

Y1 On Safari



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

Y1 On Safari



On Monday, Year One visited West Midlands Safari Park as part of their topic, "Paws and Claws and Whiskers." The children saw lots of different animals and especially loved the penguins, lemurs and parakeets.



The children visited the bat cave and then watched a sea lion show. On their way around the park they also met some ferocious dinosaurs but, luckily, escaped unharmed!

Y1 On Safari



Y3 Skeletons



Year Three have been learning about the bones which make up the human body. This week, they collected materials in the Forest School area to make their own model skeletons. We think they did a really good job!



EAL Quality Mark

Last week, we were visited by Graham Smith from The EAL (English as an Additional Language) Academy. He was here to assess our educational provision for pupils, especially those who are bilingual or multi-lingual. We're thrilled to report that Graham loved our school and described it as "inspirational." Please read his blog post (below) about our school:

The best place to start explaining what is so special about Sydenham is the front door. Walk through it and behind the desk is a UK born Panjabi speaker who welcomes everyone and talks in Panjabi to the 25% of parents whose home language it is. You walk out of the front office into the hall. Immediately on your left is writing by pupils in Panjabi and Hungarian. The tone is set. This is a multilingual school that is very proud of its diversity. The celebration of what its pupils can do is ubiquitous.

Sydenham is a school designed to promote empathy and to place talk at the heart of learning.



A parent told me that she was "amazed by the kindness and thoughtfulness of the children." A Russian boy is looking after a Ukrainian new arrival because that is the Sydenham culture. The picture (left) is of a book made by two very grateful Polish parents and shown to me by a long serving governor who emphasised the school's capacity to thrive in a context of constant demographic change.

In every classroom I saw pupils having purposeful conversations in small groups or pairs, both as a key part of the learning process and in preparation for writing. They have been taught to use talk effectively for learning. Vocabulary development is explicit in displays and teaching. It is implicit in structured classroom talk activities and the always considerate social interactions you see around the school.

Do visit this school, if you can. The supportive local Warwickshire Ethnic Minority & Traveller Achievement Service rightly recommends it as an example of outstanding practice. Sydenham is the second school to seek Gold EAL Quality Mark reaccreditation successfully and one of the happiest schools I have ever seen.

The last words need to go to parents and pupils: the Turkish parents who are delighted that their young daughter can now correct their English (which was pretty good in the first place) and the pupils who told me that their school is a place where "you always find friends" and "teachers want to hear your opinion."



Convention on the Rights of the Child

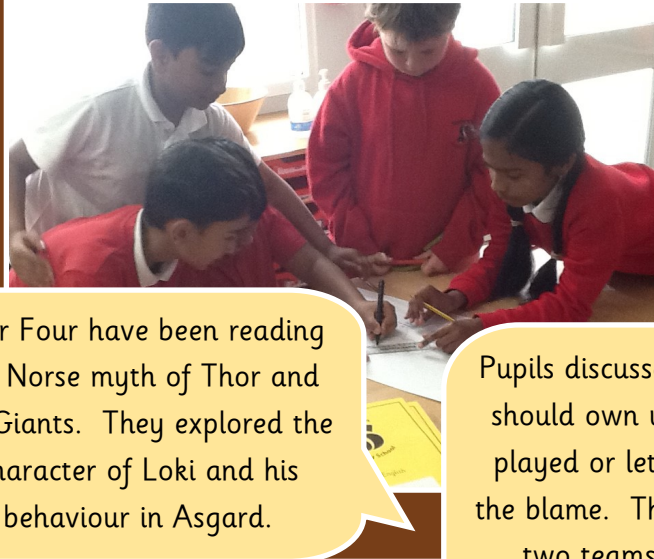
Article 30: Children from Minority Groups



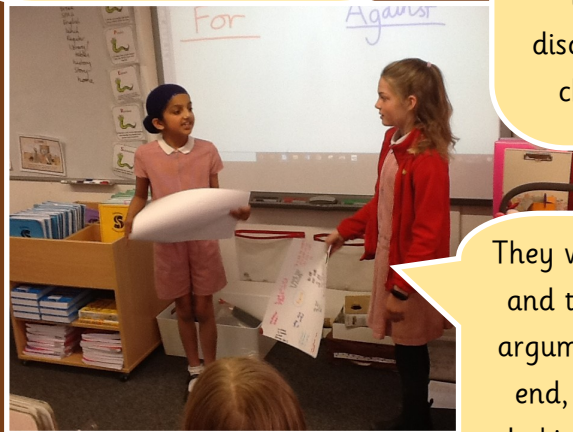
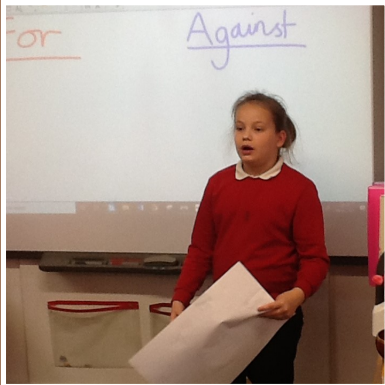
Y4 Norse Myths



Year Four have been reading the Norse myth of Thor and the Giants. They explored the character of Loki and his behaviour in Asgard.



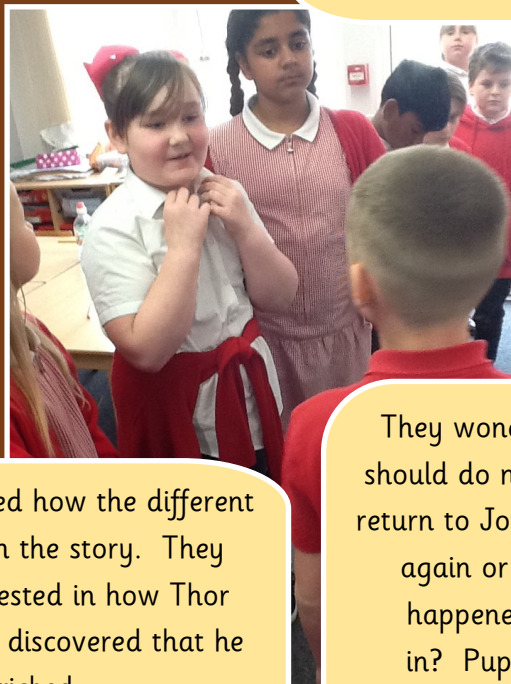
Pupils discussed whether Loki should own up to a trick he played or let a human take the blame. They divided into two teams and fiercely discussed the reasons for the choice they would make.



They went on to debate the issue and there were very persuasive arguments on both sides. In the end, the children decided that Loki should not tell the truth!



The children also explored how the different characters felt through the story. They were particularly interested in how Thor felt at the end when he discovered that he had been tricked.



They wondered what he should do next. Should he return to Jotunheim and try again or accept what happened and move in? Pupils created a conscience alley to help him decide.

Ukraine

We know you are in this cruel, tough time but you are not forgotten.

Our nation's hands are open wide to welcome your families here.

Our hearts and souls lie with you.

The brave, courageous men and women who stayed behind truly are inspirational heroes.

We will continue reaching out to support you all.

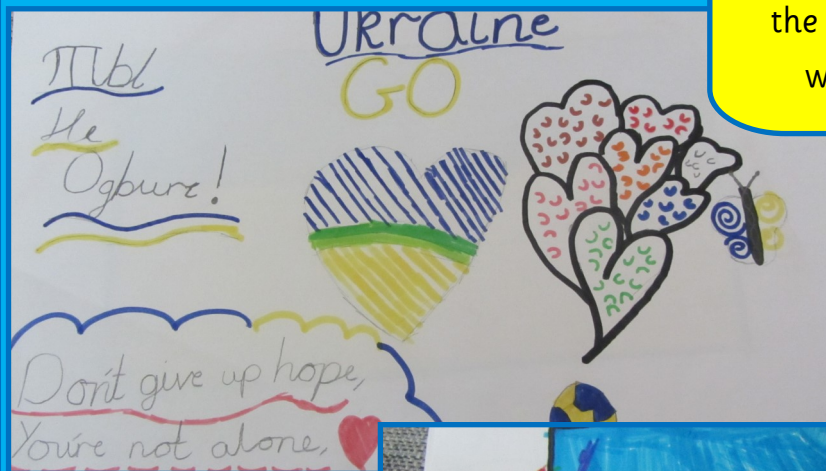
Your home and your belongings may be gone but the memories will live on.

We all have the right to life.

By Tayyaba (Year Four)

Tayyaba has shared her personal thoughts about the war in Ukraine by writing this poem

Other children have chosen to share their perspective on the conflict by making posters.



Warwickshire Junior Book Award 2022

A group of our Year 5 and 6 pupils are taking part in the Warwickshire Junior Book Awards this term. They have four amazing new publications to read before July before attending the final award ceremony where the children will be able to meet the short-listed authors.



The books are all a really good read! They are aimed at Years 5 and 6 and have been chosen to appeal to a range of readers and abilities. These are the books below if your child would be interested in reading them too: *The Chime Seekers* by Ross Montgomery; *Twitch* by M G Leonard; *The Valley of Lost Secrets* by Lesley Parr; *Children of the Quicksands* by Efua Traore.

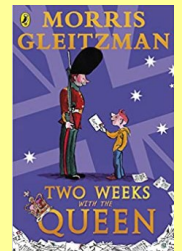
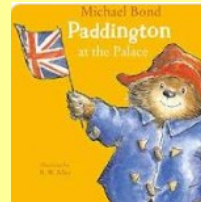


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Platinum Jubilee Royal Reading Challenge

This week, your child should have brought home a reading challenge template. The template will mark out the next few weeks of term (including the half term) and will have 6 plain royal crowns for each week. For every day that your child reads at home, they can colour in one of the crowns. **Every child who has completed their template and returned it by Friday 10th June will receive a special reading certificate, and three children's entries will be picked at random to receive a royal-themed story!**



Reading Skills



I just had to stop to take a picture of Matei reading with Mrs Padden this week! Matei was so engrossed in his book, and it was wonderful to see him using the reading strategies that he has been learning in class!

Well done, Matei!

Happy reading, everyone! Miss Challand



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2022

On Wednesday 25th May

We will be celebrating the Queen's
Platinum Jubilee.

Pupils will enjoy a day of fun and
creative activities followed by a
celebratory picnic on the field.

**In honour of the occasion, your
child may come to school
dressed either in red, white
and blue or royal purple.**



*hate waste?
save money | raise money!*

PRE-LOVED Uniform

SALE

20th May 2:15-3pm in the school carpark

50p per item or pay-what-you-feel (cash only)

All proceeds to our Outdoor Improvement Fund!



If you are unable to attend but would like to receive some second hand uniform, please email sydenhamPTA@welearn365.com

PTA SUMMER FAIR



Friday 1st July
3-5pm



Volunteers Needed!

Please can you help us on the day with tasks such as:

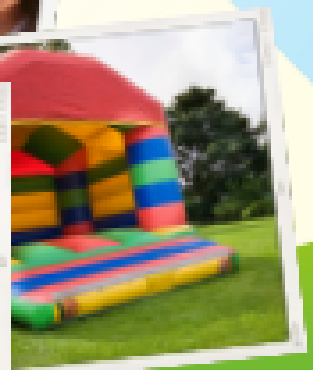
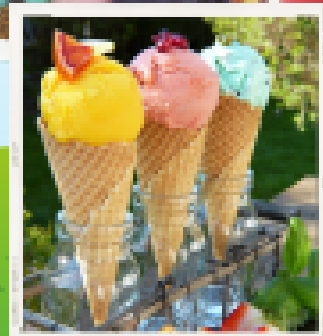
- **Setting up for the event**
- **Serving refreshments**
- **Assisting with stalls and games**

If you are available to help, please click the link in the email sent last week or speak to a member of our office staff.

Donations

Any donations of the following items (in good, clean condition) will be gratefully received:

- **Teddies**
- **Toys**
- **Books**





Walk to School Week!

We will be taking part in **Walk to School Week**
from **Monday 16th May to Friday 20th May**.

Walking is fun, sociable, healthy and, by helping to reduce the number of cars on the road, it's also good for the environment. With all of these benefits, we would be thrilled if as many families as possible could travel to school by foot during **Walk to School week**.

If you usually drive to school, why not try parking a few streets away so that you are increasing the distance you would normally walk?

Throughout the week, classes will work together to make as many active journeys as possible. They'll track their progress each day on the classroom wallchart, unlocking new levels and knowledge as they go. Every pupil who takes part will also receive a certificate!



Diary Dates

Monday 16th May	Walk to School Week. History Week.
Tuesday 17th May	Alex Bellos, author, delivering KS2 assembly.
Tuesday 17th May	Y3 visit to The Cotswold Wildlife Park.
Wednesday 18th –19th May	Y6 residential to Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge Gorge.
Monday 23rd May	Y1 visit to Leamington Art Gallery
Monday 23rd May	Class photographs.
Tuesday 24th May	Y1 visit to Cotswold Farm Park
Wednesday 25th May	Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration in school. Come to school dressed in red/white/blue or royal purple.
Thursday 26th May	YR visit to Leamington Art Gallery
Friday 27th May	MUFTI (non-uniform) Day. Bring 50p if your child wears their own choice of clothes.
Monday 30th May—Friday 3rd June, school closed for Whitsun half-term holiday.	
School closed on Monday 6th June—INSET Day (report writing.)	
Tuesday 7th June	Y1/2 Sport's Day, 10.00—11.30am
Friday 10th June	Soccer Aid
Wednesday 8th June	Y3/4 Sport's Day, 10.00—11.30am.
Friday 10th June	YR Sport's Day, 10.00—11.30am
Friday 10th June	Y5/6 Sport's Day, 1.30—3.00pm
Tuesday 21st June	Artist working with Reception—Take One Picture project.
Wednesday 29th June	Artist working with Year One—Take One Picture project.
Friday 1st July	PTA Summer Fayre, 3.00—5.00pm
Thursday 14th July	Y6 JvS Leaver's Assembly
Friday 15th July	Y6 KG Leaver's Assembly
Break up for the Summer Holiday Thursday 21st July.	



Sydenham Superstars



Reception and Key Stage One



Years 3 & 4



Sydenham Superstars



A Special Well Done

Well done to our Year Six pupils who completed their SAT's this week. All the children worked incredibly hard and persevered to the end. We're very proud of you all.

Enjoy a sunny weekend.

Best wishes from Miss Glenny

(Associate Headteacher)