



Career's Week



It has been Careers Week at Sydenham, with pupils across the school enjoying the opportunity to learn about a wide range of jobs . Throughout the week, children have been encouraged to think about their own future aspirations while developing an understanding of the qualifications, personal qualities and training pathways required for different careers. It has been fascinating to hear about the children's dream jobs, ranging from firefighters and vets to teachers, athletes and scientists, showing the breadth of their ambitions and interests.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 3: Best Interests of the Child



As part of Careers Week, Reception pupils explored what it is like to be a vet. A veterinary surgery was set up in the outdoor classroom, where the children were busy scheduling appointments and caring for sick pets. They also had opportunities to practise answering the phone and making appointments as receptionists. The pupils used stethoscopes to check on the animals and arranged X-rays, developing their understanding of the role. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about what it means to be a vet and also explored the pathways to the profession, including the subjects studied at school and university



Career's Week



Career's Week



A highlight of Career's Week was the class assembly presented by Reception Goldfinches. Pupils sang *When I Grow Up*—a song from the musical *Matilda*. They then went on to explain the job they would most like to do in the future. These careers included singer, teacher, YouTuber, policeman, farmer, firefighter and vet.

Career's Week

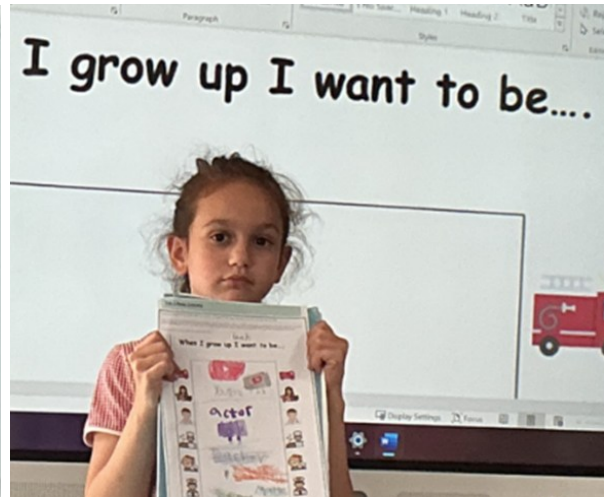


In Y4, children discussed how stereotypes can influence perceptions of different careers and considered the importance of challenging these assumptions. They also explored barriers that people may face in the workplace, thinking about how individuals and organisations can work towards creating fair and inclusive opportunities for everyone.

Using stories and books as inspiration, pupils reflected on how different careers are represented in literature and discussed how the subjects and skills they are developing at school today can support them in achieving their ambitions in the future.

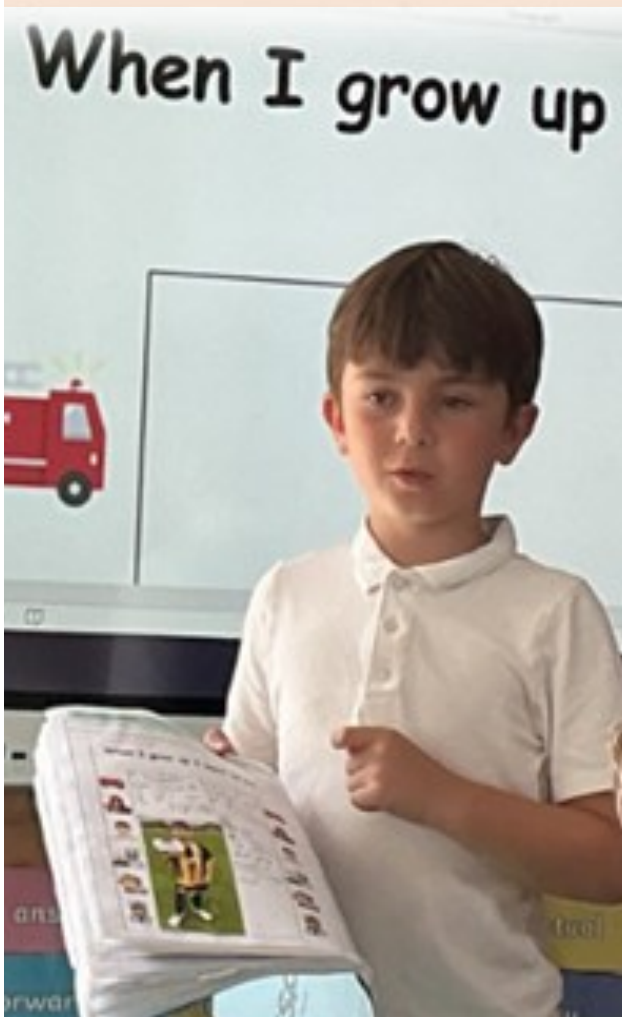
To put their teamwork and problem-solving skills into practice, the children took part in a hands-on challenge where they became mini delivery office teams. Working collaboratively, they sorted, organised and delivered items efficiently, communicating effectively, taking on different roles and supporting one another to complete the task successfully. They also took part in an Apprentice style task, designing products, carrying out market research and then pitching their ideas to the adults in class.





During Careers Week in Year 3 Doves, pupils reflected on their unique talents and interests. After exploring a range of different professions, they created presentations about the jobs they might like to pursue in the future. Pupils spoke confidently as they shared their ideas with the class, explaining their projects clearly, listening attentively to one another, and celebrating each other's achievements.

Career's Week





Children in nurture groups explored careers like vet, hairdresser, astronaut, musician or sculptor. We were very privileged to listen to a piano concert by Yuvan.



PIC·COLLAGE



In Rainbows group, the children explored a range of careers such as vet, hairdresser, astronaut, musician and artist. There were plenty of opportunities for dressing up and enjoying role play.

Another highlight of the week was a fantastic piano recital from Yuvan who would like to be a musician when he grows up.

Career's Week

In their class assembly this week, Year 3 Doves shared their learning about the Romans in Britain. They explained how the Roman invasion, which began in AD 43 under Emperor Claudius, led to significant changes across Britain, including the building of roads, towns and defences such as Hadrian's wall. The children shared some lovely pieces of work linked to their learning, including the posters you can see on the next page.





Roman Invasion

Doves also explained that the native Celts were unhappy with the Roman invasion, as they already had their own rich and established culture. Pupils brought this history to life by acting out the conflict between the invading Romans and Queen Boudicca of the Iceni tribe. This was a lovely assembly—well done to everyone involved.

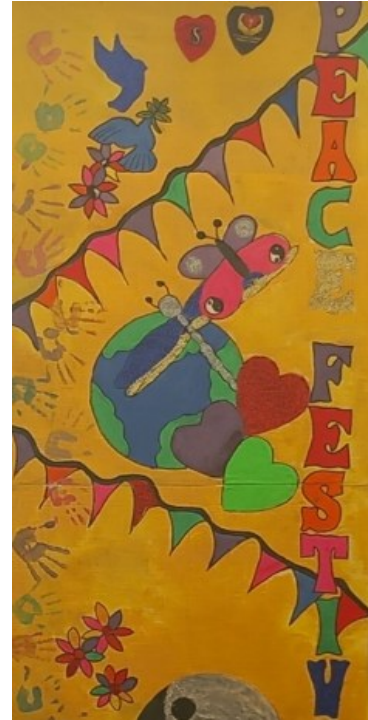




Peace Festival



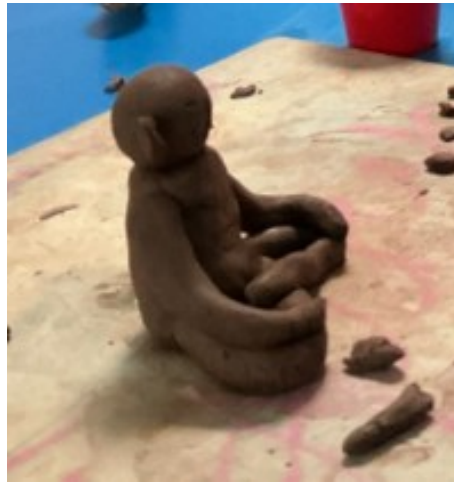
Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture



It was wonderful to see so many families at the Peace Festival last weekend. The banners created by our Arts Ambassadors looked fantastic in the children's tent, alongside their artwork inspired by the theme of peace. It was especially exciting to see some Sydenham pupils take to the stage as supporting musicians with the band *Las Vedas*.

We're already looking forward to next year's festival and hope to take part once again.





Children in the Rainbows group have been enjoying exploring clay as part of their learning. They experimented with a range of techniques, including rolling, compressing and cutting, to shape and manipulate the clay, developing both their fine motor skills and creativity.

The children were incredibly proud of their impressive sculptures, which included a carefully crafted wheel and a detailed Buddha.

Working with Clay



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education

The National Gallery's Take One Picture project is an annual initiative that places a single artwork at the heart of learning, encouraging pupils to explore it through a range of creative and cross-curricular activities. For 2026, the focus painting is *A Muse* by Cosimo Tura and all pupils will be exploring and responding to this beautiful artwork.

A young woman sits with an air of confidence on a marble throne, wrapped in richly coloured fabrics. The throne, crowned by a scallop shell hung with coral and crystal beads, is guarded by fierce dolphin-like creatures. Her proud pose and serious expression demand attention. She must be someone important. But who is she? A queen, a judge, a divine protector?

Created during a time of change in 15th-century art, this painting transports us beyond the everyday into the realm of myth and mystery.



Take One Picture



In Y2, children explored *A Muse* through careful observation, imagination and creativity. They began by listening to an audio clip inspired by the painting, discussing the sounds they could hear and imagining the scene before seeing the artwork. The children then acted out their ideas about what might be happening, bringing their interpretations to life through drama.

Next, they examined a zoomed-in section of the painting and recorded the emotions and feelings it evoked. As more of the artwork was gradually revealed, the children shared thoughtful ideas about who the mysterious figure might be. Some suggested she could be a mermaid or Queen of the Sea, inspired by the mythical sea creatures carved into the throne. Others made links to their *Magnificent Monarchs* topic, noting similarities in her clothing, posture and regal presence.

Inspired by the elaborate throne in the painting, the children went on to create their own. Using clay and sculpting tools, they carefully designed and constructed three-dimensional thrones, adding intricate details and decorations.



Take One Picture



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture



Take One Picture



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture



On Wednesday, Years 4 and 5 went to Warwick Art's Centre to watch School's Taskmaster Champion of Champions 2026 Live. Alex Horne and members of the Taskmaster team were there and there was even a message from Greg Davies, the Taskmaster himself, at the end of the show. It was a really fun afternoon and incredibly inspiring to see so many young people working together, solving problems and having the confidence to be on stage with a huge audience and camera crew! We hope that pupils from Sydenham can take part in Taskmaster opportunities in the future.

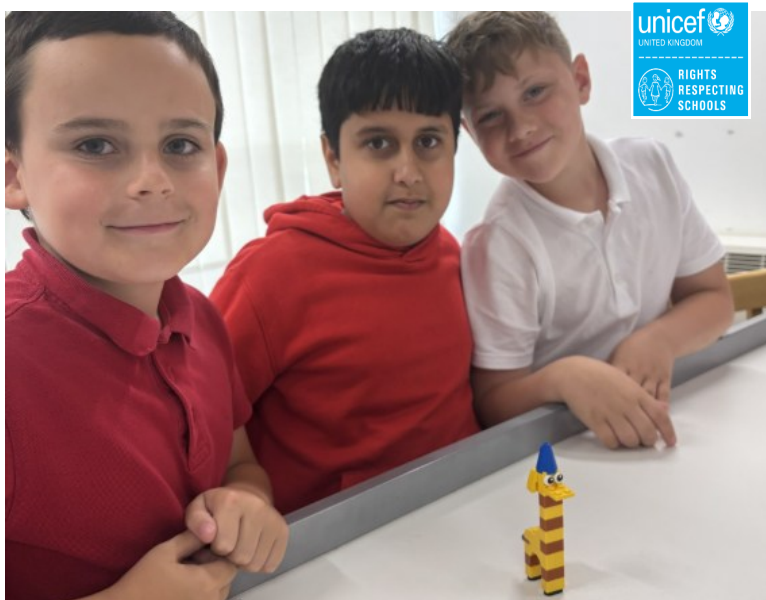
Taskmaster Trip



Lego Brick Club

Pupils across the school are enjoying participating in Lego Brick Club. The group develops key learning skills such as clear communication, listening and turn-taking in a fun and purposeful way. It also helps pupils to grow their confidence, solve problems and develop critical social and emotional skills.

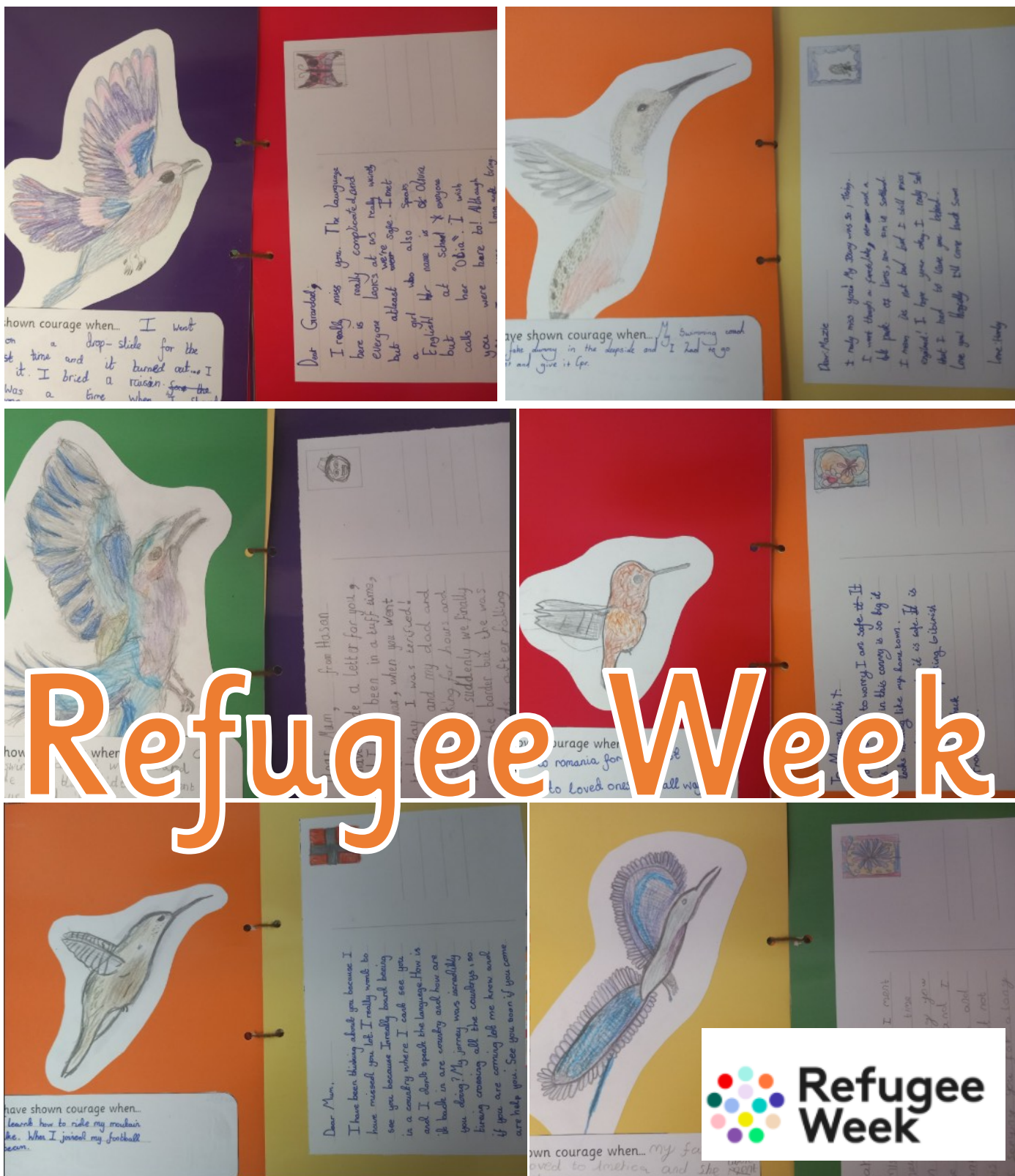
In a Lego Brick by Brick session, each child is given a specific role to promote communication, teamwork and problem-solving. The **builder** carefully follows instructions to construct the model, the **supplier** selects and passes the correct pieces, and the **engineer (or checker)** ensures the model matches the design and supports the group to spot and correct mistakes. A fourth role, often the **instruction giver**, reads and describes the steps without showing the picture, encouraging clear verbal communication. By rotating these roles, children develop listening skills, expressive language, cooperation and confidence, while learning to work together towards a shared goal.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 15: Freedom of Association





Refugee Week

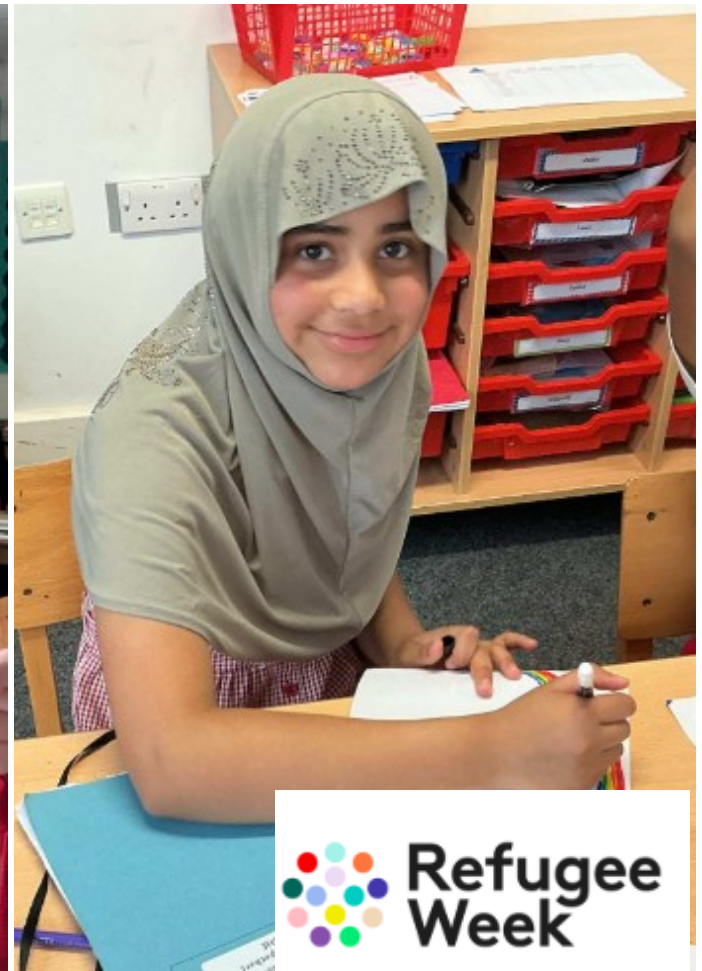
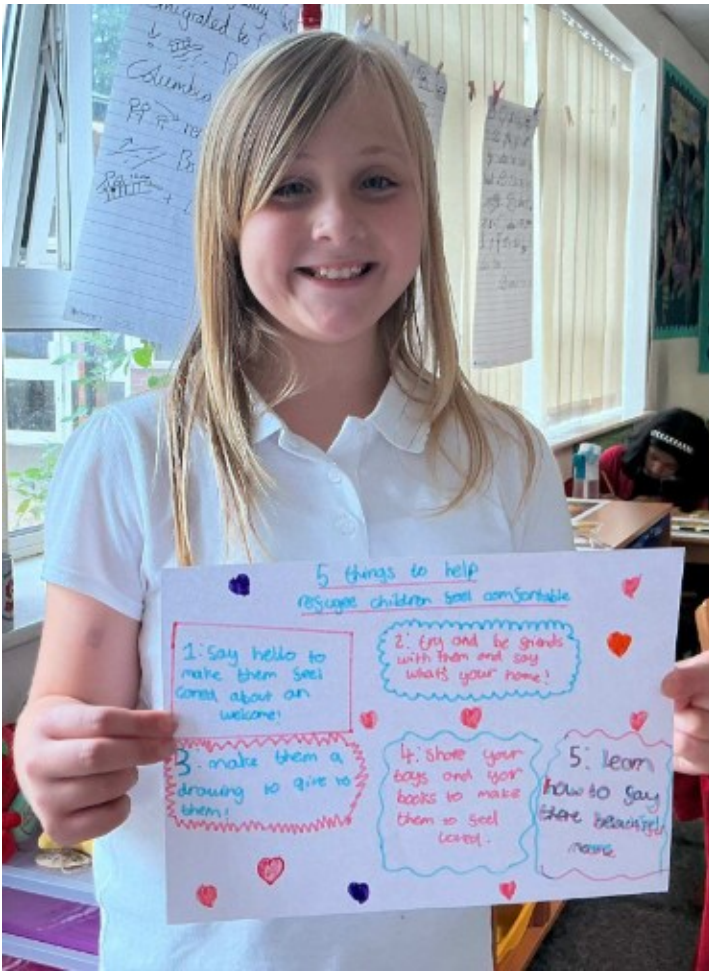
We have been celebrating Refugee Week across the school and pupils have produced some very thoughtful work on the topic.

The theme of Refugee Week this year is courage. Pupils in Y4 reflected on a time they did something brave. They then worked together to make a beautiful book which will be displayed in the library for everyone to enjoy.



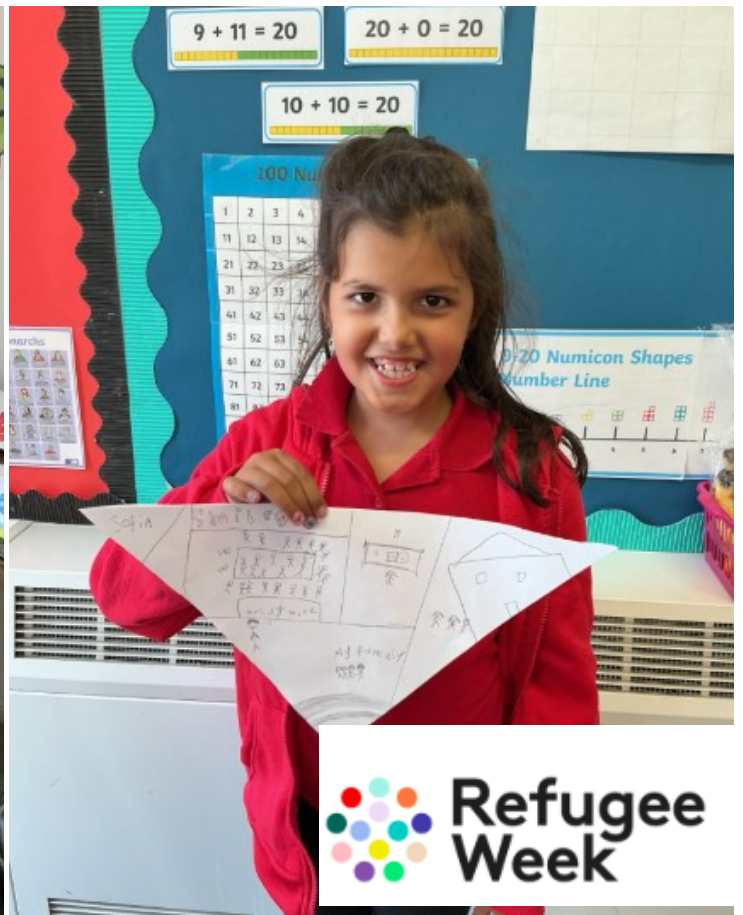
Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 22: Refugee Children



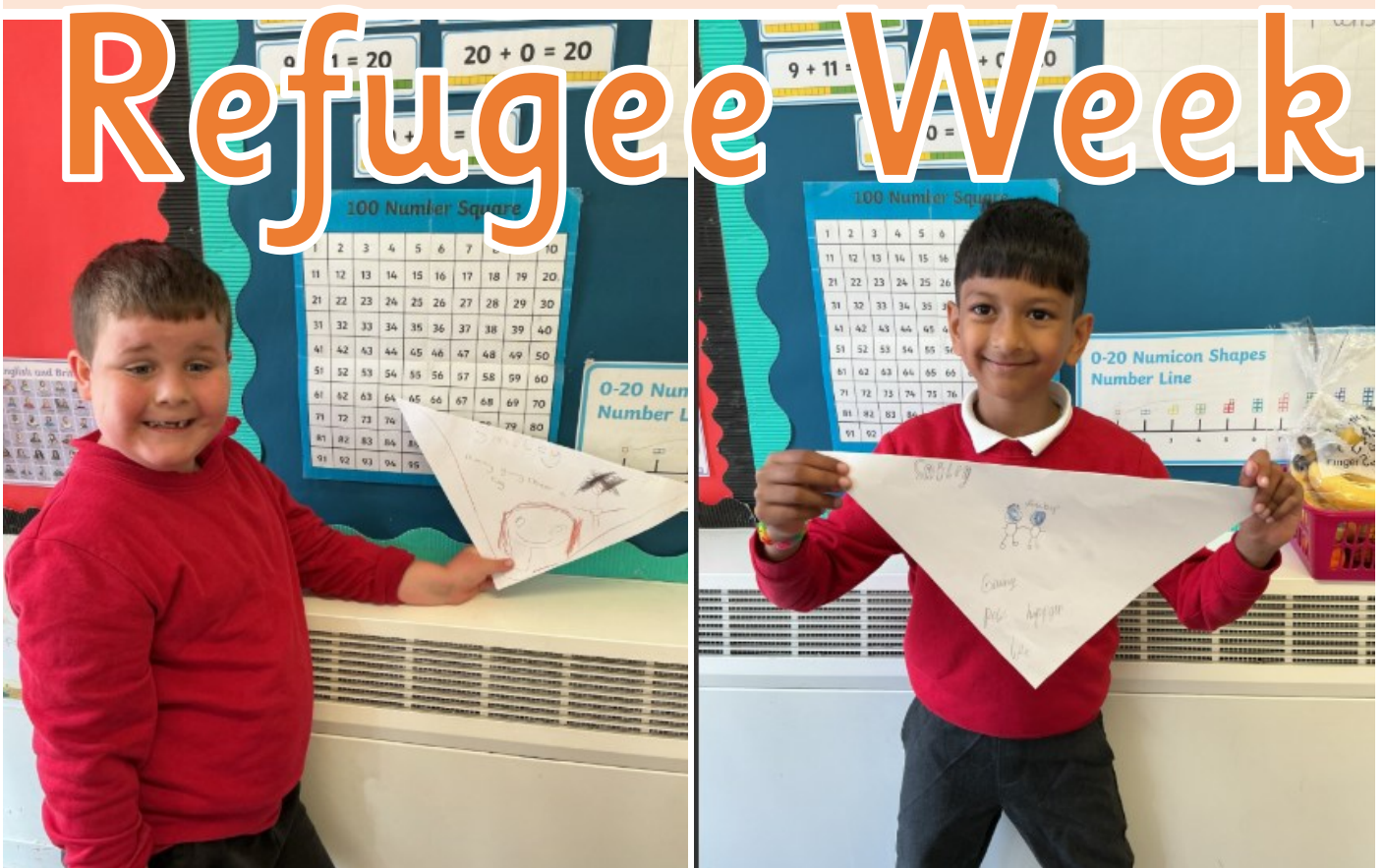


For refugee week, Year Five explored the story of *The Girl at the Front of the Class* and compared it with *The Boy at the Front of the Class* which they read last year. They explored the powerful illustration and imagery and discussed how the characters showed courage, as this is the theme for Refugee week this year. Inspired by the story, pupils created posters with five things that they could do to support refugee children in our school and community.

Refugee Week



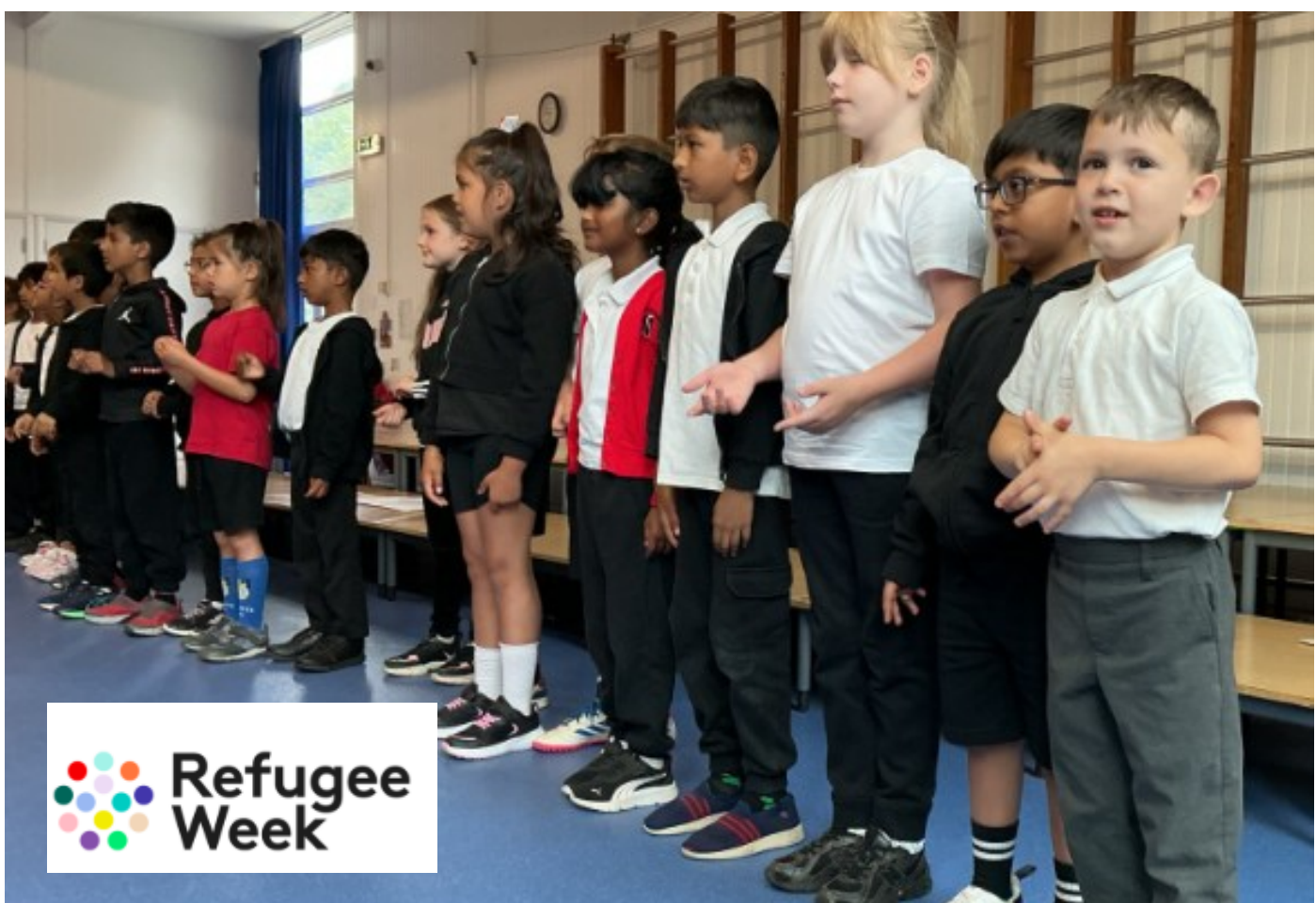
In Y2, pupils learn more about what it means to be a refugee. They read *The Suitcase* by Chris Naylor Ballesteros, a story that explores the themes of immigration, empathy and kindness towards strangers. Afterwards, they made welcoming posters for refugees coming to our country.





Refugee Week

In their class assembly, Y2 Wrens shared their learning from Refugee Week. We were very proud of the way they shared their new knowledge and understanding.





This week, Year 5 were very lucky to welcome a visitor from Warwickshire County Council for a composting workshop linked to their *Sow, Grow and Farm* topic. Pupils learnt why composting is so important, which materials can be added to a compost heap and how compost helps plants to grow. They were surprised to discover that it can take over a year for compost to be ready to use .

Afterwards, pupils made their own plant pots and planted seeds, which was both fun and easy to do. They also used magnifying glasses to observe the worms and other creatures that help compost to develop. It was a fascinating experience, and the children thoroughly enjoyed it



This week in Year 1, pupils explored how living things change as they grow. As part of their PSHE topic, *Changing Me*, the children thought carefully about the different changes our bodies go through over time and talked about what it means to “grow up”.

Learning began by looking at the life cycle of a frog, from tiny frogspawn to a fully grown frog. The children were fascinated by how much frogs change — although thankfully none of us are expecting to grow tails anytime soon! The children then talked about times when they notice they are getting older, such as learning new skills, becoming more independent and being able to do things they couldn't do before.

The children also took part in a calming exercise, helping them to pause, breathe and think about how change can sometimes feel exciting, strange or a little bit tricky. After this, they worked brilliantly in pairs to sort life cycle cards for different animals, using teamwork and discussion to put each stage in the correct order



Changing Me



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



The Year 4–6 girls' football team played another match against Budbrooke School this week. It was a particularly special for many of the girls as it was their first competitive match.

We have over 20 girls who have been attending training sessions throughout the year. The team showed great determination, teamwork and enthusiasm, and it was wonderful to see their hard work pay off on the pitch.

Most importantly, the girls thoroughly enjoyed the experience and represented the school brilliantly. Well done to everyone involved!

Girls' Football



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture

SYDENHAM PRIMARY PTA SUMMER FAYRE

FRIDAY 10TH JULY
3.20-5.30



BOUNCY CASTLE - GAMES
- SOAK THE TEACHER -
REFRESHMENTS
TOMBOLA - RAFFLE &
MORE



JOIN US IN RAISING FUNDS
TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL
AND BENEFIT YOUR PUPILS'
LEARNING EXPERIENCE!



July 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	6 July 10am
Anxiety Explained	6 July 7pm
Introduction to OCD	7 July 10am
What is ACT?	7 July 7pm
Decreasing Depression	13 July 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	13 July 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	14 July 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	14 July 7pm
FREE - Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 July 7-8pm
Autism-Improving Communication	20 July 10am
Improving Family Communication	20 July 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	21 July 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	21 July 7pm
Understanding Anger	27 July 10am
School Anxiety	27 July 7pm
Facing Defiance	28 July 10am
Supporting Health Screen Use	28 July 7pm

BHLC

SEND

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS
& DISABILITIES

Community

SUPPORT



*Find us
on
FB*



Drop-in
SUPPORT
SESSIONS

18th June
16th July
20th August
17th September
15st October

@ 11am - 1pm
BRUNSWICK HUB

98-100 Shrubland St
Leamington Spa
CVV31 3BD

(Children Welcome)

Contact Lucy for more information via:



01926 422123



lucyduncombe@brunswickhlc.org.uk



Summer Playscheme

*SEND Playscheme for Young People
with additional needs 8 - 16 years*

**At: Cubbington Village Hall, Broadway,
Cubbington, Leamington Spa, CV32 7JR**

WEEK 1 - Monday 20th July 1-5pm

Wednesday 22nd July 10am-2pm

WEEK 2 - Monday 27th July 1-5pm

WEEK 3 - Wednesday 5th August 10am-2pm

Thursday 6th August 1-5pm

WEEK 4 - Wednesday 12th August 10am-2pm

Thursday 13th August 1-5pm

WEEK 5 - Monday 17th August 1-5pm

Wednesday 19th August 10am-2pm

WEEK 6 - Wednesday 26th August 10am-2pm

Thursday 27th August 1-5pm

**Diane Morris 07961 830527
dianemorrisentrust@gmail.com**

Diary Dates

Tuesday 23rd June	Y3 Herons class assembly at 9.05am
Tuesday 23rd June	Y1/2 Sport's Day, 10.00—11.15am. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend.
Monday 22nd June	Y5 Kittiwakes visit to The National Gallery
Tuesday 23rd June	YR Robins class assembly at 10.15am
Wednesday 24th June	Y3/4 Sport's Day, 10.00—11.15am. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend.
Wednesday 24th June	Y4 Starlings Upbeat concert at 2.20pm.
Thursday 25th June	Y4 Wagtails Upbeat concert at 2.30pm.
Friday 26th June	YR Sport's Day, 10.00—11.15am. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend.
Friday 26th June	Y5/6 Sport's Day, 1.15—2.30pm. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend.

MUFTI DAY Friday 26th June

Please bring a bottle for the Summer Fayre.

Bottles should be unopened and in-date with the label intact, please.

They can contain toiletries, drinks, sauces.

Please drop bottles off either with your child's class teacher or at the office.

Thank you in anticipation of your help.

Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Friday 26th June	MUFTI (non-uniform) day—please bring a bottle for the Summer Fayre if your child chooses to wear their own choice of clothes.
Monday 29th June	Y5 Woodpeckers visit to The National Gallery.
Wednesday 1st July	Glow in the Dark Dodgeball event—a group of Y6 pupils attending.
Friday 3rd July	Rocksteady concert, 2.15pm.
Monday 6th July	End of year reports sent out to parents/carers.
Monday 6th July	Pop-up pool arrives
Tuesday 7th July	RSC Ambassadors to the Playmaking Festival, Stratford-Upon-Avon
Wednesday 8th July	Changeover Day—pupils move up to spend the day with their new class teacher.
Thursday 16th July	Y3 Doves swimming (to replace the lesson missed due to the trip to Coventry Cathedral.)
Wednesday 15th July	Leavers' show and awards ceremony for Y6 Moorhens. Estimated running time 9.30—11.30am
Thursday 16th July	Leavers' show and awards ceremony for Y6 Swans. Estimated running time 9.30—11.30am

School ends on Friday 17th July.

Academic year 2026/27 begins on Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Diary Dates



Sydenham Superstars



YR and Key Stage One



Key Stage Two