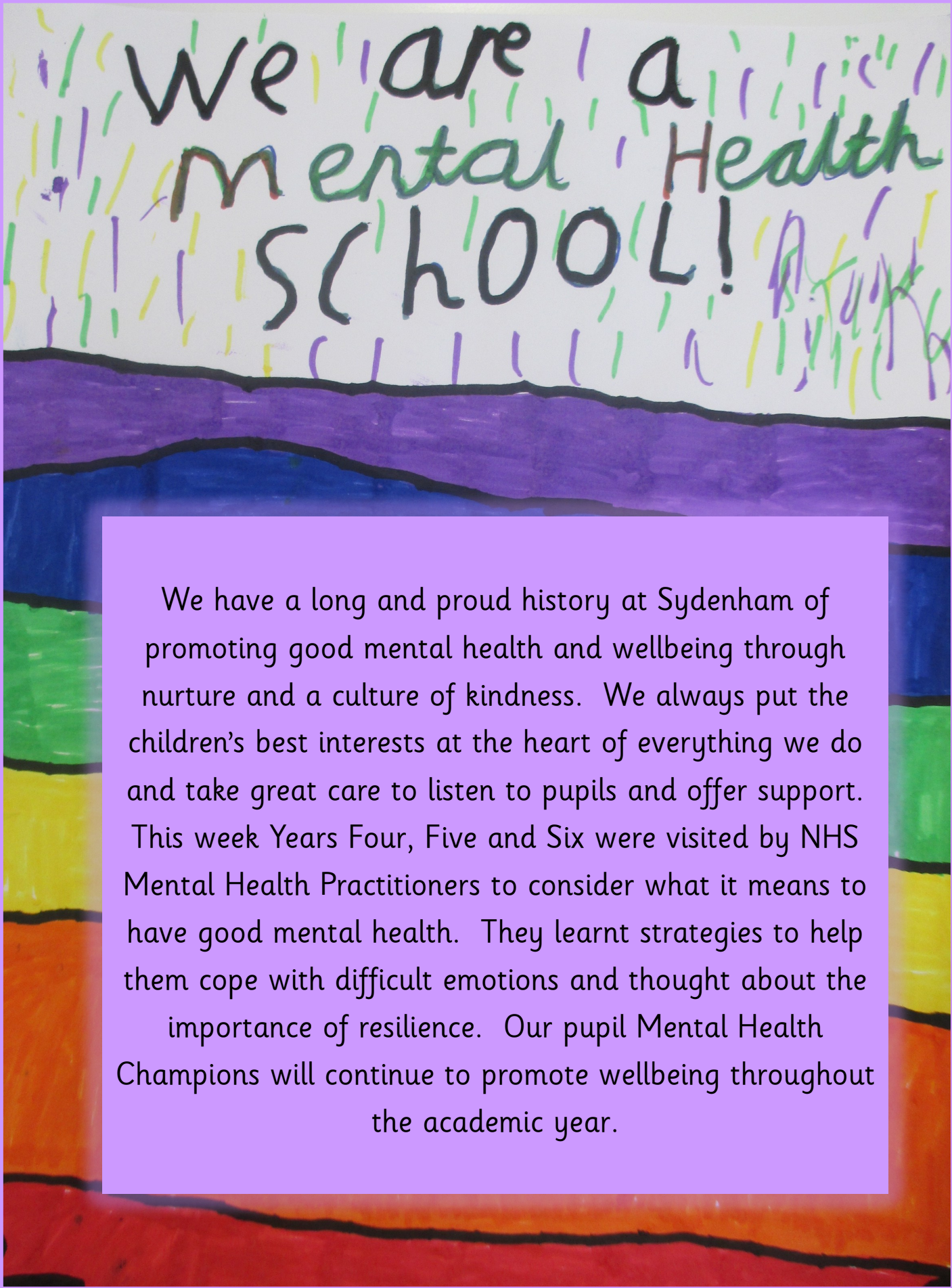


We are once again holding this special reading session for our Year 1 children, parents and carers to come and listen to some lovely picture books being read aloud by members of staff. The children will be needed to be dropped off in the morning to their classroom as usual, and will then be brought down to the hall at 9.15am to meet you by their class teacher. We really hope that you can join us!

Look out for a linked piece of home learning that will be given out the week before your child's Reading River session!



Session includes a free raffle to win a book for your child!



We are a  
mental Health  
SCHOOL!

We have a long and proud history at Sydenham of promoting good mental health and wellbeing through nurture and a culture of kindness. We always put the children's best interests at the heart of everything we do and take great care to listen to pupils and offer support. This week Years Four, Five and Six were visited by NHS Mental Health Practitioners to consider what it means to have good mental health. They learnt strategies to help them cope with difficult emotions and thought about the importance of resilience. Our pupil Mental Health Champions will continue to promote wellbeing throughout the academic year.

WE ARE A  
MENTAL HEALTH  
SCHOOL





# OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMP STARTING SOON!



Looking for  
something fun  
& exciting to  
do during the  
half term break  
your child?



## OOODLES OF SPOOKY FUN!

CHECK OUT SOME OF OUR ACTIVITIES!!!  
THE TIMETABLE OF ACTIVITIES CAN VARY AT ANYTIME



**OFSTED**  
REGISTERED AND "GOOD"



**WE ACCEPT**  
CHILDCARE VOUCHERS



**ACCOMMODATE**  
RECEPTION CHILDREN ALL DAY



**HALLOWEEN  
FUN & GAMES**



**ARTS & CRAFTS**



**DANCE**



**FUN SCIENCE  
EXPERIMENTS**



**MULTI SPORTS**



**ARCHERY**



**FOREST SCHOOL**  
Priors Field Only

**FROM 25th - 29th OCTOBER**

(Bishops Tachbrook 25th until 28th October)



## PICK YOUR PACKAGE

### STANDARD DAY PACKAGE 9AM - 3.30PM

ALL CHILDREN TO BRING  
OWN PACK LUNCH  
(Please provide two snacks & a drink)

**£25.95**

### EARLY DROP OFF FROM 8AM

INCLUDES BREAKFAST

**+ £4**

### LATE PICK UP UNTIL 4.30PM

INCLUDES DRINK & A BISCUIT

**+ £3**

### LATE PICK UP UNTIL 5.00PM

INCLUDES DRINK, BISCUIT & TEA  
WRAP / SANDWICH PLUS FRUIT

**+ £4**

### LATE PICK UP UNTIL 5.30PM

INCLUDES DRINK, BISCUIT & TEA  
WRAP / SANDWICH PLUS FRUIT

**+ £5**

## PICK YOUR VENUE



### BISHOP'S TACHBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Kingsley Road, Bishop's Tachbrook, CV33 9RY

25TH - 28TH OCTOBER

### KINGSLEY PREP SCHOOL

Beauchamp Avenue, Leamington Spa, CV32 5RD

25TH - 29TH OCTOBER

### PRIORS FIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Clinton Lane, Kenilworth, CV8 1BA

25TH - 29TH OCTOBER

### **NEW!** HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vickers Way, Warwick, CV34 7AP

25TH - 29TH OCTOBER

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**W:** [www.gogomakers.co.uk](http://www.gogomakers.co.uk)

**E:** [hello@gogomakers.co.uk](mailto:hello@gogomakers.co.uk)

**T:** 01926 935377


My Daughters last words  
last night before falling  
asleep... "I love  
Go Go Makers,  
it's magnificent!"

Mum, Clair

Inspiring young minds to think BIG!



**RATED 5 STARS ON GOOGLE**



## Information for parents:

### Reception baseline assessment



Standards  
& Testing  
Agency

# Reception Baseline Assessment

## Do you have a child starting reception class from the 2021/22 academic year?

If so, your child will be participating in the reception baseline assessment (RBA) within the first 6 weeks of starting reception.

The purpose of the assessment is to provide the starting point for a new measure that will help parents understand how well schools support their pupils to progress between reception and year 6 / the end of key stage 2.

## What is the RBA?

The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of your child's age will be familiar with. It is statutory for all schools from September 2021.

## What does participating in the RBA mean for my child?

The RBA is not about judging or labelling your child or putting them under any pressure. Your child cannot 'pass' or 'fail' the assessment. Its main purpose is to create a starting point to measure the progress schools make with their pupils.

*'During the COVID-19 pandemic, we know that parents have been pivotal in supporting their child's mental health and wellbeing during this difficult time. I have had the pleasure of observing RBA in practice during the pilot stage and can assure you that the RBA should not be stressful in any way and your child is unlikely to realise they are doing an assessment. The activities undertaken are fun, simple in design, short and age-appropriate. Evidence from the trial and pilot shows that the children were interested in the tasks and enjoyed it, and I'm sure your child will do too.'*

**Claire Harnden**

Deputy CEO, Director of Teaching School Hub  
South Farnham Educational Trust

## How will the RBA benefit my child?

The RBA will provide an opportunity for your child to have valuable one-to-one time with their teacher at an early stage, so the teacher can get to know your child better. It will provide a helpful snapshot of where your child is when they enter reception, so they can be supported in the most appropriate way. Feedback from the trial and pilot of the RBA has been largely positive, with 84% of practitioners rating the children's interest and enjoyment of the tasks as at least 'satisfactory'.

*'As school leaders, we know how important the first weeks of school are to a child and perceive the opportunity for our teachers to take time to sit with each child individually to be hugely beneficial. The RBA helps to facilitate this and our teachers have a better idea of how to design learning for them.'*

**Claire Harnden**

Deputy CEO, Director of Teaching School Hub  
South Farnham Educational Trust

## How will the RBA benefit me as a parent?

When your child reaches year 6 / the end of key stage 2, you will be able to see how well your child's school has supported the year group in their time at primary school, compared to other schools nationally. This will improve on the current progress measure, which only measures progress between key stage 1 and key stage 2, missing out the crucial work schools do between reception and year 2 / the end of key stage 1.

*'In later years, once the new progress measure is introduced, RBA will mean parents are better able to see how well the school is supporting its pupils throughout primary school. Parents will be able to compare the performance of schools nationally based on the progress they make with their pupils, enabling parents to make better, more informed decisions when choosing the school they want their children to attend.'*

**Claire Harnden**

Deputy CEO, Director of Teaching School Hub  
South Farnham Educational Trust

## How do I prepare my child for the assessment?

You do not need to do anything to prepare your child for the assessment. Your child is unlikely to even know that they are doing an assessment when they are completing the tasks.

## What if my child cannot access the assessment?

Your child will answer questions verbally or by pointing at or moving objects. The assessment has been designed to ensure that it is inclusive and accessible to as many children as possible, including those with special educational needs or disability (SEND) or English as an additional language (EAL). The teacher can pause the assessment at any time if your child needs a break. There are also modified materials available for children with visual and hearing impairments.

## How will the data be used?

The data from the assessment will only be used by the Department for Education when your child has reached the end of year 6, to provide the baseline to measure the progress of your child's year group from reception to year 6. The data from the assessment, including numerical scores, is not shared with you, pupils, teachers, or external bodies, including schools, and there will be no published scores at pupil, school or national level.

## Will I receive feedback on my child's assessment?

Your child's teacher will receive a set of statements which provide a narrative description of how your child performed in the assessment. Schools can choose whether to send these to you directly, but they must provide them to you on your request.

### For more information

Your child's teacher will be able to answer any questions about the reception baseline assessment. For more details you can also visit [www.gov.uk/STA](http://www.gov.uk/STA).

© Crown copyright 2021

Information for parents: reception baseline assessment

Electronic version product code: STA/21/8347/e ISBN: 978-1-78957-450-0



You may re-use this document/publication (not including logos or images) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3) or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk). Cover Image © iStock.com/vgajlc. This document is available for download at [www.gov.uk/government/publications](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications).

# Diary Dates

Thursday 23rd September	Rocksteady music lesson begin again.
Friday 24th September	MUFTI (non uniform) Day—bring 50p to wear your own choice of clothes to school. All donations to School Fund.
Wednesday 6th October	Y1 CD Reading River, 9.15 to 9.45am.
Thursday 7th October	National Poetry Day
Monday 11th October	<b>School closed</b> for in-service (teacher) training.
Wednesday 13th October	School photographs—individual portraits.
Wednesday 20th October	Y1 EL Reading River, 9.15—9.45am.
Friday 22nd October	MUFTI (non uniform) Day—bring 50p to wear your own choice of clothes to school. All donations to School Fund.
<b>Monday 25th October—Friday 29th October school closed for half-term holiday.</b>	
<b>School re-opens on Monday 1st November</b>	
Tuesday 2nd November	Y5 visit to The Space Centre.
Tuesday 19th October	YR and Y3 Diwali workshop.
Friday 26th November	MUFTI (non uniform) Day—bring 50p to wear your own choice of clothes to school. All donations to School Fund.
Tuesday 30th November	Nasal flu immunisations—provisional date.
Wednesday 1st/2nd December	Y5 and Y6 silent disco—more information coming soon!
Wednesday 1st December	Infant Nativity, 9.30—10.00am.
Wednesday 8th December	Y1/2 carol concert, 9.30—10.00am.
Tuesday 14th December	Y5/6 theatre trip—"The Magician's Elephant", Royal Shakespeare Theatre.
Thursday 9th December	Y3/4 carol concert, 9.30—10.00am.
Friday 10th December	Y5/6 carol concert, 9.30—10.00am.
Monday 13th December	Christmas dinner.
Thursday 16th December	YR/Y1 theatre trip—"The Very Hungry Caterpillar", Warwick Arts' Centre.
Friday 17th December	MUFTI Day—bring 50p to wear a festive outfit.
<b>Monday 20th December—Friday 31st December School Closed for Christmas holiday</b>	
<b>Monday 3rd January 2022 school closed for bank holiday</b>	
<b>Tuesday 4th January 2022 school closed for in-service (teacher) training</b>	
<b>School re-opens on Wednesday 5th January 2022</b>	

Have a super weekend!

Best wishes from Miss Glenny (Associate Headteacher)



# Sydenham Superstars



Reception



Years One & Two



# Sydenham Superstars



Years Three & Four



Years Five & Six