



On Monday, Y1 visited West Midlands Safari Park. Pupils toured the park by coach with their very own guide and enjoyed a hands-on workshop.

Y1 On Safari



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





The visit began by a bus tour of the safari park. The children were accompanied by a very knowledgeable guide who knew all about each animal the children saw. This included giraffes, rhino's and even lions.



Y1 On Safari



Y1 On Safari



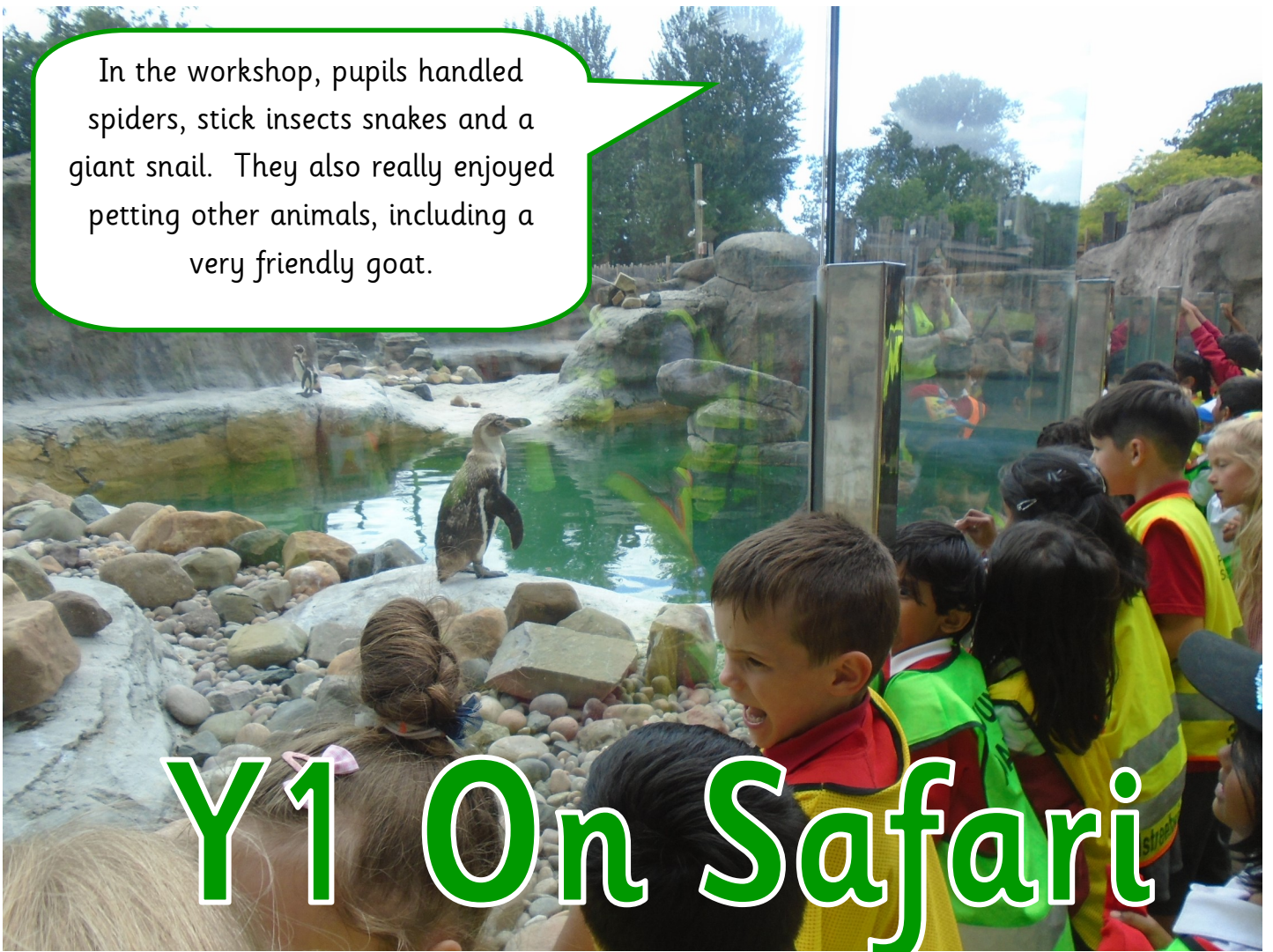
Y1 On Safari



The children also participated in a hands-on workshop called "Creature Comforts."



In the workshop, pupils handled spiders, stick insects snakes and a giant snail. They also really enjoyed petting other animals, including a very friendly goat.



Fabularium

On Wednesday, we were visited by theatre company, The Fabularium, who performed "Reynard The Fox" to pupils in Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y3. Family members also came along to watch so it was a lovely, community event.



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



The shows were paid for from money raised by our Arts Ambassadors who also did a fantastic job of helping with each performance. The event is part of our SPLAT! Children's Arts Festival which continues at Art in the Park on August 2nd and 3rd.



Take One Picture



Pupils across the school are once again participating in **The National Gallery's "Take One Picture" project**. The project encourages pupils to explore and respond to a selected artwork each year. Through activities like drawing, painting, writing, and performance, individuals and groups engage with the chosen image to inspire creativity, critical thinking, and cultural appreciation.

This year's painting is **"A Regatta on the Grand Canal"** (1740) by **Canaletto**. Surrounded by a riot of colour, movement and noise, thin black boats slice through the water of Venice's Grand Canal, jostling for position as they desperately try to push ahead of each other. Bright sunlight glints on the water, the decorated buildings, the elaborate vessels lining the canal and the spectacular outfits of the crowd. It seems like the whole city has come out to watch this boat race, one of the many annual celebrations in a place famous for excitement and spectacle. But this very Venetian scene, by a very Venetian artist, was made for tourists and it allows us to travel back in time to experience a 300-year-old holiday picture.

The painting was chosen by children and teachers across the country. They were particularly interested in the busyness of the scene, with lots of small details to focus on. Children shared many questions and comments about the painting, such as: "Is it a carnival?", "How many people live there?", "I like how it goes small at the back." and "It's like a boat alleyway!"



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture



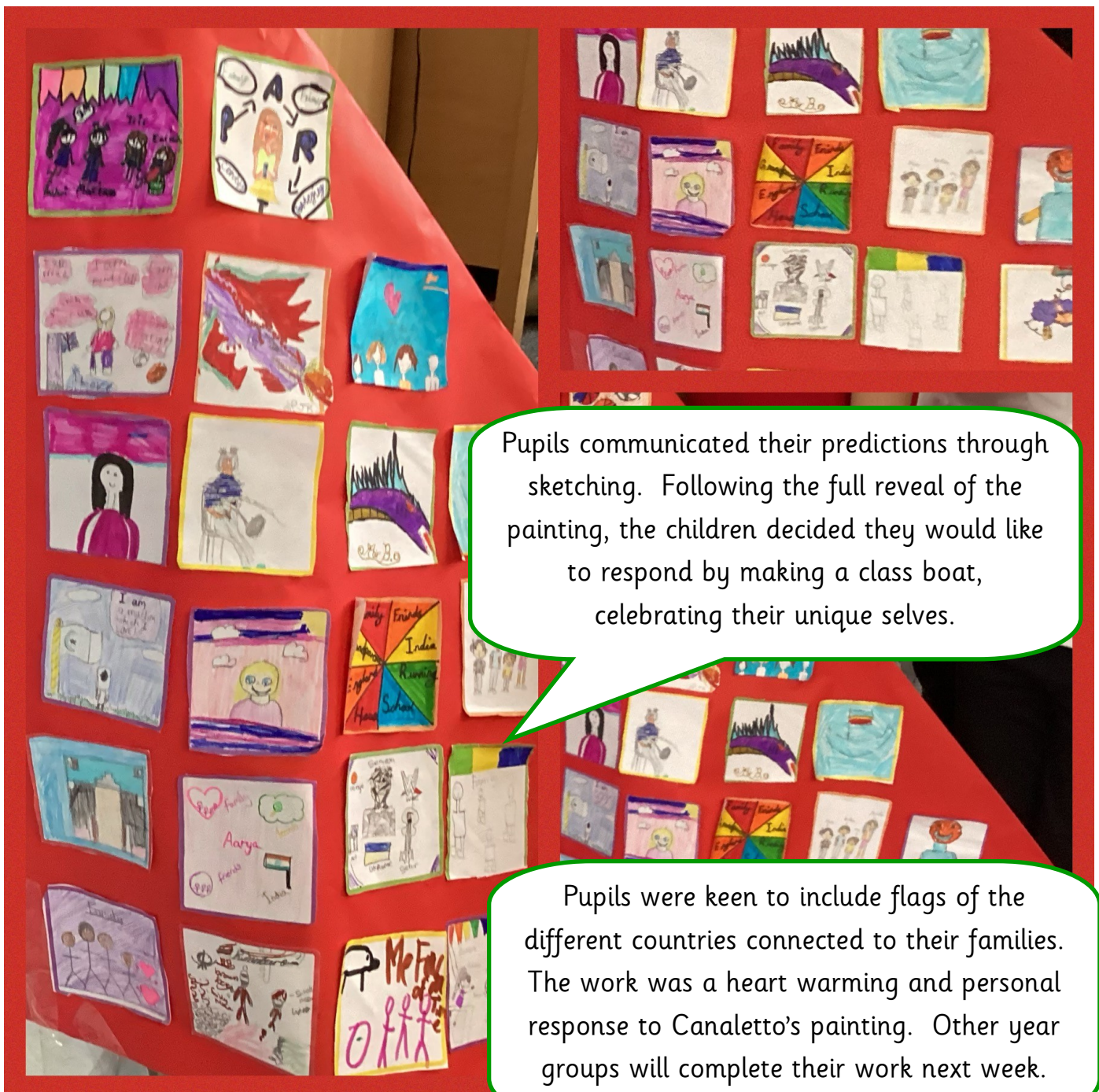
Y4 Take One Picture



Y4 completed their response to "A Regatta on the Grand Canal" this week. Different parts of Canaletto's painting were slowly revealed to pupils and the children made predictions about what the whole painting would look like.



PIC•COLLAGE



Benin's Bronzes

In Art this week, Y6 explored the remarkable legacy of Benin's Bronzes. They learned about the craftsmanship and cultural significance of these historic artworks, then tried their hand at sculpting their own versions using clay. The activity encouraged creativity while deepening their understanding of African history and artistic traditions

Seb commented, "I liked making the patterns in the clay—mine has a crown like the Oba's! It felt like I was making something really important."



Conscience Corridor

In English, Year Two Wrens have been reading the book, “Robot and Bluebird.” In the story, the robot helps the bluebird to migrate—the journey is long and perilous and the robot has to use all his remaining strength to ensure the bluebird’s survival.

Half-way through the story, the robot feels like giving up. Pupils were asked to decide whether he should carry on with his journey or give up and they used a strategy called “Conscience Corridor” to consider both sides of the argument.

One person was the robot and the rest of the class were split into two groups. One group had to persuade the robot to carry on with his journey and the other tried to make him give up. The robot then decided what to do!

After listening to both groups, the robot decided to continue with his important journey.

Dear Robot,

We believe that you should carry on taking the Bluebird south because it is a lot warmer there. If you help the Bluebird, you will be being a kind-hearted, friendly Robot. Additionally, you will also be able to feel warmer! That way, yourself and the Bluebird will feel safe and happy.

We understand that the journey will be dangerous and you will have to walk through a blizzard, but you need to help the Bluebird. The weather is threatening and dangerous, and your joints will be groaning with every step, but you can do it! We are cheering you on!

Yours sincerely,

Year 2 Wrens


To consolidate their learning, the class then wrote a letter to the robot encouraging him to be brave and persevere with his mission to help the bluebird.




Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education

Cricket Stars



Last week, Reception children started learning cricket skills. The children were throwing balls and trying to hit a set of wickets. This helped with their gross motor skills and their hand-eye coordination.





Athletics Champions

Well done to all of the children who made it through the heats of the local athletics competition. Pupils took part in track and field events including relay, javelin and long jump.

Those that made it through to the finals, completed at Edmonscote track and we were thrilled that some of our Sydenham Superstars claimed first, second or third places.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 15: Freedom of Association



Children in Rainbows have been learning about prepositions. Each child made a cardboard house and had fun moving a monster puppet around their model. They practised saying where their puppet was:

"The monster is **on** the bed."

Blob is on the table **next to** the fruit bowl.

Look! He's **behind** the big TV."

"I made a coffee table for my house. Look he's hiding **behind** the sofa."



Prepositions



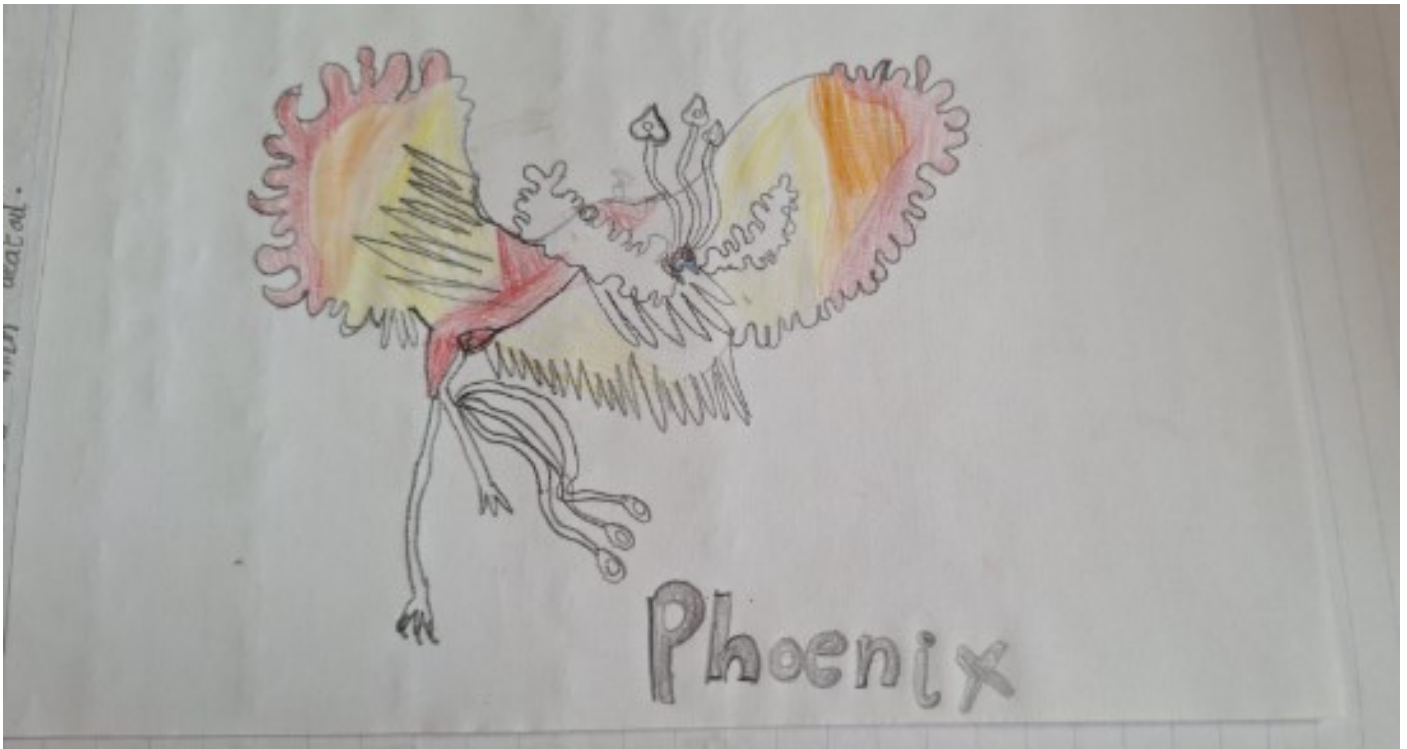
Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



Y3 have been drawing and describing mythical beasts, inspired by their topic of The Romans.

Y3 Mythical Beasts



My **Griffin** is enchanting and courageous. Its wings are feathered and furry so she can glide through the air or fly. Also, its eyes look evil and would trap you in their weird gaze if you look for too long. You'd be dead if you were bitten by the Griffin since it has venom on the end of its beak. Although its tail looks weak, it is actually mighty and wicked.

You find the Griffin in the mystical jungle where it builds a nest with its monstrous claws. It flies like an elegant dove whilst its extraordinary legs sway round.

My **Sphinx** is powerful and very muscular. He is also decorated and beautiful. He can be defensive and aggressive when enemies attack.

The creature has a human head, peacock wings and a lion's body. Interestingly, it can also be invisible.

Y3 Mythical Beasts

SUNFLOWER COMPETITION



Our sunflowers have been busy growing, and we can't wait to see how tall yours are!

Please submit your photos and measurements to sydenhampta@welearn365.com by the 4th July



This beautiful bud will flower over the summer holidays

DID YOU KNOW?

Most sunflowers reach their full height and bloom in late August. Your plants will continue to shoot up during the summer holidays, we would love to see how tall they eventually get. Please send us a picture when we're back to school in September!



ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA
BACH CHOIR



A World of Music

THIS LOVE BETWEEN US

5th July 2025 7:30pm

All Saints' Church, Royal Leamington Spa

JS Bach: **Magnificat**

Reena Esmail: **This Love Between Us:
Prayers for Unity**

Soprano: Jessica Johnson
Alto: Cathy Bell
Tenor: Gopal Kambo
Bass: Robert Pritchard
Sitar: Debipriya Sircar
Tabla: Bhindarjit Neer
with
The Beauchamp
Sinfonietta
Conductor:
Jim Bate

This piece about unity uses the words of seven major religious traditions of India (Buddhism, Sikhism, Christianity, Zoroastrianism, Hinduism, Jainism and Islam) and is sung in the original languages of Sanskrit, Gurumukhi, Malayalam, Pahlavi, Hindi, Ardha Maghadi and English

Tickets £22.50 (students and children £5)
Available at www.rlsbc.org/concerts or on the door
Registered Charity 506586



**SYDENHAM
PTA**

SUMMER FAIR RAFFLE DONATIONS WANTED

We're getting ready for our Summer Fair, and we need your help to make it a big success!

We're looking for donations for our Raffle and Children's Tombola — can you help?



**Duplicate presents
Unwanted (but unused) gifts
New or nearly new toys, games, and goodies
Small prizes suitable for children**

**All donations in as-new condition are very welcome and much appreciated!
Please drop off your items at the school office from Monday**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

sydenhampta@welearn365.com



Sydenham Primary School, Calder Walk, Leamington Spa, CV31 1HP
(01926)339138 www.sydenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very pleased to announce who your child's class teacher will be for the academic year 2025/26:

Current Class 2024/25	New Teacher/s 2025/26	Class Name 2025/26
YR Robins Ms Knight	Miss Jordan Ellershaw	Y1 Puffins
YR Goldfinches Mrs Lee	Mrs Charlotte Prager	Y1 Kingfishers
Y1 Kingfishers Mrs Prager	Mr Jack Sidgwick	Y2 Wrens
Y1 Puffins Miss Gillespie	Miss Chantelle (Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday) Mrs Arandeep Harrad (Thursday/Friday)	Y2 Swallows
Y2 Wrens Mr Sidgwick	Mrs Josie Lloyd (Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday) Mrs Agata Summerell (Thursday/Friday)	Y3 Herons
Y2 Swallows Miss Daly/Mrs Harrad	Miss Sarah Dalton	Y3 Doves
Y3 Herons Mrs Lloyd/Mrs Summerell	Miss McKenna Wood	Y4 Starlings
Y3 Doves Mr Lee	Mr Armandeep Sangha	Y4 Wagtails
Y4 Starlings Miss Wood	Miss Molly Atkins	Y5 Kittiwakes
Y4 Wagtails Mrs Madahar	Mrs Rohanna Keys	Y5 Woodpeckers
Y5 Kittiwakes Mrs Rastall/Mrs Fry	Mr Jon Lee	Y6 Swans
Y5 Woodpeckers Miss Dalton	Miss Charlotte Ball	Y6 Moorhens

Miss Knight and Mrs Lee will be teaching Reception.

We welcome the following members of staff to Sydenham:

- Mr Armandeep Sangha
Mr Sangha has been teaching at our partner school, Lighthorne Heath Primary.
- Miss Molly Atkins.
- Miss Atkins is an experienced teacher who is re-locating to Leamington-Spa.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to the following members of staff:

- Miss Gillespie is leaving us to take up a teaching post abroad.
- Mrs Madahar will remain in The Sydenham-Lighthorne Heath Federation but will be teaching at our partner school, Lighthorne Heath Primary.
- Mrs Rastall is leaving to pursue a career in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) teaching.
- Mrs Fry will be working in a SEND role for Coventry City Council.

Your child will get the chance to spend the day with their new teacher/s on Changeover Day - Wednesday 9th July. They will be accompanied to their new class by the teaching assistant who supports their current class.

On your child's Changeover Day, please drop-off and pick-up your child from their current class at the usual times.

Kind regards,



Carol Glenny
(Associate Headteacher)

Diary Dates

Monday 30th June	Y5/6 Sport's Day, 10.00—11.30am.
Tuesday 1st July	Y1/2 Sport's Day, 10.00—11.30am.
Tuesday 1st July	Y1/2 Family Learning Food Explorers course, 1.50pm—sign up via ParentPay.
Wednesday 2nd July	Y3/4 Sport's Day, 10.00—11.30am.
Wednesday 2nd July	Induction Day for (most) Y6 pupils.

INSET (teacher training) dates for the academic year 2025/26:

- Monday 1st September 2025**
- Friday 10th October 2025**
- Monday 1st December 2025**
- Monday 1st June 2026**
- Monday 20th July 2026**

Thank you to everybody who has joined in our MUFTI events recently.

We raised an amazing £418.55 for The Cystic Fibrosis Trust and £341.01 for Unicef's Soccer Aid. Thank you so much!

Diary Dates

Thursday 3rd July	Arts Ambassadors working with artist, Emma O'Brien as part of the SPLAT! Children's Arts Festival.
Thursday 3rd July	Y4 parents/carers invited to watch their children perform in a flute assembly. Times TBC.
Friday 4th July	YR Sport's Day, 10.00—11.00am
Friday 4th July	PTA Summer Fayre.
Week beginning Monday 7th July	End of year reports emailed to parents/carers.
Tuesday 8th July	Idris Caldora (chef) in Y5.
Tuesday 8th July	Reception Family Learning Food Explorers course, 1.50pm—sign up via ParentPay.
Wednesday 9th July	Level 1/2 Bikeability.
Thursday 10th July	Y5 Residential—Kip in a Ship.
Friday 11th July	Y6 Leavers' assemblies. Swans at 9.45am Moorhens at 1.30pm
Monday 14th July	Rocksteady concert at 2.30pm.
Monday 14th July	Y6 Motionhouse session.
Wednesday 16th July	Y6 silent disco.
Thursday 17th July	New date—instrumental concert at 2.30pm. Parents of pupils participating are invited to attend.
Friday 18th July	Break up for the Summer holiday.



Sydenham Superstars



YR and Key Stage One



Key Stage Two