

Reception and Year One have been quackers this week about some special, fluffy visitors!



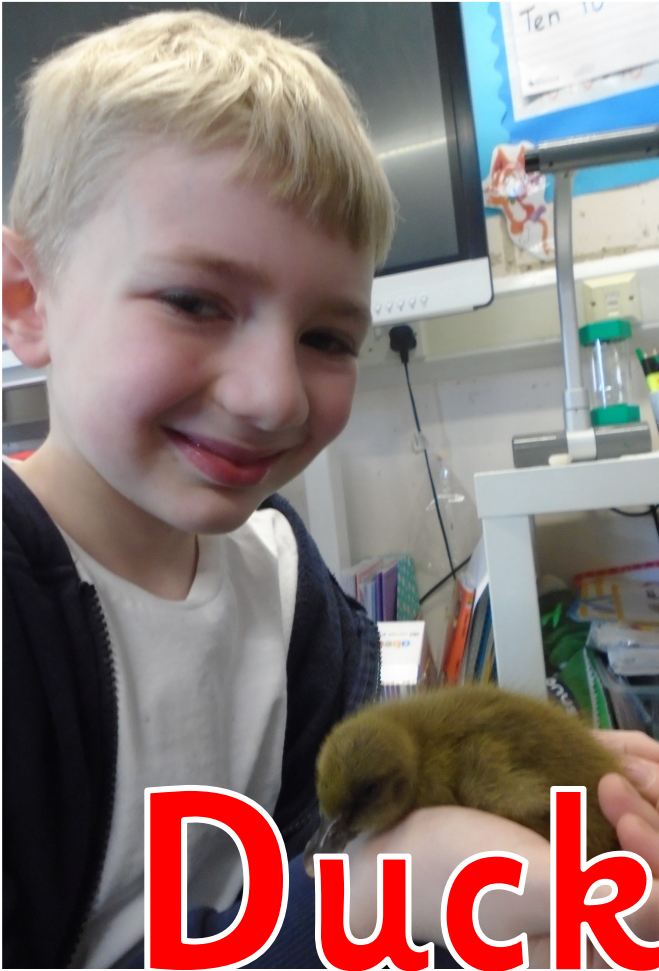
# Ducklings!



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







# Ducklings!



Reception and Year One pupils were very excited last week to receive a clutch of special eggs. The eggs were kept warm in an incubator for a couple of days in the classroom before hatching out into adorable, fluffy ducklings! The ducklings have now built up their strength and are able to happily swim around a paddling pool. Observing real-life ducklings has been a great way for the children to develop their science learning about animal life cycles.



# Colour Mixing



Pupils in Year One have been learning how primary colours can be mixed to make secondary colours. They had great fun investigating different colour combinations and making hand prints.

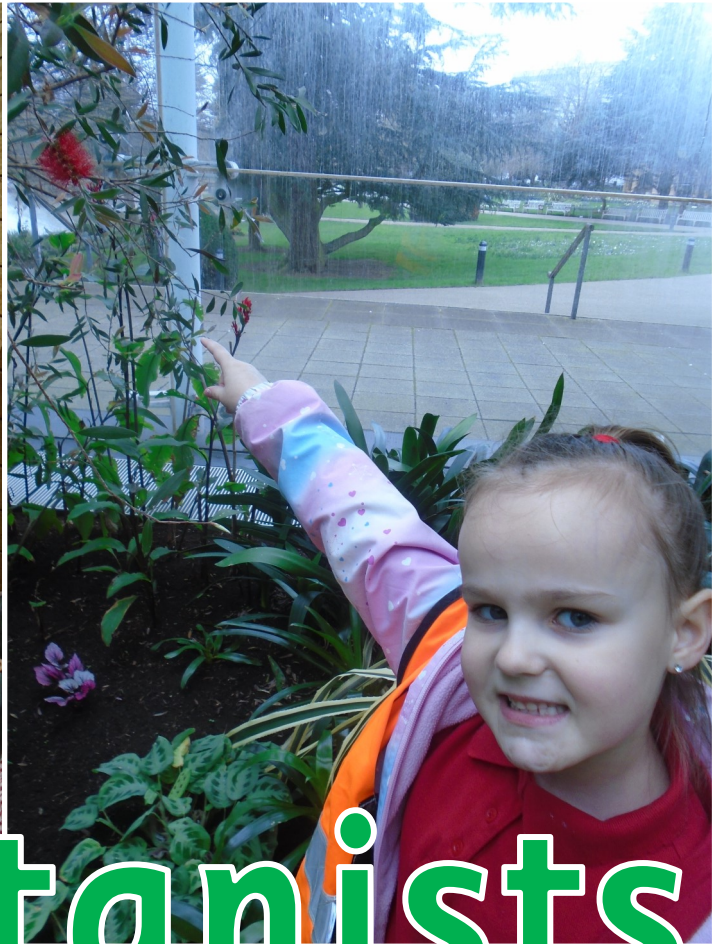


Y2 have been learning about plants and what helps them to grow in Science. Last week, they visited the glass house in Jephson Gardens where they turned into plant detectives.

# Y2 Botanists







# Y2 Botanists

Pupils had a go at identifying different plants using keys. They had to focus on the shape of each plant's leaves to identify accurately and they encountered some tricky, Latin names!



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# Chefs at Work



Professional chef, Idris Caldora, put Y5 through their culinary paces again last week. Pupils learn how to use a range of cutting tools safely and with precision in order to make the perfect salad.







# Learning About Easter

Across the school, we have been learning about the Christian celebration of Easter. Year One enjoyed the Easter story and looked at different objects related to it. They then had to decide which would be the most significant to Christians. In Year Four, Dhru brought in home-made Easter chicks and bunnies filled with sweet treats for his friends to enjoy. Delicious!



If you're celebrating Easter, we hope you enjoy this special time in the Christian calendar.



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**Article 14: Freedom of Belief and Religion.**







Holi is a time to say goodbye to Winter. It is thought to bring fertile soil and a good Spring harvest to Hindu communities.





In the afternoon, pupils performed their banghra routine for parents. As Holi is also known as a festival of colours, children then had fun throwing brightly coloured powders at one another.



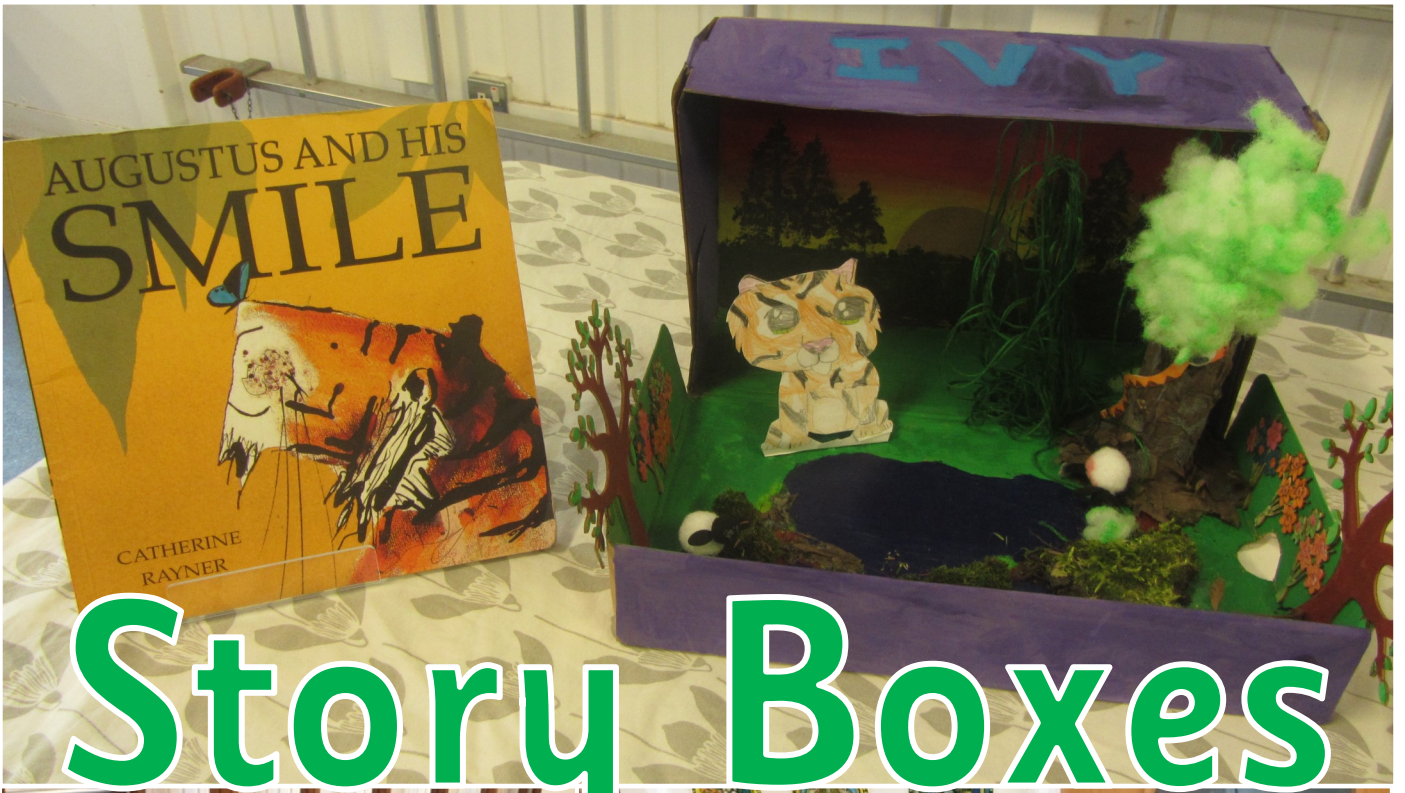
# Happy Holi!

This traditionally brings together people of all castes and religions.



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# Story Boxes



Well done to everybody who responded to Ms Challand's story box or jar initiative.







As you can see, lots of children made a box or jar to reflect a favourite book or story.

We were very impressed by how thoughtful and creative everybody's ideas were.



The story boxes and jars made a wonderful exhibition in the hall this week and lots of families enjoyed looking at the work on display.



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**Article 29: Goals of Education.**





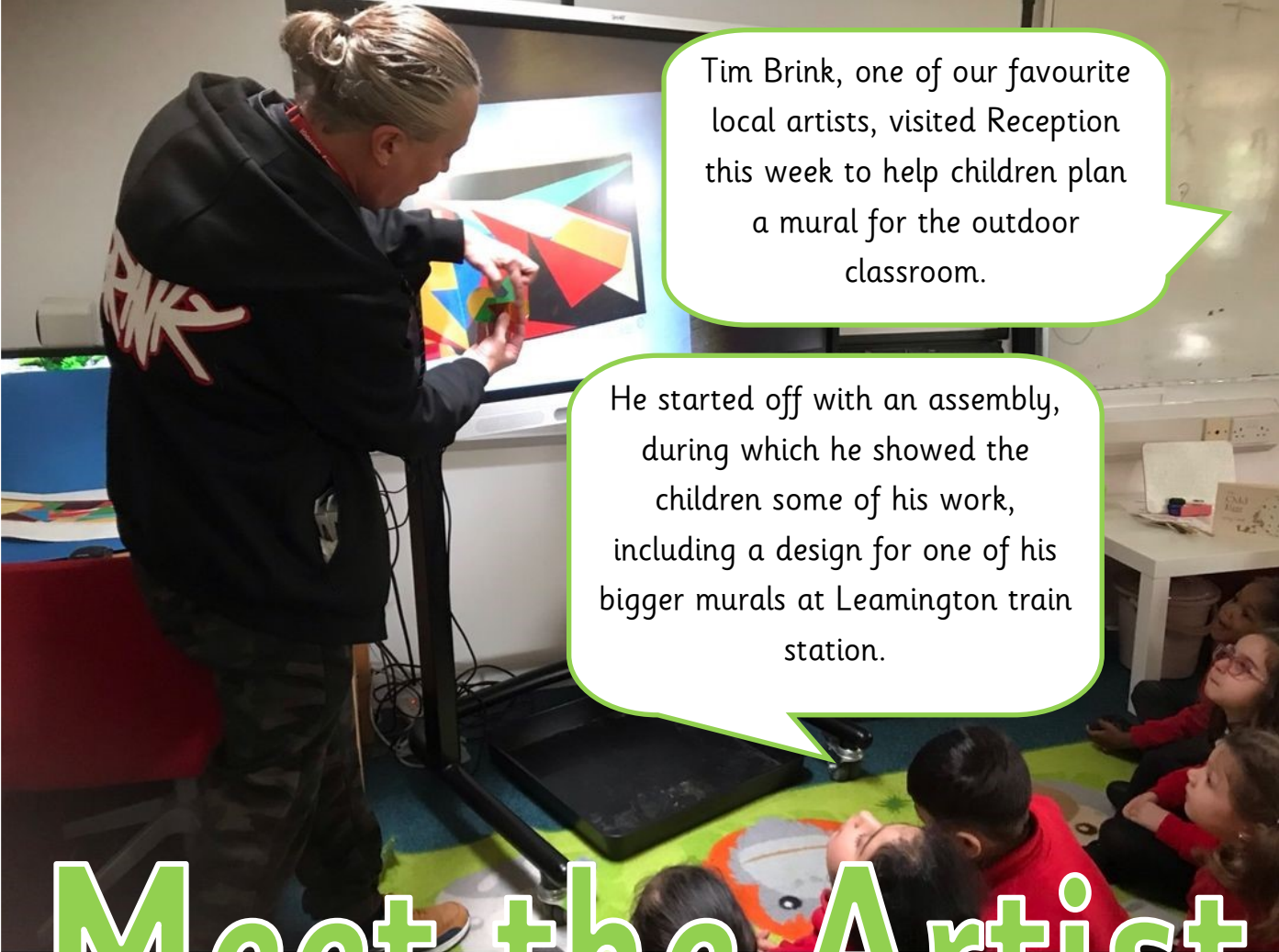
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People across the Russian speaking world are currently celebrating Maslenitsa, the equivalent of Shrove Tuesday, that lasts the whole week before Lent. It is marked by pancake making and represents the last chance to take part in social activities that are not appropriate during the more prayerful, sober and introspective season of Lent.

In the photographs, you can see Timmy, at home, preparing for Maslenitsa by making some delicious pancakes using condensed milk which is a popular pancake filling.

# Maslenitsa





Tim Brink, one of our favourite local artists, visited Reception this week to help children plan a mural for the outdoor classroom.

He started off with an assembly, during which he showed the children some of his work, including a design for one of his bigger murals at Leamington train station.

# Meet the Artist

The children worked with him in groups of 20, using shapes, rulers and various media to create abstract geometric designs.

Tim then took photos of all of the children's work which will be used to come up with a design for our sandpit wall. It was a wonderful day!





Nowruz is celebrated on March 21st across countries that used to be part of the Persian empire. It marks the first day of spring and promotes the values of peace and solidarity amongst generations and communities. In every home, the *haftseen* table is decorated with seven items and, since seven is considered a lucky number, each item begins with the letter *sin* (s) in Persian, and each item is a symbol of Spring and renewal.

Aeris and her cousins brought in a special haftseen tray this week to mark Nowruz. The children enjoyed talking to others about this special celebration. Thank you for sharing!



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# Girls' Football

Our girls' football team are going from strength to strength. Mr Lee, who leads the team, had the following to say about the girls after their opening match of the season:

Our first league match of the season was a brilliant 2-2 draw with Warwick School. Sydenham played some lovely football and Ava (Year 5 Kittiwakes) scored two great goals. We couldn't quite keep hold of our lead but were happy to leave the pitch with a very respectable draw and parents, carers and teachers were rightly very proud.

We had 5 girls playing their first ever game of football ... the first of many!

Keep up the fantastic work, girls.



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**Article 15: Freedom of Association**



# Y6 SAT's Tests

Pupils in Year Six will take their Key Stage Two tests, week beginning Monday 13th May. The timetable is as follows:

Monday 13th May	Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar
Tuesday 14th May	Reading
Wednesday 15th May:	Mathematics, papers 1 and 2 (arithmetic and reasoning.)
Thursday 16th May	Mathematics, paper 3 (reasoning)

Schools can apply for some pupils to have a reader, a scribe or extra time during the tests because of their additional needs

The tests are statutory and the papers are marked externally. The results are returned in July as standardised scores generated by comparing the raw scores of all children nationally who took the tests.

**A standardised score of 100** means that a child is working at the expected level for their age.

**A standardised score of below 100** means that a child performed in the tests at a level below what is expected for their age.

**A score of roughly 115 or above** means that a child exceeded the expectation for their age.

Class teachers will also assess each child in Reading, Writing and Maths. This assessment is not based solely upon test data but reflects a child's work over time. In this sense it can be seen as more accurate.

# Information

Speak to Miss Glenny, Mrs V or Miss Ball for more information.





Join in the celebration  
and discover how you  
can change your world by  
changing your journey

- ✓ Be active and feel more energised
- ✓ Help the environment by replacing a car journey
- ✓ Help your school win some fantastic prizes

Are you taking part  
in the UK's biggest walking, wheeling,  
scooting and cycling to school competition?

[www.BigWalkAndWheel.org.uk](http://www.BigWalkAndWheel.org.uk)





## Being brave

Being brave isn't about not feeling scared. Being brave is about what you do even when you *do* feel scared.


Feeling scared is often a sign that we are doing something challenging, and it is completely normal to feel this way! Even though it can feel uncomfortable, being brave and facing difficulties can also help us to learn and grow, both physically and emotionally. Therefore, we need to step outside our comfort zone at times to be able to overcome challenges. Remember, being brave does not mean we have to cope alone!

*"Asking for help is one of the most courageous things you can do" – Charlie Mackesy*

### Our tips for being brave:


1. **Take chances and make mistakes!** Sometimes it is helpful to fail, so you can practise being brave. Try something you have been wanting to try and take that chance to move out of your comfort zone. You might even find that it wasn't as bad as you thought it would be.
2. Practise **positive self-talk** to help develop your bravery. Repeat these sentences to yourself or out loud - 'I can do hard things'; 'I am awesome'; 'I can enjoy challenge'. You might want to write positive statements on post-it notes and stick them around your mirror so you can remind yourself of them every day!
3. **Ask for help** when you need it from someone you trust. Taking the step to talk to someone is one of the bravest things you can do!
4. **Strike a power pose!** Standing up tall, your head held high and with your hands on your hips can help make you feel more confident and ready to take on a challenge. What pose makes you feel more confident?

#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks them with personalised #NHSSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate! [thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk](mailto:thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk).



**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.**







## Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



### Mood Boosters

Feeling low in mood is a completely normal emotion, and we all feel sad from time to time, even as adults! Maybe you have had a stressful time at school recently? Maybe you are going through friendship difficulties? Or maybe you have been feeling under the weather?

Whilst it is normal to feel this way at times, there are things we can do to **boost** our mood and help us to feel happier. By doing more of the things we love and value, or 'doing more of what matters', we can boost our mood. This helps us to feel less tired, get a sense of achievement, and feel better about ourselves!

#### Our tips for boosting your mood:

1. Have a look at the **BBC Moodboosters** video resources by scanning the QR code. You will find a selection of videos which help to manage feelings, learn emotional and social skills, and have fun!



2. Follow the **five ways to wellbeing** to help you live a happier life! Watch the video on the QR code for more information.

- o **Connect** - Reach out to a friend/family member, listen to music that reminds you of happy memories, look at old photographs, or arrange activities with friends.
- o **Be Active** - Get your body moving in any way you like. You could dance, walk, skip, or hula hoop!
- o **Take Notice** - Spend time outside appreciating nature, practise mindfulness and grounding techniques.
- o **Keep Learning** - Read a new book, watch a documentary, follow a new recipe, or learn a new language.
- o **Give** - Give someone you love a hug, hold the door open for the person behind you, or give your time to help others.



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# EASTER FUN

@ BRUNSWICK HUB

Join us this Easter holidays  
for our family event!

**WEDNESDAY 27TH  
MARCH**

**1.00-3.00PM**

Free food ● Kids' craft

● Easter tombola ●

See the event page on our Facebook  
(@Brunswickhlc) for more info!



Brunswick Hub  
98-100 Shrubland Street, Leamington Spa, CV31 3BD








# ARTLAB EASTER ART CAMP



## KIDS CRAFTING WORKSHOP

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Looking for a fun and creative way to celebrate Easter? Look no further! Our Easter Workshop is the perfect place for kids to have a blast and unleash their creativity.



WHERE: MILVERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
GREATHEED ROAD, LEAMINGTON SPA,  
CV32 6ES

WHEN: 10AM-2PM MARCH 26-27-28

COST: £35 PER DAY  
HAF APPROVED

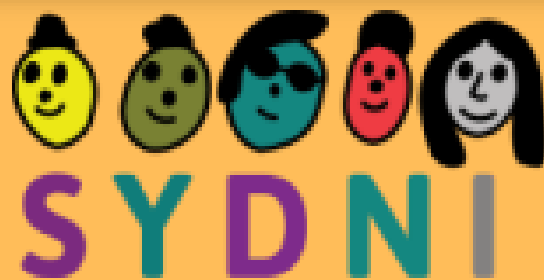
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Easter Art Camp is open to children aged 4 to 11 years

[www.artlabart.com/book-online](http://www.artlabart.com/book-online)







# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for Volunteers to help  
in various roles, including:

- Volunteer Café Assistants
- Meet and Greet Coordinators
- Befrienders
- Bingo Facilitator
- Food Collector & Distributor



## VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested or would like to know more  
about each role, please email Rani at  
[volunteer@sydni.org](mailto:volunteer@sydni.org) or drop in and let us know!

The SYDNI Centre, Cottage Square, Leamington Spa, CV31 1PT  
**Phone: 01926 422071**



# Diary Dates

**School is closed for the Easter holiday from Monday 25th March—Friday 5th April**

**Pupils return to school on Monday 8th April.**

Wednesday 10th April	Parent's Evening, 3.30—7.00pm
Thursday 11th April	Parent's Evening, 3.30—5.00pm
Monday 15th April	Onside football tournament, 3.45—5.30pm.
Friday 3rd May	Arts' Ambassador presentation at Leamington Art Gallery, 1.00pm.
<b>Monday 3rd May</b>	<b>School closed for May Day bank holiday.</b>
Monday 13th May	Y6 SAT's tests all week.
Monday 20th May	School photographer visiting—class portraits.
Tuesday 21st May	Y6 workshop on managing the transition to econdary school.
Thursday 23rd May	Artist, Emma O'Brien, meeting Arts' Ambassadors.
<b>Monday 27th May—Friday 31st May, school closed for Whitsun half-term holiday</b>	
<b>Monday 3rd June, school closed for INSET (report writing.)</b>	
Tuesday 4th June	Children return to school.
Tuesday 4th June	Artist, Emma O'Brien, in to work with pupils on our Art in the Park pop-up gallery.
Wednesday 5th June	YR visit Birmingham Botanical Gardens
Wednesday 19th June	Y6 residential (returning 20.06.24.)
Monday 8th July	End of year reports sent to parents this week.
Tuesday 16th July	Y6 visit to Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre.





# Sydenham Superstars



YR and Key Stage One



Key Stage Two





# Sydenham Superstars



## YR and Key Stage One



## Key Stage Two

Happy Easter!  
From Miss Glenny  
Associate Headteacher