

Chinese New Year



February 12th heralded the Chinese Year of the Ox. The ox symbolises strength and determination—qualities that all members of our Sydenham community have in abundance.

In the week before half-term, Reception pupils celebrated Chinese New Year by dressing up, playing in the Chinese restaurant role-play area and making paper dragons. They particularly enjoyed the challenge of learning how to use chopsticks.

Happy Chinese New Year, Everyone. Let's hope it's a lucky one!



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 30: Children from Minority Groups



GOLD AWARD



Y5 Beast Creator

Fly away dragon fly, strong and true,
Painted astonishing colours of blue!
Illuminate the sky with pleasure,
But feel no stress, you are my deepest treasure.
But of course, you already knew!

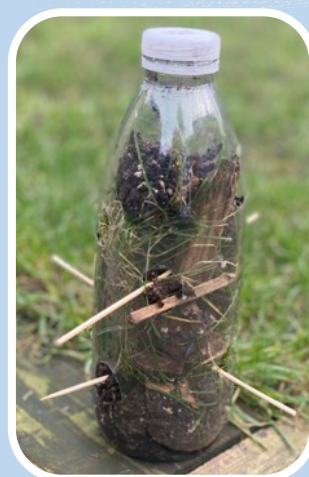
By Maddison

There once was a family of ants,
Who were very interested in plants,
They were fast and strong,
So don't get me wrong,
You won't want them to be in your pants!

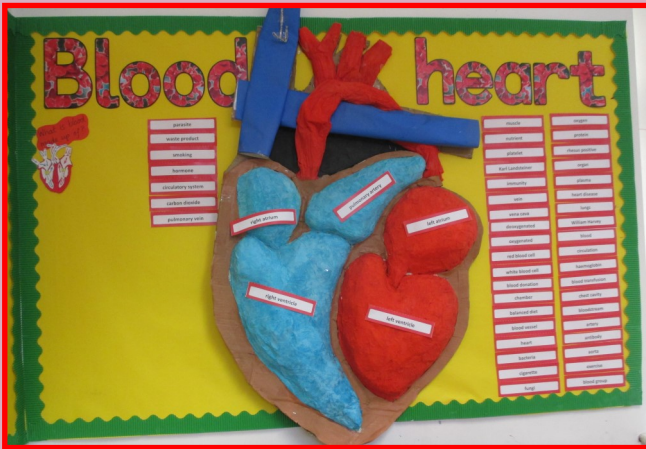
By Emma



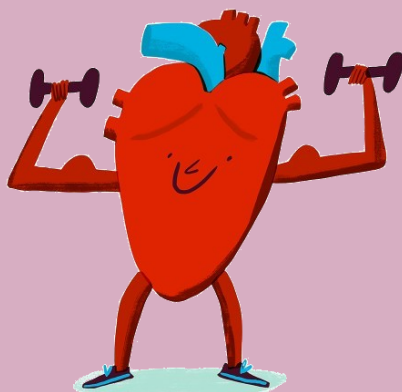
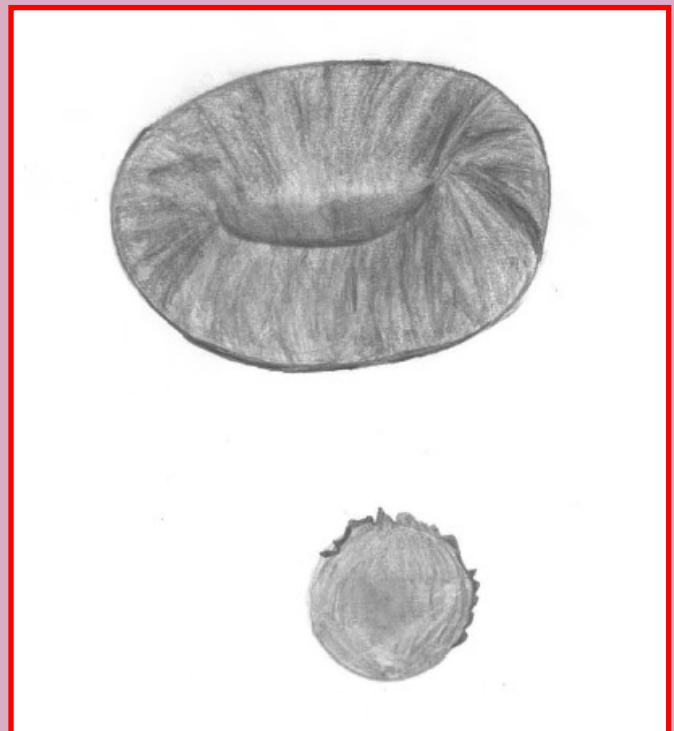
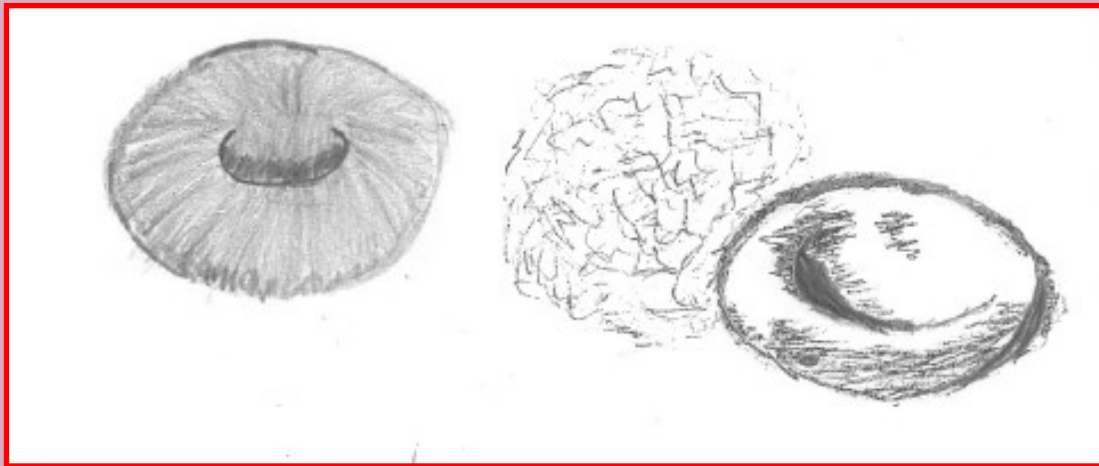
Year Five have been learning about the insect world as part of their topic, "Beast Creator." This week they have written limericks and made bug hotels.



Y6 Blood Heart



Year Six have been learning about the human heart and circulatory system. This week, they looked closely at photographic images of red and white blood cell before making their own sketches. They have also enjoyed the fantastic 3D heart on display in the classroom which was made by some of our very talented teaching assistants.



Competition Winners

We had lots of impressive entries in our online safety competition. Mrs Madahar is pleased to announce that the winners are:

Key Stage Two

Reet, Harleen and **Harbinnd** for their fantastic “Interopoly” game. Not only did the girls design and make a super game based on Monopoly, they also created a video introducing their creation. The game involves moving around a board and buying different app’s. Players pick up “chance” cards which ask online safety questions, such as:

- *If a stranger sent you a friend request, would you accept it?*
- *What would you do if somebody said something unkind to you online?*
- *If you have a photo of yourself in your school uniform, should you post it online?*



Key Stage One

Rocco C for his brilliant Digiduck book.



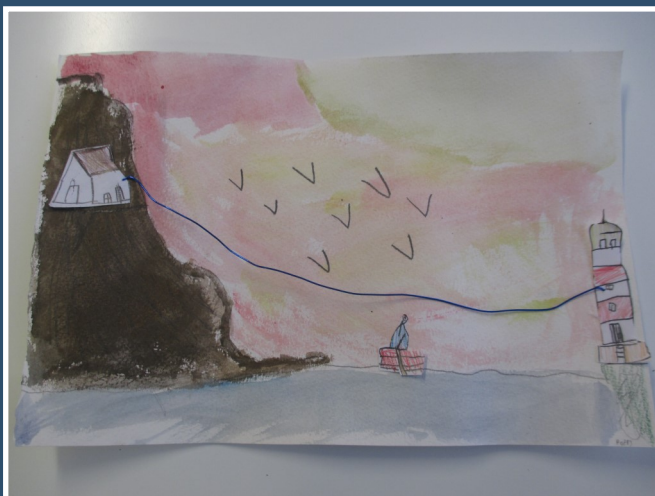
In the story, Detective Digiduck is researching animals online and comes across a website all about dinosaurs. However, he realises that some of the information is inaccurate and decides to find a more reliable source of information instead. Digiduck learns that you can't always trust what you read on the Internet!

Reception Scientists

This week, Reception pupils mixed oil, bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to make their own lava lamps. The children were fascinated to watch the chemical reaction take place and enjoyed seeing their lava lamps glow when illuminated by a torch.



Y2 Lighthouses



Year Two have watched the short animation “Lighthouse” and read the book “The Lighthouse Keeper’s Lunch.” They compared the settings which they represented as beautiful watercolour paintings.

Y2 Learning Characters



Keep improving!



Review your work.
Identify your best bits.
Try to be better than last time.
Don't compare yourself to others, only yourself.
Take small steps.

Be curious!



Ask questions.
Notice things.
Look for patterns and connections.
Think of possible reasons.
Research.
Ask, "what if..."



Use our imagination!



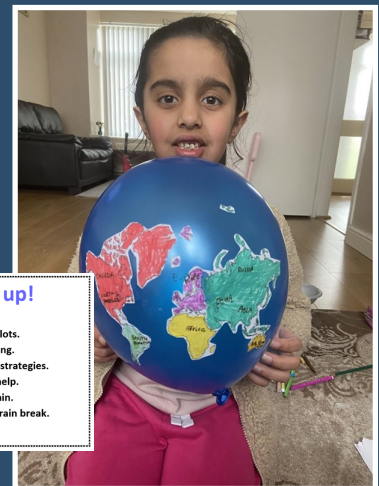
Be creative.
Let your imagination go.
Think up new ideas and questions.



Be curious!



Ask questions.
Notice things.
Look for patterns and connections.
Think of possible reasons.
Research.
Ask, "what if..."



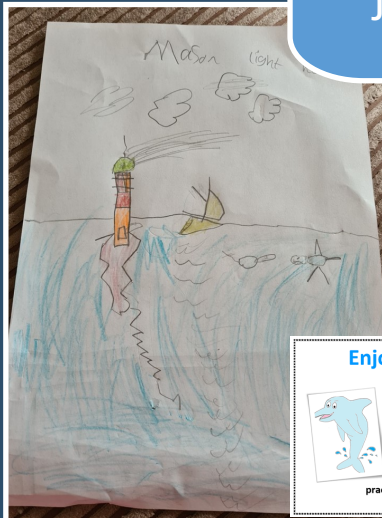
Never give up!

Work hard.



Practise lots.
Keep going.
Try new strategies.
Ask for help.
Start again.
Take a brain break.

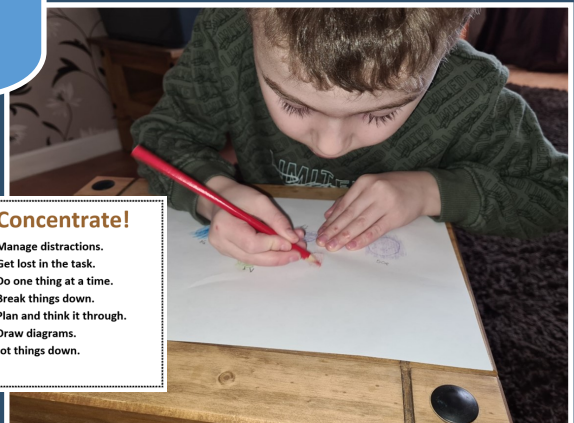
Well done, Year Two.
Your Learning Characters
are helping you make
fantastic progress.



Enjoy learning!



Feel proud of your achievements.
Feel your neurons connecting and your brain growing.
Use what you have learnt in real life.
Know you can do it if you practise.



Concentrate!



Manage distractions.
Get lost in the task.
Do one thing at a time.
Break things down.
Plan and think it through.
Draw diagrams.
Jot things down.



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

Spring Beans!



Look at our lovely Reception children planting spring beans. Their beautiful faces are a wonderful end to the week.

Outstanding Payments

As we approach the end of the financial year, I would be most grateful if you could log in to your parent pay accounts and settle any outstanding balances.

If your child has a school meal can we politely request that all meals booked during the period 1- 12 March 2021 are paid for either in advance or on the day they are booked.

Similarly, if your child uses either breakfast club or Butterflies, please ensure any sessions booked are paid for in advance or on the day of the booking.

I would like to thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

Sarah Beck (School Business Manager)



HAPPY WORLD BOOK DAY!

Share a Story today

Tuesday 23rd February, 2021

Dear parents and carers,

It's World Book Day on Thursday 4th March—woo hoo! We want all of our wonderful children to enjoy this special day, so we will be postponing our celebrations until all of the children are back in school in the week commencing 8th March (we can't wait to see you all again!). Our love of stories is so great that we are extending our celebrations for the whole week! This year, we will be shining a spotlight on the work of author **Benji Davies** and we will be focussing especially on his beautiful picture book, 'Grandad's Island':

Syd has a very close relationship with his Grandad, whose house and garden back onto his

own. On one of his regular visits, he finds Grandad in the attic. Grandad appears to be ready to make a journey and the pair set out on a voyage to a beautiful tropical island...



Children will be following sequences of work related to this very special text, and teachers are planning all kinds of exciting work across the curriculum, including art, design technology and book-

making. We are inviting children to come to school on Thursday 11th March in a costume inspired by the book, such as sunglasses / sun hats / bright shorts / tee shirts / stripy pyjama trousers etc...). The children will also be making Hawaiian hula lei garlands in class to wear.

Children will receive a £1 book token which they may redeem against the cost of any full price book or audiobook they choose to buy from WH Smith, Waterstones and all good independent book shops across the UK, as well as online and on eBooks. Vouchers can also be exchanged for an exclusive World Book Day book.



Best wishes,

Juliette Westwood

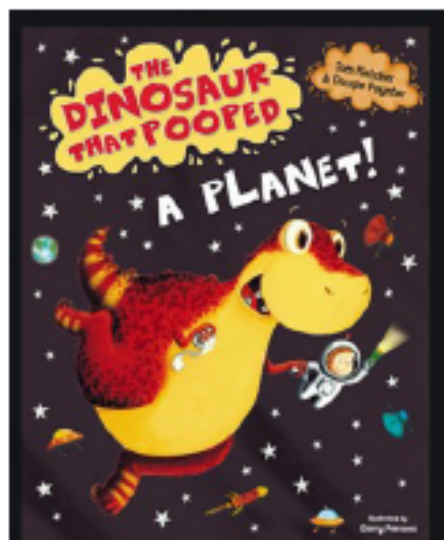
Executive Head Teacher

Celebrate stories. Love reading.

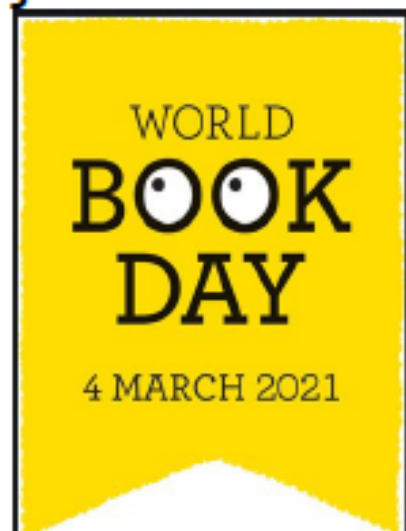
Adult and Community Learning
Family Learning Online



Join us for a free, family



World Book Day Workshop



Join us for fun family activities:

- Enjoy the story, including Makaton signs
- Learn about language and reading development
 - Activities linked to the story
- Learn about how parents play a vital role in helping their children develop

This course is suitable for parents who would like to learn ideas to use later, or for parents and children attending together.

Book a place: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/acl>—You can find it in 'Our Courses'

If you require any further information please email:

TanyaSpets@warwickshire.gov.uk





Adult and Community Learning Family Learning Online Join us for a free, family **Chatter Matters Week Workshop**

Friday 26th March 9:30-11:00



Join us for fun family activities:

- Enjoy the story, including Makaton signs
- Learn about language and communication development
- Activities linked to the story of The Three Little Pigs
- Learn about how parents play a vital role in helping their children develop

This course is suitable for parents of Early Years children, who would like to learn ideas to use later.

Book a place: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/acl>—You can find it in 'Our Courses'

If you require any further information please email:

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Sydenham Superstars

YR LS

Anna has been chosen as the YR LS superstar. Anna always comes in to school with a big smile on her face and gets involved with everything that happens in class. What a little ray of sunshine!

YR HC

The YR HC superstar is **Reagan** this week. Reagan has made amazing progress and always puts lots of effort into everything he does. Well done, Reagan. You're a Sydenham superstar!

Y1 EL

Mrs Lee has chosen **Alfie** to be her superstar this week for always putting 100% into his work. This week, pupils started to look at naming 2D and 3D shapes. At first, Alfie found it difficult to remember which shapes were 2D and which shapes were 3D but he kept going and he never gave up. Mrs Lee is really proud of Alfie's positive attitude towards his learning and how this has helped him make wonderful progress. Keep up the fantastic work Alfie!

Y1 CD

This week, **Tanveer** is the Y1 CD superstar for writing a fantastic animal story completely independently. The grown-ups were super impressed with Tanveer's writing stamina and how quietly she sat and worked on her story. Tanveer remembered all the writing success criteria and made sure her capital letters and full stops were accurate. She also used the unicorn Learning Character to make her story imaginative. Keep up the fantastic writing Tanveer!

Y2 RK

Miss Knight's superstar this week is **Tobias** for using his cooperative Learning Character with a classmate and for his unwavering commitment to finding the very best word to express every idea that he has. Tobias collects new words like the treasures they are and reads voraciously. What a star!

Y2 CP

Inana is the Y2 CP superstar. She has worked continuously hard throughout remote learning; attends all the sessions and is eager to improve. This week, she has used her Learning Characters to improve her writing which was a setting description, and she also was very creative and made a Lighthouse and a globe.

Y3 JL

Well done to **Kasia**—Y3 JL superstar! Kasia has persevered and worked really hard at home this week. It's been great to receive lots of pictures of her reading (she loves to share her favourite stories and books with her classmates.) Keep up the hard work Kasia and that love for reading!

Sydenham Superstars

Y3 CR

Joshua has been chosen as Y3 CR superstar. Joshua makes valuable and interesting contributions to the year 3 online lessons. Mrs Christensen, Mrs Rastall and Mr Lee have all noticed the quality of his learning and his hard working attitude. It's been really pleasing to see Joshua successfully using the skills he has learnt online in his home learning. What a star!

Y4 SM

Mrs Madahar would like to nominate **Lucas** as the 4SM class Superstar this week. He has been working extremely hard in every lesson and showing a growth mindset when faced with challenging questions. Keep up the great work Lucas!

Y4 AH

Dylan has been nominated as the 4AH class Superstar this week. He has completed all his home learning activities since the first week of lockdown and has impressed adults with the time and effort he put into his leaflet in Topic lessons. He included many tips on how to keep your teeth clean and included illustrations, well done Dylan!



Y5 CB

Neha is the Y5 CB superstar for her fantastic sewing and singing. Neha has been practising stitching and learning about Carnatic music. She sent a fabulous video this week showcasing her talents and it really impressed Miss Ball, Miss Glenny and Mrs Murphy.



Y5 JE

Japjeevan is Miss Ellershaw's superstar this week. At home, she created a fantastic Powerpoint about the farmer's protests in India and presented it with great confidence to the class the following morning. She has also done a great job this week engaging with her new topic, "Beast Creator." You're a superstar every day, Japjeevan. Well done!

Y6 JvS

Mrs Van der Sterren's superstar this week is **Teo** for his amazing algebra. Teo has worked really hard on substitution and finding and using a rule. He has enjoyed his learning and is, quite rightly, proud of how well he's done. Keep it up, Teo!

Y6 KG

Miss Gillespie would like to nominate **Isabelle** as super star this week. She has really worked hard to get into a positive rhythm with her online learning. Miss Gillespie is so impressed by the diligent way she has created her own schedule to ensure all tasks on the timetable have been completed. She has been getting up early to manage her time and has felt very proud with her positive attitude.