

Exploring

This week, Y2 have been out and about, exploring our local environment. Find out what they discovered on the next few pages.

Our Environment



Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 14: Freedom of Religion





Pupils visited the glass house and park at Jephson Gardens as well as Newbold Comyn.



They studied the local flora and fauna and identified species of plants and animals.





I liked the beehive.
Isabella



My favourite part was seeing fish in the glass-house—*Sherwin*

I loved seeing all the flowers. *Florence*



I found lots of living things. *Evie*



I liked seeing the black bamboo and learning about it. *Sadie*

On Thursday, Y5 worked with Orchestra of the Swan and two visual artists, Ros and Felicity.

Orchestra of the Swan

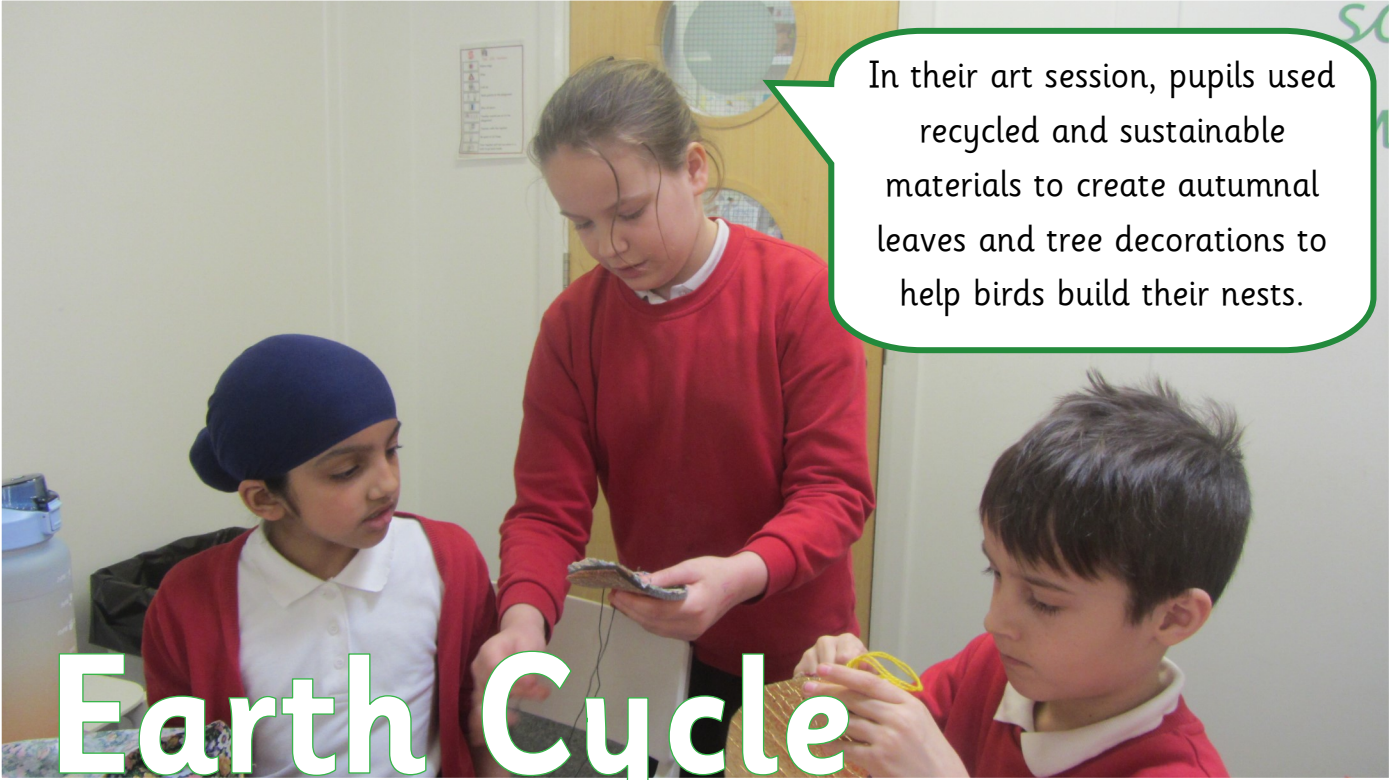
Together, using the languages of music and art, they explored the theme of the environment

Pupils listened to a live performance of excerpts from Vivaldi's "Four Seasons." They also participated in a workshop called "World in Danger."

Earth Cycle


The children learnt about pitch and poetic sounds before creating a final piece featuring voice and instruments.






In their art session, pupils used recycled and sustainable materials to create autumnal leaves and tree decorations to help birds build their nests.

Earth Cycle



These were hung in the Forest School area and on a beautiful indoor tree.



These fantastic sessions taught pupils that small changes can make a big difference to nature.



Earth Cycle

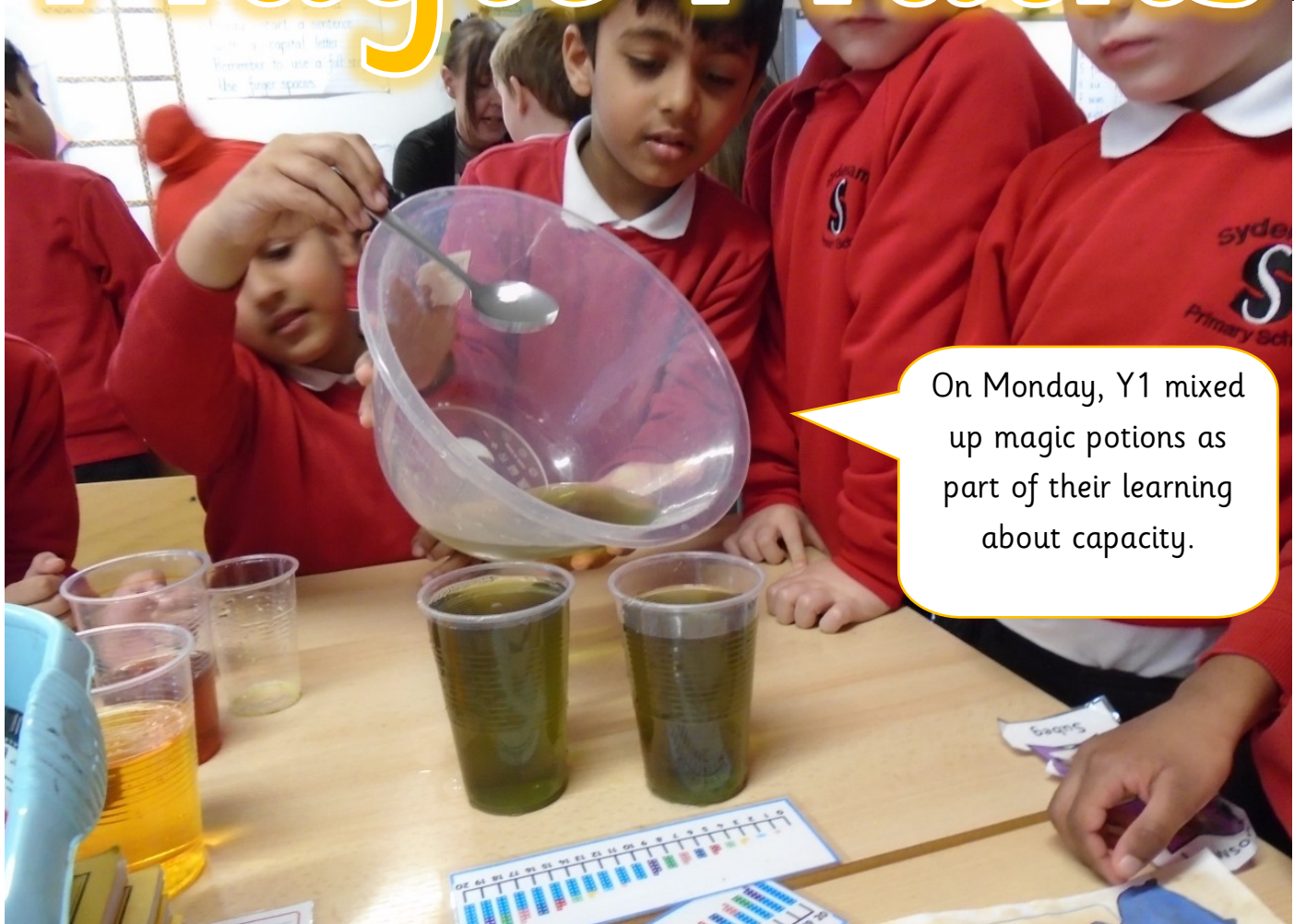
I hate the world in danger,
I like to see deep blue seas and shiny green grass,
But my dream can't come true without your help! No one can do this by themselves
I like the sun in Summer and the rain and snow in Winter,
I love the colours in Autumn and the excitement in Spring.
But my dream can't come true without your help. No one can do this by themselves.

By Gabrilla Reading (Y6)






Magic Maths



On Monday, Y1 mixed up magic potions as part of their learning about capacity.

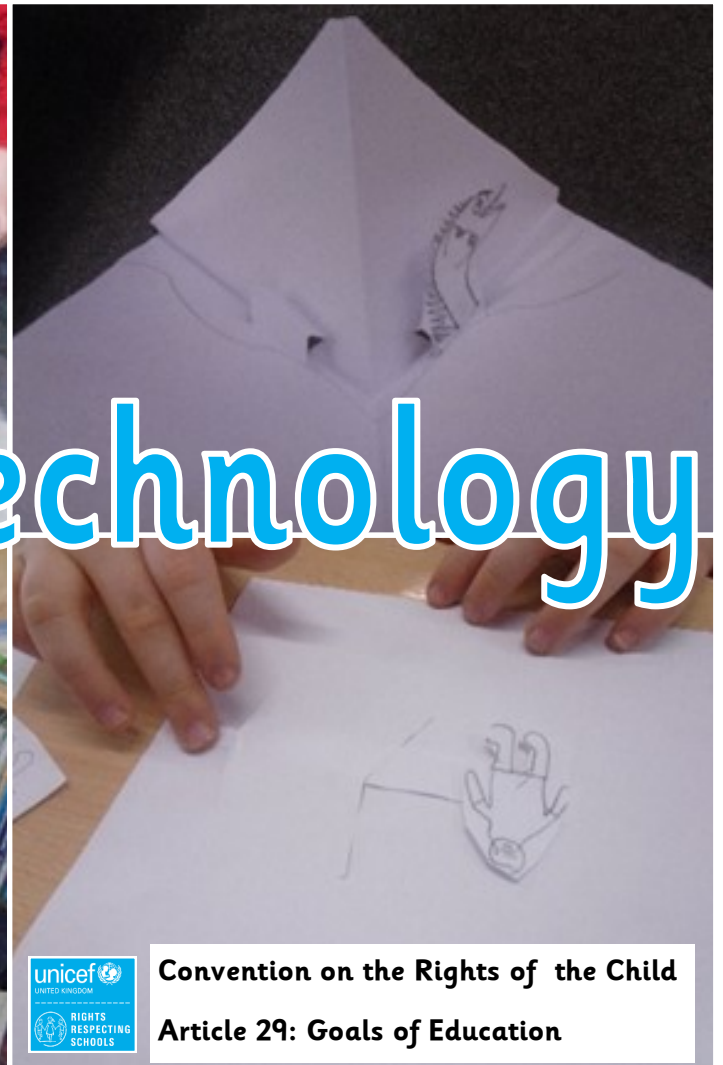


Pupils measured, poured and mixed all the ingredients, carefully following a recipe.

Magic Maths

We hope the children don't all turn into frogs!

Design Technology



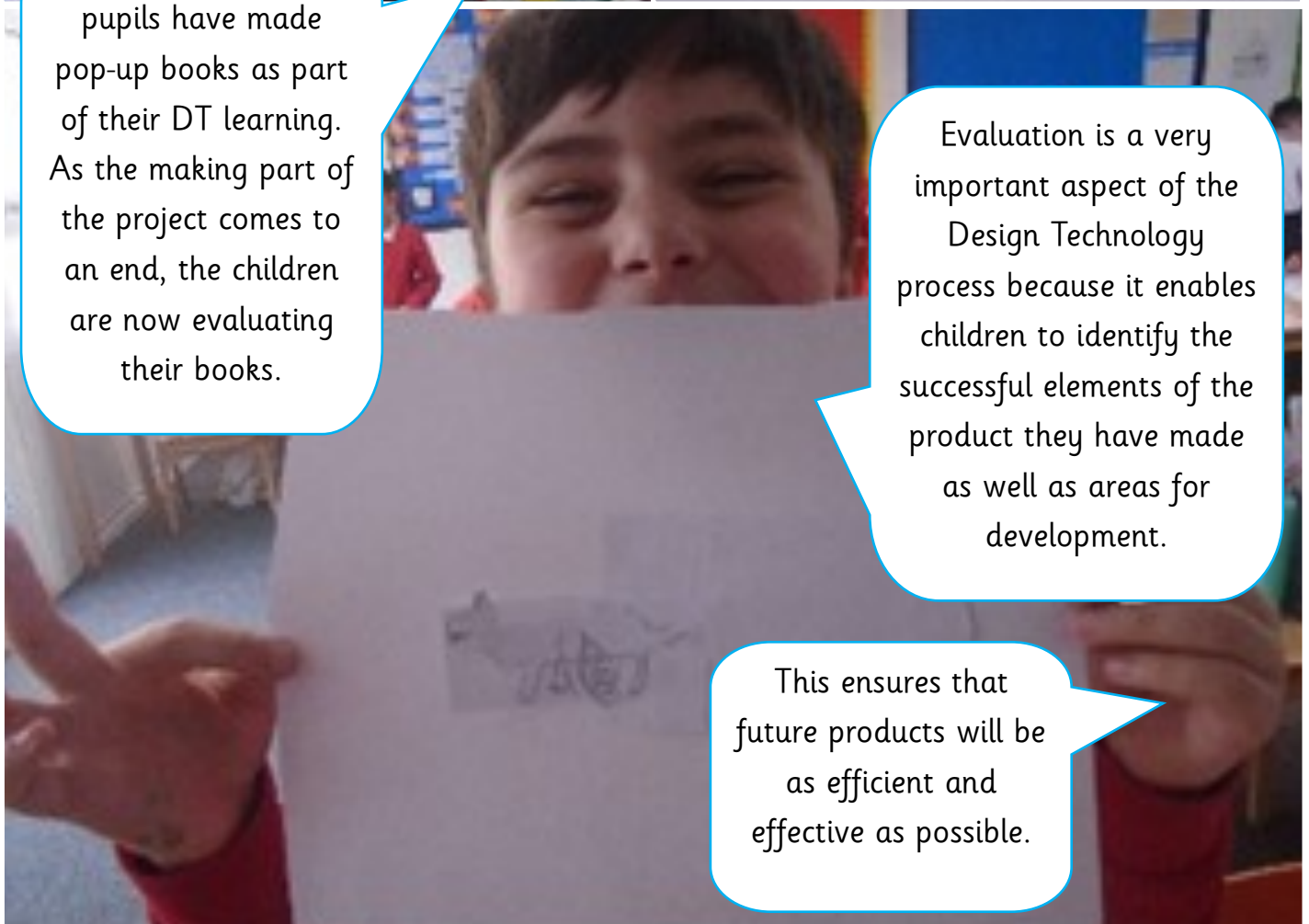
Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education

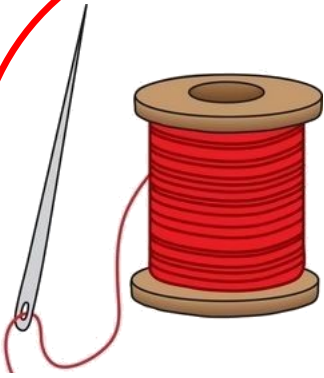
Across the school, pupils have made pop-up books as part of their DT learning. As the making part of the project comes to an end, the children are now evaluating their books.

Evaluation is a very important aspect of the Design Technology process because it enables children to identify the successful elements of the product they have made as well as areas for development.

This ensures that future products will be as efficient and effective as possible.

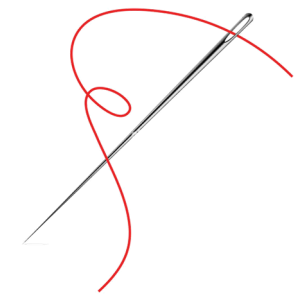


Sewing Club



First, we practised various stitches, using embroidery thread and binka material.

We've learnt running stitch, back stitch and cross stitch.



We have learnt how to thread the needle and tie a knot in our thread... it can be really tricky!





Journalism Club

This week, our news hounds have been keen to find out more about the holy month of Ramadan. What better way than to interview three experts in the subject—Mahad, Ruhma and Ayra who all follow the Islamic faith.

What is Ramadan? Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. During the month, people fast between sunrise (Sehar) and sunset (Iftar.) We are all fasting at the weekends which means we get up in the dark to say our Fajr prayer and eat our breakfast. At sunset, we say our Isha prayer and eat dates because they are a holy food then we share a meal together. Muslims all around the world celebrate Ramadan but at slightly different times because of when you can see the moon.

Why is Ramadan special to you? Ramadan is a time to be grateful for the food we have, to think about our God and to understand the suffering of the poor and less fortunate. Ramadan reminds us to be kind and think of others. The first day of fasting is the most difficult but, actually, it's not that hard and it reminds us that we are lucky.

What happens at the end of Ramadan? Ramadan ends when the thirtieth fast is done. Afterwards, there is a two day festival called Eid. During the festival we say thank you to Allah (our God.) We also eat party food and wear new and fancy outfits. The whole family gets together and we see our cousins and friends. We eat delicious food like biryani, samosa and fruit chaat (a special fruit salad.)

What is your favourite part of Ramadan? The last half an hour before you can eat because you can smell the food cooking and you're really hungry. We also like reading from the Koran (our holy book) in Arabic. Another fun part is going from house to house collecting celebratory money.

Wow! What a fantastic interview. You taught us so much—thank you!

Exploring Ramadan

Well done to all of our Sydenham rock stars who performed in a fantastic concert on Monday.

Sydenham Rocks On!

We saw some brilliant playing and great team work from all of our bands. Keep on rockin' everyone!



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



Sydenham Ballerinas

Well done to all the members of Miss Whitehead's Ballet Club who presented a lovely show to their parents this week. We saw some super footwork and graceful ballet moves. Absolutely beautiful.



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



On Tuesday and Wednesday, Reception invited families to a celebratory feast to end their topic on food. It was lovely to see mums, dads, grandparents and older siblings in attendance.



Reception Feast





Each family brought a contribution of food to be shared at the feast. It was wonderful to see families come together as a community and a pleasure to feel so much love in the room.

Reading in unusual places!

We hope that this holiday, there is lots of opportunity for getting out and about in some better Spring weather. With this in mind, we are once again wondering who can find the most unusual place to read a book!

Please join in our

EASTER READING CHALLENGE!

Children can submit a photo of themselves reading a book in a place that is out of the ordinary via email to our admin account FAO Miss Challand:

admin2622@we-learn365.com

Ideas could include reading in the park, under the stairs, at the dentist, under an umbrella, in a box or anywhere your imagination takes you!

Photographs need to be submitted by Friday 21st April. **Every child who takes part will receive a special certificate, and one child in every year group will receive a tasty prize for choosing the most imaginative and inventive place.**



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education

“READING IS A PASSPORT
TO COUNTLESS ADVENTURES.”
- MARY POPE OSBORNE

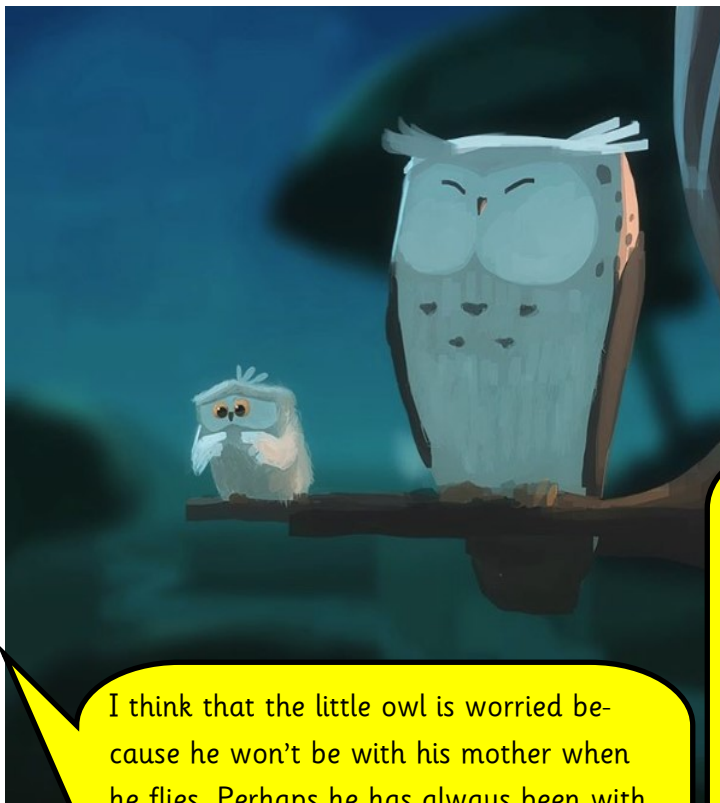


Learning to make inferences



This week, I wanted to give an example of how we develop your child's **inference** skills to support their reading comprehension. Inference is the ability to 'read between the lines' when reading a passage of text - to make an informed guess based on clues when the writing has not told us something specifically. Using pictures is a great introduction to teaching inference skills, and children up to Year 6 enjoy looking at pictures for clues to help them to understand what is going on when there is no text to help them.

The picture below is entitled 'First Flight'. The two owls in the picture appear to be feeling



very differently, and we can 'read between the lines' to make inferences about what might be happening and why. For example, we can infer that the little owl is nervous - perhaps about flying for the first time. Here are some of the inferences that children made about this picture this week:

I think that the little owl is worried because he won't be with his mother when he flies. Perhaps he has always been with his mother before this. I don't think the mother is worried at all. I think that she has a lot of faith in him. **Aayush, Y5**

I think that the owls are related because they have the same feathers. I think the little one is the son and the big one is the mother. I think the son looks a bit worried, but the mother believes that her son will fly. She would be telling him "Don't be scared. Believe in yourself!" **Timmy, Y5**

When reading with your child at home, try to ask them questions to see if they are able to 'read between the lines' too. Questions such as '*Why was feeling...?, Why didhappen?, Why didsay?, Can you explain why...?*' This will really help them to develop this key comprehension skill!

Happy reading, everyone! Miss Challand

Celebrating Learning



This week draws to a close the amazing work that the children have been doing in both English and Design Technology linked to our World Book Day texts. Here are some photos of the classroom doors that have been decorated throughout the past five weeks, and we cannot wait to share with you the final outcomes of the children's learning after Easter when it has been put up on display. Watch this space!



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education

Curriculum: Summer 1 Topics

Reception



Are We There Yet?

Where in the world would you like to go? How would you like to travel there? Explore these questions and more in this project about transport, travel and places near and far!

Year One



Dinosaur Planet

Watch out everyone – the dinosaurs are on the prowl. They're rampaging across the dusty earth, swishing their enormous tails and baring their fearsome teeth. Let's explore the Dinosaur Planet. Imagine you're a palaeontologist (that's a scientist who studies bones and fossils). Dig deep and discover dazzling dinosaur facts. Create a dinosaur museum and invite visitors to see your awesome dinosaur artefacts. You could even do a dinosaur dance or produce some prehistoric percussion. Which is your favourite dinosaur? The *Tyrannosaurus*, or the Doyouthinkhesawus? Yes, he did. Run!

Year Two



Movers and Shakers

Get ready for a historical journey into the past to discover important men and women who have made a contribution to national and international achievements. Use time lines, sources and historical models to learn what it means to be a "significant" person or an activist in this fascinating topic.

Year Three



Predator

It's time to take a walk on the wild side. Find out who's coming to visit. Is it a bug munching lizard or an eagle-eyed bird of prey? Whatever it is, do you think you can handle it? Learn about creepy crocs and amazing alligators, the deadly assassin bug and the voracious Venus flytrap. Be inspired to write an informative leaflet all about your favourite predator and compose a poem about a predator or its prey. Then use what you know about the best of the beasts to create the ultimate predator; the apex of the food chain. Cross your dad with a peregrine falcon or your nan with a great white shark. What incredible species can you imagine? Feeling peckish? Let's jump aboard the food chain.

Curriculum: Summer 1 Topics

Year Four



Burps, Bottoms and Bile

Open wide – let's take a look inside. We're on a voyage of discovery to investigate the busy world inside your body. Do you have a toothy grin or a winning smile? Take dental impressions and test the effects of sugary substances on your pearly whites. Follow a tasty morsel as it makes its way through your digestive system, helped by some mouthwatering saliva. And don't forget the importance of good hygiene at both ends. And whilst we're talking business, could you recognise an animal just by its poo? Are you brave enough to take the challenge? Make a working model of the digestive system and use it to persuade others to eat healthily. Learn how to look after this marvellous belching, squelching, mixture making machine

Year Five



Sow, Grow and Farm

Learn all about the land in this fascinating topic which focuses on human geography. Explore types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water. Learn about food miles and then have a go at growing something yourself in our school allotment.

Year Six



Revolution

Are you listening? What is 27 plus 45? Come on, faster now. We haven't got all day. Find out about super strict schools by travelling back in time to a Victorian classroom. Make sure that you're on your best behaviour though, as punishments are unquestionably terrible. Discover a time when great minds thought new thoughts and ingenious inventors created so many things that we take for granted today: the electric light bulb, the telephone and the first flushing toilet. Let's forge ahead to research a time when Victoria was Queen and Albert was Prince Consort, and when some people lived in slums while others prospered. Take on the role of an important reformer and present your good causes to the Queen. Can you gain the support of a wealthy sponsor? Full steam ahead to the Victorian age.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



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Our core aim is to help you become a confident, knowledgeable and highly employable teacher with a passion for working with young children to give them the best starting point in life, whatever their circumstances.

Our high-quality mentors and tutors have extensive practical experience and will help you succeed by offering consistent guidance and personalised support throughout the course.

Alongside the Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), this course also carries postgraduate accreditation (PGCE) awarded by Birmingham City University and is aligned to latest DfE requirements (2019).

The programme will prepare trainees for teaching children aged 2 - 7, including Foundation Stage (3 - 5) and KS1 (5 - 7). It will combine:

- three extended periods of continuous, directed school experience which will include a Foundation Stage class and a KS1 class
- high quality centre based training
- academic assignments that link theory to practice.



CREC EARLY YEARS
PARTNERSHIP



Warwickshire Early Years Hub
Part of the Warwickshire Education Trust
Helping children and young people thrive in the future



Programme design includes:

Child development
Developing pedagogy
EYFS CoETL
EYFS Prime and Specific areas
Assessment
KS1 curriculum
Early Mathematics
Early Reading
Phonics (SSP)
Leadership
SEND

Entry requirements:

- a bachelor's degree
- GCSEs at grade 4 (c) or above in English, Maths and Science

TRAINEE FEEDBACK 2022*

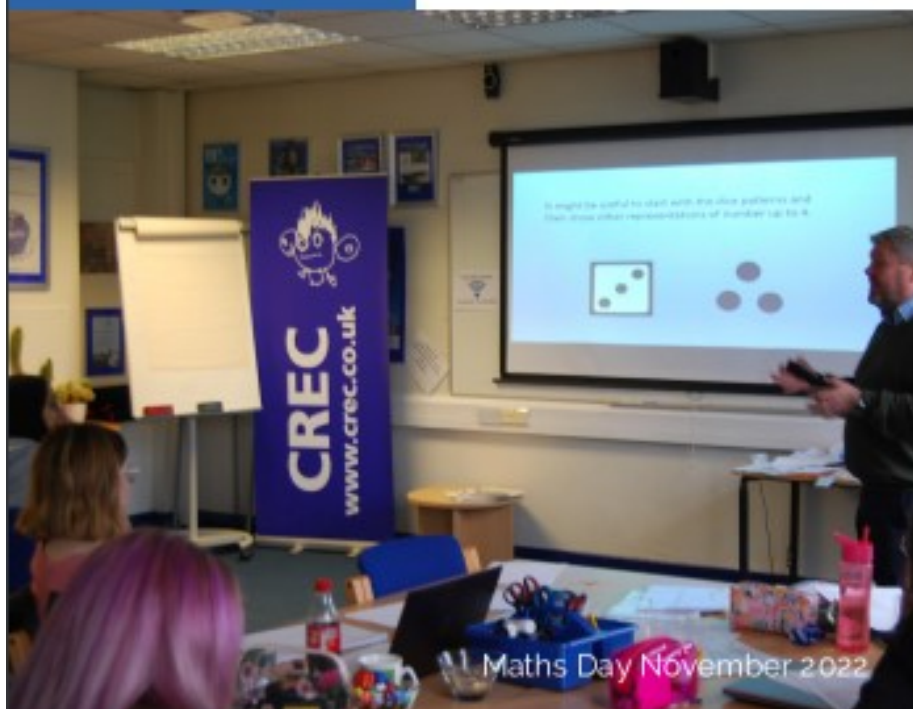
100% of trainees reported:

- the training programme supported them to be a good or better teacher
- placements were of a high quality
- mentors provided helpful feedback and clear targets to improve their teaching
- they experienced effective mentoring whilst on placement
- they had the knowledge, understanding and skills to teach the 3-7 age phase
- they felt confident that they could demonstrate a clear understanding of systematic synthetic phonics in early reading and early mathematics
- the training programme was well managed

and they would **all** recommend CREC EYP SCITT to others.

*Ofsted Trainee Online Questionnaire 2022

We have placement opportunities across the maintained nursery school and primary sector within Kenilworth, Warwickshire, Coventry, Birmingham and Solihull.



Diary Dates

Monday 17th April	Children return to school after the Easter holiday.
Thursday 20th April	Loudmouth Theatre—performance in school.
Monday 1st May	School closed for bank holiday.
Friday 5th May	Professor Elemental performance and workshops.
Monday 8th May	School closed for bank holiday.
Tuesday 9th—Friday 12th May	Year 6 SAT's tests. 09.05.23: Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar 10.05.23: Reading 11.05.23: Maths (Arithmetic and Reasoning) 12.05.23: Maths (Reasoning)
Tuesday 16th May	Y6 Road safety session
Tuesday 16th May	Ducklings delivered to Reception and Year One.
Monday 22nd May	Class photographs.
Thursday 25th May	Y5 photography project starts, led by Lynne Gugeon (artist.)
Friday 26th May	Break up for the Whitsun Holiday
Monday 29th May—Friday 2nd June, school closed for Whitsun half-term holiday.	
Pupils return to school on Monday 5th June.	
Monday 5th June	Test window for the Y4 Multiplication Check opens (the check must be carried out within three weeks.)
Thursday 8th June	RSC promenade performance.
Thursday 8th June	Skip 2B Fit workshops.
Monday 12th June	Y1 Phonics Screening.
Thursday 15th June	Arts Ambassadors—screen printing workshop.

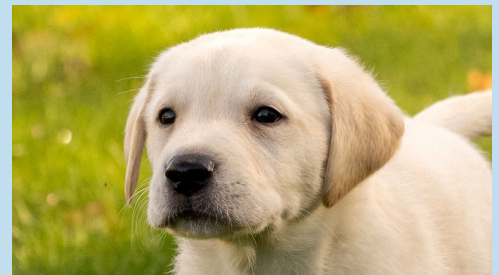
Diary Dates

Tuesday 20th—Wednesday 21st June	Y6 residential to Blists Hill Victorian Town.
Thursday 22nd June, 9.30am.	Tour of the school for Reception parents/carers 2023/24.
Monday 10th—Tuesday 11th July	RSC National Playmaking Festival, Stratford.
Tuesday 11th July, 9.30— 11.15am	Stay and Play sessions for Reception pupils 2023/24.
Thursday 13th July	Y6 leavers' trip to Harry Potter World.
Wednesday 19th—Thursday 20th July	Y5 residential to Kip in a Ship, HMS Belfast, London.
Tuesday 25th July	Break up for the Summer holiday.
Pupils return to school on Monday 4th September 2023	

Guide Dog Sponsorship

We're thrilled to announce that this week Sydenham Primary School has sponsored a guide dog puppy called Theo. Children and staff voted for their favourite puppy and Theo was the winner. Theo has his own web page so if you'd like to find out more, visit:

<https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/sponsor-a-puppy-today/theo/>



Easter Egg Competition Winners

We were taken aback by the many beautiful entries we received for our Easter egg competition—so impressed, in fact, that Miss Glenny had to rush out and buy extra eggs as prizes! The over all winners were: Julian in Y4 and Jacob in Y1. Well done to all our runners-up and everyone else who entered

Happy Easter



Happy Easter holidays
everyone from Miss Glenny
and all the staff at
Sydenham Primary School.
We hope this beautiful
Easter picture, drawn by
Reuben in Y3, gets your
holiday off to a good start.



Sydenham Superstars



YR and Key Stage One



Key Stage Two