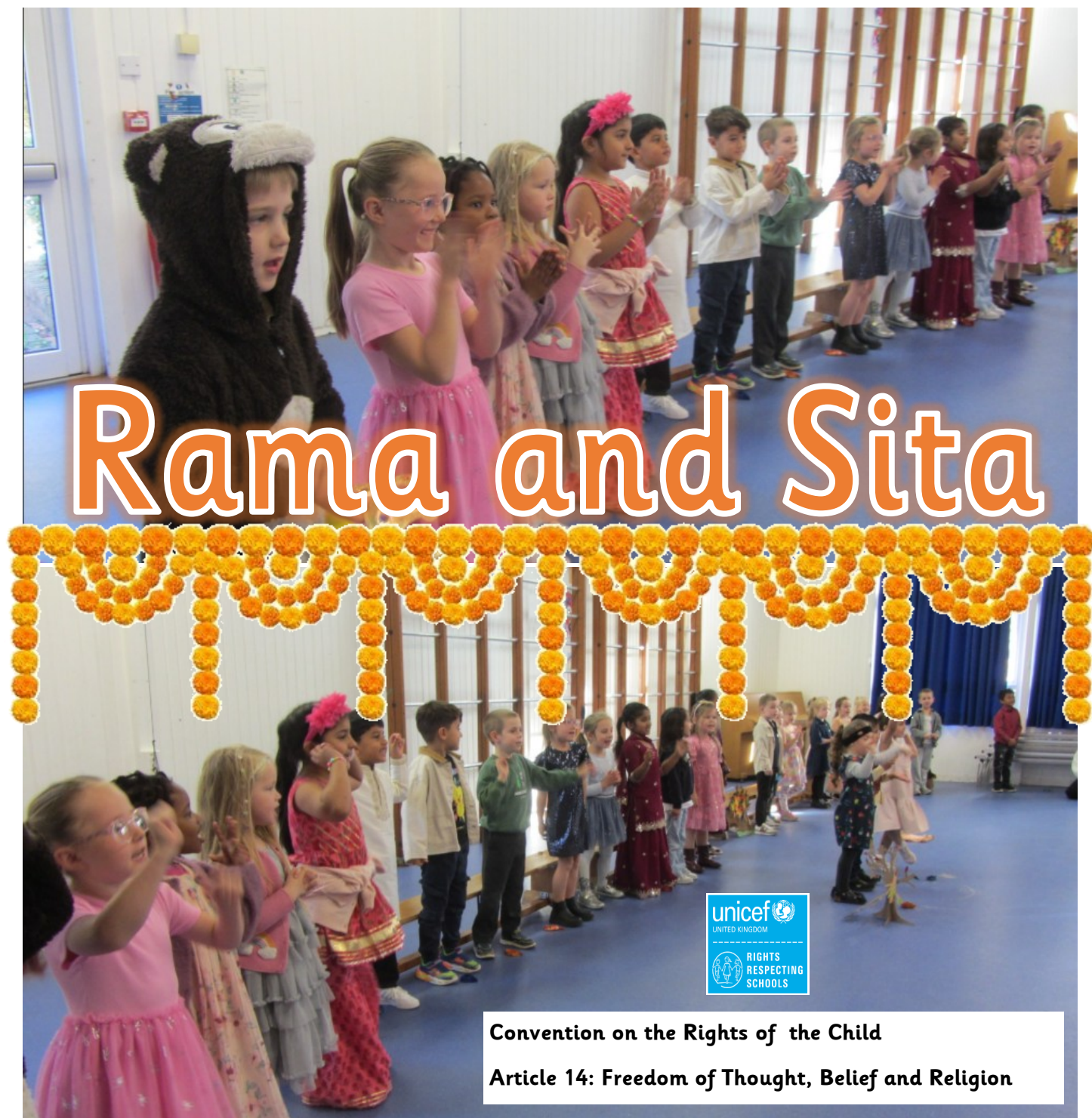




Happy Diwali!

This week in school we have been learning about and celebrating Diwali. Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is a joyful celebration observed by millions of people around the world. It marks the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. During Diwali, families decorate their homes with lamps and colorful rangoli designs, enjoy fireworks, and share sweets with loved ones. The festival also honors the goddess Lakshmi, who brings wealth and prosperity. Diwali is a time for togetherness, happiness, and new beginnings.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 14: Freedom of Thought, Belief and Religion

On Monday, during our whole school assembly, Miss Glenny explained the significance of Diwali for Sikh, Hindu, and Jain families. She shared the story of Rama and Sita, which is central to Diwali, and lit diyas to help the children reflect on the flame of truth and goodness that burns in all our hearts.

On Tuesday, Year 2 performed the story of Rama and Sita for their families. In the story, Rama is a kind prince, and Sita is his loving wife. One day, a wicked king named Ravana takes Sita away, so Rama goes on a brave adventure to rescue her and bring her back home, helped by the monkey god, Hanuman. This story teaches us that good always triumphs over evil!



Rama and Sita

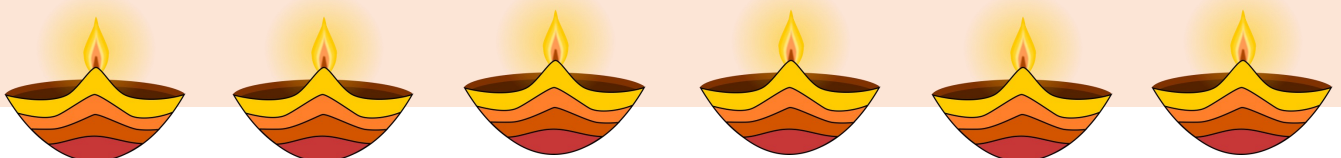




Happy Diwali!



In the classroom, Reception pupils explored rangoli patterns—beautiful, colourful designs created on the floor during Diwali to welcome guests and symbolise happiness, prosperity, and good fortune . Some children were also inspired to make fireworks from blocks and fabrics. Fireworks are a common feature of Diwali celebrations as they mark the victory of light over darkness.





Diwali Party

On Friday, Reception held a Diwali party for families. To celebrate The Festival of Light, children had the opportunity to air write their name with a sparkler and make their very own diyas. Noor painted beautiful mehndi patterns on children's hands and there was coloured rice for rangoli patterns as well as delicious party food and bhangra dancing.





Diwali Party





Diwali Party





Y5 Discussion



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education

Following their discussions about Anne Boleyn last week, Year Five are now exploring the question: **“Should Henry VIII be taught in schools as a hero or a villain?”** This inquiry is inspired both by their current Topic work and a 2002 BBC poll in which Henry was named one of the top 100 Britons of all time.

Pupils researched various aspects of Henry’s life and achievements, such as his development of the navy and commissioning of an English Bible, alongside the more troubling actions he took against his wives and others. Each group was then assigned a role to develop arguments either portraying Henry as a hero or as a villain, culminating in a lively class debate. Throughout this activity, pupils honed their collaborative skills by ensuring every member had a specific role within their group. They also practiced their speaking and listening skills, contributing to an impressive and thoughtful debate

Magnificent Monarchs

Y2 pupils have been studying paintings and photographs of British monarchs.



The children created sketches for homelearning, carefully observing the details they could see in the original pictures.

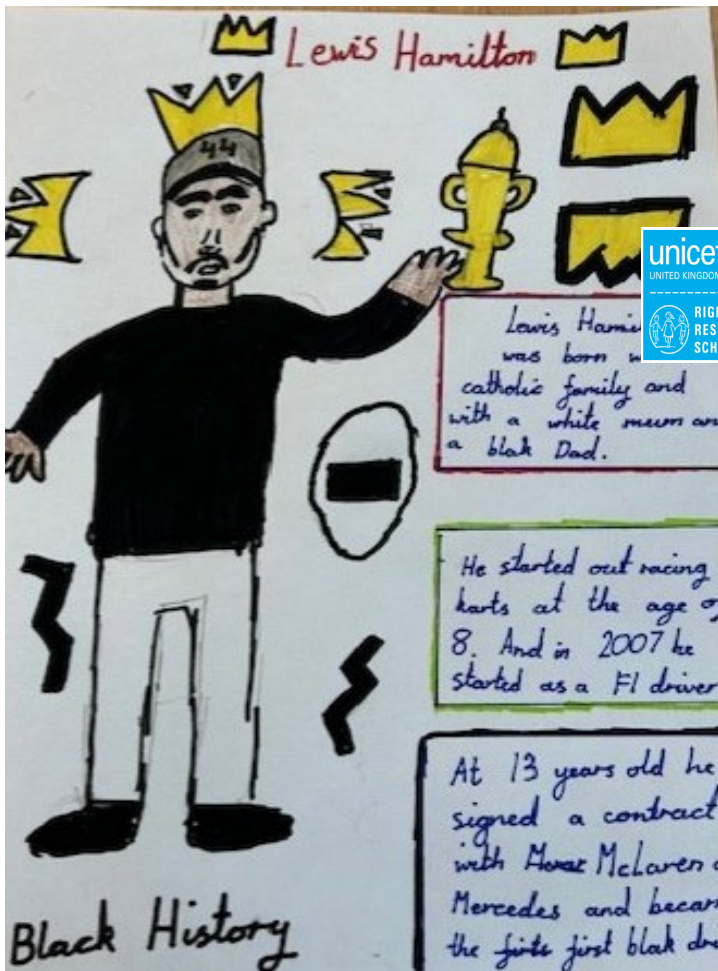


We were very impressed by the results and think the children did an amazing job.



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



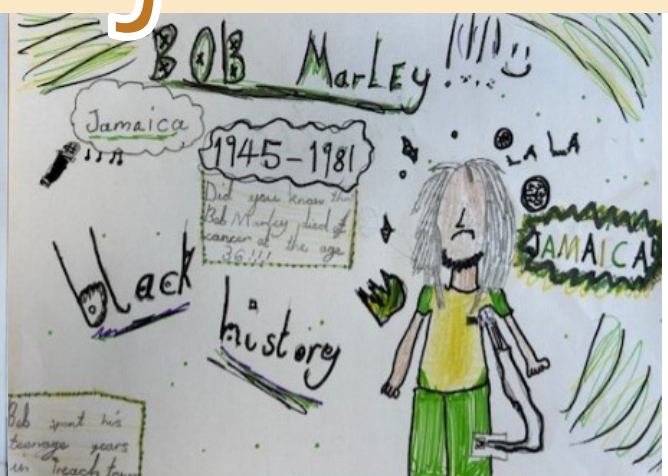


Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education

This week, Year 5 have been celebrating Black History Month by exploring the inspiring book *Young, Gifted and Black Too*. Through reading, they learned about a variety of influential Black figures throughout history, sparking thoughtful discussions about their achievements and contributions. The children practiced their retrieval skills by identifying key facts about these remarkable individuals and then created their own small posters in the style of the book.

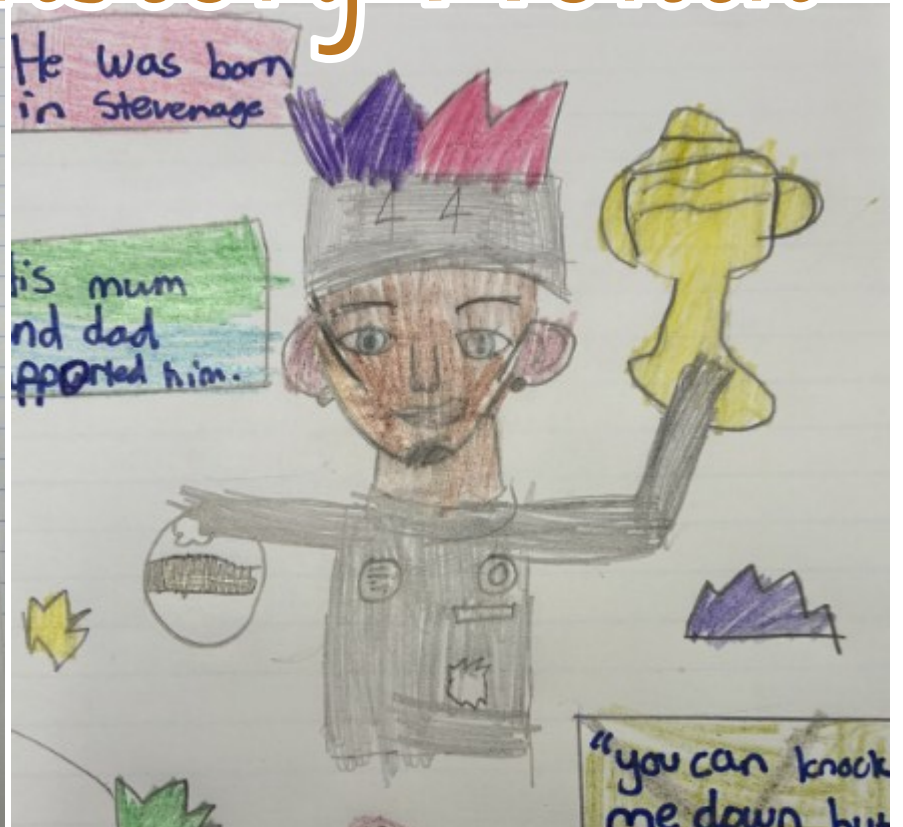
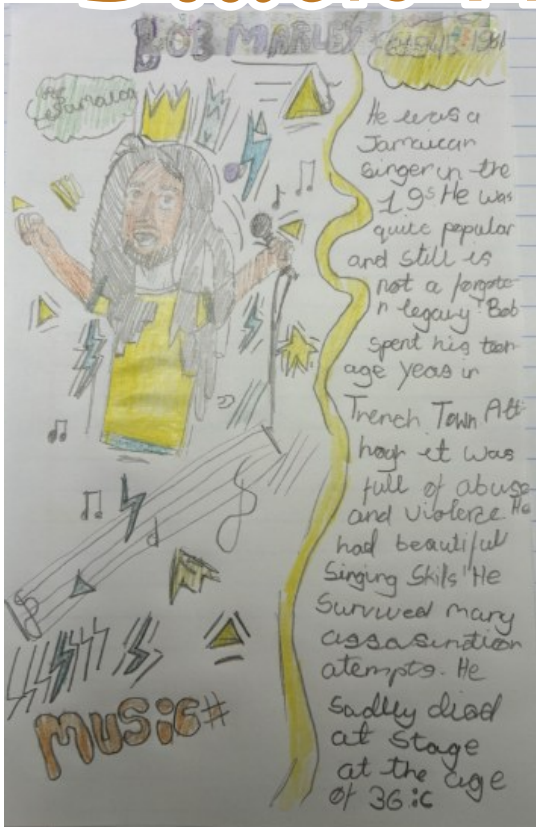
Black History Month



Queen Nanny Maroons,
a community of
formerly enslaved
Africans in Jamaica
in a freedom from
slavery and British
colonial rule. Notorious
for her rebellion
and use of clever
guerrilla tactics,
Nanny saw her
enemies defeated
them time and
time again.



Black History Month



Black History Month

As part of their Black History Month celebrations, Year 2 have been learning about the inspiring artist Lois Mailou Jones, whose bold use of colour and pattern helped shape modern art. The children explored her vibrant abstract style, experimenting with shapes, lines, and striking colour combinations to create their own unique masterpieces. Through this creative project, the children celebrated not only artistic expression but also the rich cultural contributions of Black artists past and present.

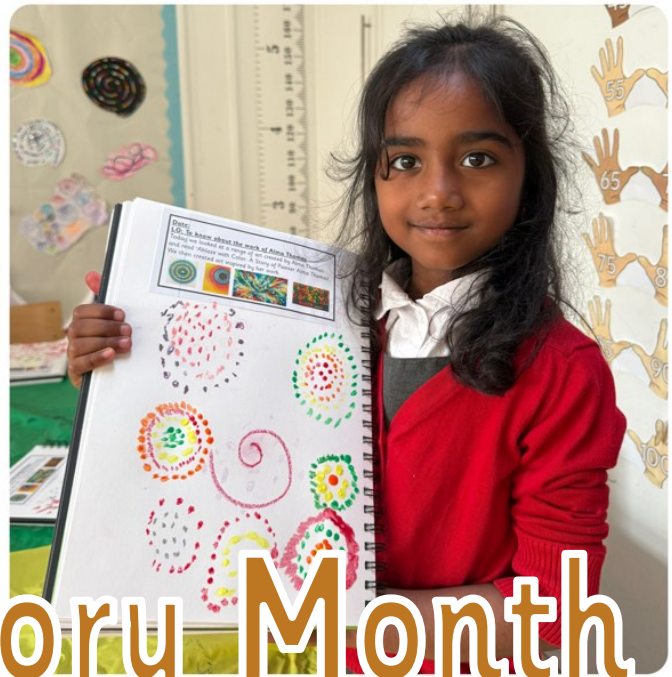


Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 29: Goals of Education

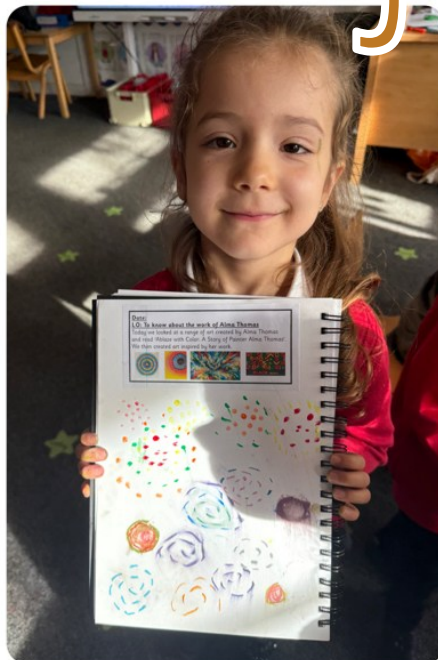




For Black History Month, Year One have been learning about the amazing achievements of the artist, Alma Thomas. The children then created some work inspired by her paintings as part of their 'Spirals' Art topic!



Black History Month





Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



This week in English, Year 3 have been exploring how to write clear and engaging instructions. To bring their learning to life, the children created their own colourful, rainbow, fruit kebabs before writing step-by-step guides to show others how to make them. The classroom was filled with wonderful smells, bright colours, and lots of enthusiasm — a fun (and tasty!) way to practise their writing skills.

When writing, the children worked hard to create an enticing opening paragraph using rhetorical questions:



Are you hungry for a nice kebab? What about a fruity snack? Do you need me to help you make a delicious snack? OK, let's go! (By Raphael.)

They also incorporated sub-headings, bullet points, imperative verbs, conjunctions and adverbs.

Afterwards, pupils re-read their writing to check it made sense. They then used their Purple Polishing Pens to edit and improve their set of instructions.

"We learnt how to cut the fruit safely using the bridge and claw method."

Y3 Instructions



On Tuesday, Year 6 shared their learning about the First and Second World Wars in a thoughtful and moving presentation. The children spoke knowledgeably about the events that led to the outbreak of war, the reasons why recruits joined the army during the First World War, and the experiences of evacuees in the Second World War.

They also performed two beautiful songs, led by Mrs. Harcourt, with Luke providing a wonderful accompaniment on the snare drum. The assembly concluded with a moment's silence to remember all those who were injured or lost their lives in both wars — a powerful reminder of the importance of remembrance.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 38: War and Armed Conflict



Remembrance



We are supporting the British Legion Poppy Appeal and have items for sale in the school office—see the next page for more details.

If you would like to support the Royal British Legion's annual Poppy Appeal, please visit the school office to purchase a commemorative item. Snap bands are £1.00, and we kindly ask for a donation for the other items available

Poppy Appeal





Forest School



We're excited to share that our Forest School area has received three brand new rope bridges, with each offering a different level of challenge! Our wonderful covering caretaker, James, has worked hard to install them, and they've already been a huge hit with all our Forest School groups and after-school club. The children have loved testing their balance, coordination, and bravery as they make their way across. Activities like these help to develop core strength and balance, which in turn support important classroom skills such as handwriting, focus, and stamina.



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



Reception made their pumpkin and potato soup this week. The children used utensils to chop the veg independently.



Cutting the onions was hard and some children's eyes watered. When this happened, it was lovely to see friends supporting each other.

Pumpkin Soup

Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 24: Health



Mikael was so kind. When his friend found the cutting difficult, he gently encouraged her, saying, "Come on! You're a strong girl — you can do this."



Y4 Guided Reading

In guided reading, Y5acted out scenes from Chapter 5 of *Zombierella*. Pupils used their voices, expressions and actions to show how the characters were feeling and what they might be thinking. While performing, the children made inferences using sentence stems like “I know ___ because I can see ___.” This helped them look closely at the clues in the text and use evidence to explain their ideas about the characters.





Y3/4 Theatre Trip

When Princess Aurora pricks her finger on an enchanted spinning wheel she's cursed to fall asleep for 100 years, unless she's kissed by her one true love. Enter the dashing Prince (and his two rather calamitous sidekicks) who embark on a brave adventure to save the Princess from her terrible fate. But with the wicked Fairy Carabosse determined to ruin their plans, will our trusty trio be triumphant or is the Princess doomed to a century of snoozing? You'll have to come along to find out!

Sleeping Beauty will be full to the brim with all of the wonderful elements that make a trip to the Belgrade such a well-loved Christmas tradition for thousands of families every year.

On Wednesday 26th November Years 3/4 will be visiting The Belgrade Theatre to watch a performance of "Sleeping Beauty." The cost of the trip is £20.67—please make payment via your ParentPay account. For more information, see the letter sent to you or speak to a member of our office staff.

The ROALD DAHL'S BFG Y5/6 Theatre Trip

ADAPTED BY TOM WELLS

One extraordinary night, a young orphan named Sophie is snatched by a giant and taken far away to Giant Country. There she learns that human-eating giants are guzzling 'norphans' the world over. But she soon discovers that her new friend, the BFG, is different – he's a dream-catching, snozzcumber-munching gentle soul who refuses to eat humans.

While other giants terrorise the world, the BFG ignites Sophie's imagination, and they devise a daring plan to save children everywhere. In the end, the smallest human bean and the gentlest giant prove that a dream can change the world.

Gather your chiddlers to see Roald Dahl's unforgettable story come to life this winter. Tom Wells' magical new adaptation is directed by RSC Co-Artistic Director Daniel Evans.

On Thursday 15th January 2026, Years 5/6 will be visiting The Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford to watch a performance of "The BFG." The cost of the trip is £18.00—please make payment via your ParentPay account.



YR/1/2 Theatre Trip

On Wednesday 3rd December, Years R/1/2 will be visiting Warwick Arts Centre to watch a performance of “The Tiger Who Came to Tea.” The cost of the trip is £16.67—please make payment via your ParentPay account. For more information, see the letter sent to you or speak to a member of our office staff.

Direct from the West End, the Olivier Award nominated smash hit show, The Tiger Who Came to Tea returns.

The doorbell rings just as Sophie and her mummy are sitting down to tea. Who could it possibly be? What they certainly don't expect to see at the door is a big, stripy tiger!

Join the tea-guzzling tiger in this delightful family show; packed with oodles of magic, sing-a-long songs and clumsy chaos. Don't miss this stunning stage adaptation of the classic tale of teatime mayhem... expect to be surprised!

A musical play adapted and directed by David Wood, based on the book by Judith Kerr.

The Tiger Who Came to Tea



If you would like to book a Christmas Dinner for your child on 16 December please visit your parent pay account - Payment Item - Christmas Dinner Booking 16 December.

Booking must be made by 9.00 am on 1 December 2025. If you have not booked by this date, you will need to provide your child with a packed lunch on 16 December. **We cannot accept late bookings.**

This payment item is purely for us to confirm numbers to our kitchen and payment is not required at this stage.

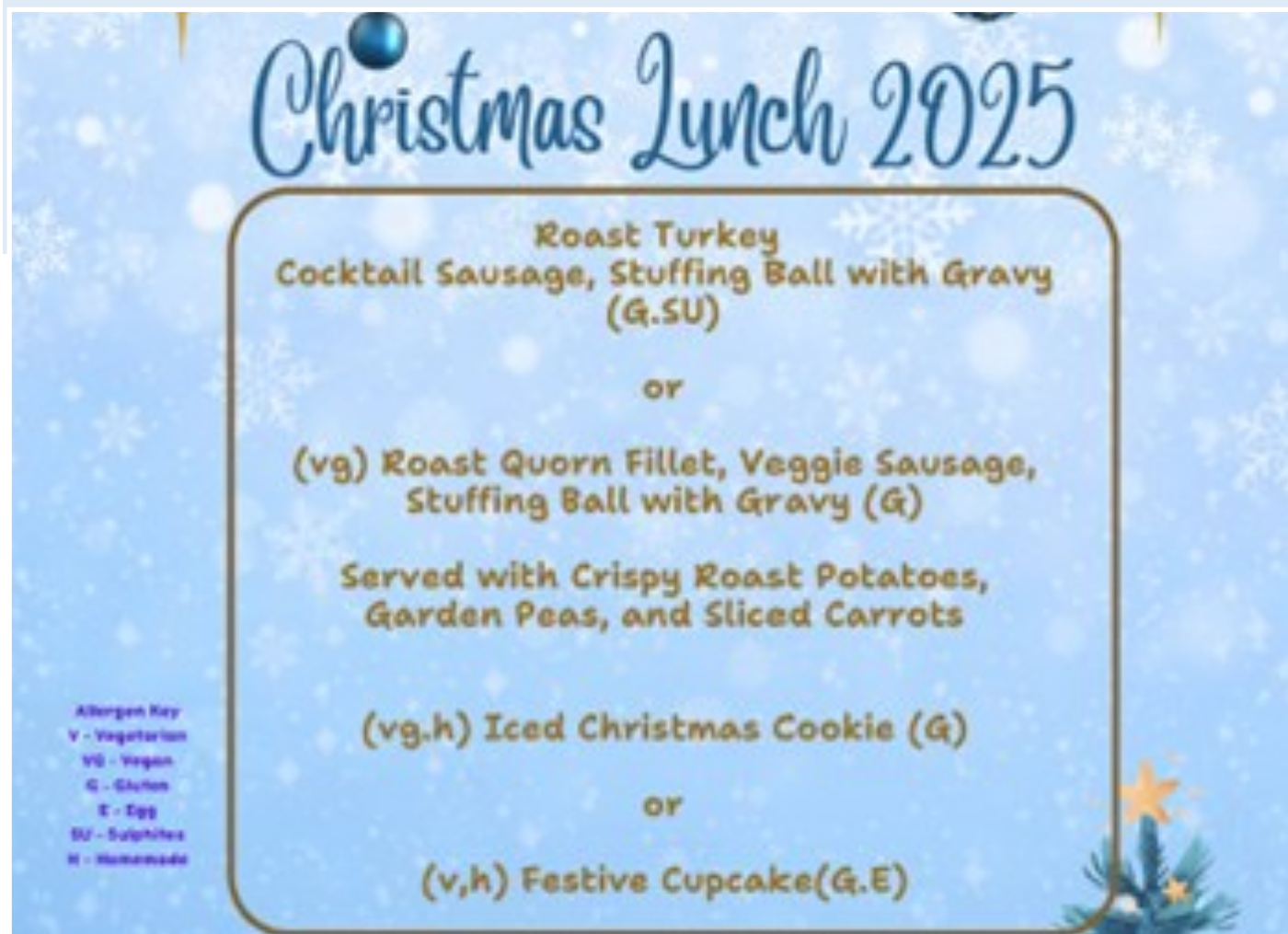
Payment will be due on 16 December in your child's dinner money account.

Please read the below carefully regarding payment.

Children in Reception, Year 1 & 2 - your child receives a free school meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme and no payment is due but we politely request you still book your meal here.

Children in Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 - payment of £2.88 should be made to your parent pay account by 16 December 2025 - payment item Dinner Money. However, If your child is in registered for a free school meal no payment is due but we politely request you still book your meal here.

Children who do not wish to have a school Christmas Dinner will still be included in our festive lunch on this day.



School Admissions

Applying for a place at Secondary School

The deadline to apply for a secondary school place is **31 October 2025**.



If you apply by this date, you will receive your child's school offer on National Offer Day (**2 March 2026**).

Applying for a Place at Primary School

You need to apply for September 2026 if your child was born between **1 September 2021** and **31 August 2022** (for a place in Reception).

The applications process opens on 1 November 2025 and the deadline for applying for a Reception or Junior place is **15 January 2026**. If you apply by this date, you will



receive your child's school offer on National Offer Day (16 April 2026).

For more information visit:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals>



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.



AUTUMN TERM WORKSHOPS & PROGRAMMES WARWICK / LEAMINGTON

Workshop/ Programme	Date and Time	Venue
Understanding Children's Behaviour	4th November 9:00 - 11:00	Telford Infant School
Talking Teens 5 Week Programme	5th November 13:00 - 15:00	Myton School
Sleep and Routines	6th November 09:30 - 11:30	virtual
Boundaries and Rules	6th November 12:30 -14:30	virtual
Understanding Children's Behaviour	11th November 10:00 - 12:00	Lillington Children & Family Centre
Routines	12th November 12:30 - 14:30	virtual
Sleep	12th November 9:00 - 11:00	Telford Infant School
Understanding your teenager	14th November 09:30 - 11:30	Virtual



**Book your
free place**

For Warwickshire
parents only.

For further information about this
programme please email
ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk

AT THE BRUNSWICK HUB

HALLOWEEN PARTY

GET YOUR SPOOKY
COSTUMES ON AND JOIN
US FOR SOME
HALLOWEEN FUN

Oct 28 | 5- 7 pm

SPOOKY DISCO WITH
HALLOWEEN FUN & GAMES

PRIZES FOR BEST
COSTUMES!

★ CALL US ON
01926 422123 TO
BOOK A PLACE



CYCLE TO SCHOOL WEEK '25

is coming!

Supported by:



NatWest
Rooster Money



13 - 17 October

cycletoschoolweek.com



CYCLE TO SCHOOL WEEK '25

13 - 17 October

Supported by:



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Rooster Money



Bring some fun

to the

school run

Diary Dates

Monday 27th —Friday 31st October, school closed for the half-term holiday.

Pupils return to school on Monday 3rd November.

Tuesday 4th November at 9.00am	Y5 Woodpeckers class assembly—parents and carers of children in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Tuesday 4th November	Y1 Childhood Day.
Tuesday 18th November at 9.00am	Y5 Kittiwakes class assembly—parents and carers of children in this class are warmly invited to attend.
Monday 24th—Thursday 27th November	Scholastic Book Fair.
Wednesday 26th November	Y3/4 trip to The Belgrade Theatre to watch “Sleeping Beauty.”
Friday 28th November	MUFTI (non-uniform) Day—make a donation of £1.00 to School Fund via ParentPay if your child wears their own choice of clothes.
Monday 1st December	School closed for In-Service Training (INSET.)
Wednesday 3rd December	Reception, Year One and Year Two trip to Warwick Arts Centre to watch “The Tiger Who Came to Tea.”
Tuesday 9th December at 2.15pm	Y4 Carol Concert. Parents and carers of children in this year group are warmly invited to attend.
Thursday 4th December at 9.30am.	Y1 Carol Concert —parents and carers of children in this year group are warmly invited to attend.
Monday 8th December at 9.30am	Y2 Carol Concert —parents and carers of children in this year group are warmly invited to attend.

Diary Dates

Diary Dates

Tuesday 9th December at 9.30am	Y3 Carol Concert —parents and carers of children in this year group are warmly invited to attend.
Wednesday 10th December at 9.30am	Y5 Carol Concert — parents and carers of children in this year group are warmly invited to attend.
Thursday 11th December at 2.15pm	Y6 Carol Concert —parents and carers of children in this year group are warmly invited to attend.
Monday 15th December	Rocksteady concert at 2.15pm.
Tuesday 16th December	Christmas lunch.
Wednesday 17th December	YR Nativity (new date.) Parents and carers of children in this year group are warmly invited to attend.
Wednesday 17th December	MUFTI—wear a Christmas jumper or festive outfit and donate £1.00 to School Fund via ParentPay.
Monday 22nd December—Friday 2nd January, school closed for Christmas holiday.	
Pupils return to school on Monday 5th January	

Diary Dates

Please note, the deadline for applying for a secondary school place is Friday 31st October 2025.

For more information visit:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals>



Sydenham Superstars



YR and Key Stage One

Happy holidays!
Best wishes from Miss
Glenny



Key Stage Two