

## Headteacher message

I have been impressed this week by the mature attitude and approach our Year 6 demonstrated during SATS week. All children attended our breakfast mornings and used this time to squeeze in some additional revision of their own accord. Well done to you all!

### Merton Playgrounds

Merton has begun its playground upgrade programme, which will transform tired play spaces into engaging, educational, and themed playgrounds for everyone to enjoy.

Works are underway at Rowan Road Recreation playground in Mitcham.

Please ensure that children remain safe whilst works are underway. The playground is set to be ready for action during the summer ready for the summer holidays.

### Attendance Stars



Classes with the highest attendance this week:

KS1— Dahlia 97.6%

KS2— Orchid—98.3%

Whole School Attendance— 95.5%

Our whole school target is 96% - we're almost there! Let's keep this up!



### Dates for diary

Thursday 23rd May

Jasmine class assembly

Monday 27th May—Friday 31st May

School Closed Half term

Monday 3rd June

School closed - Inset Day

Tuesday 4th June

School reopens for children

Year 2 trip to the Natural History Museum

Friday 21st June

Bond Carnival and International Food Fest

Week commencing Monday 8th July

Sports week

Week Commencing 15th July

Class End of Year Assemblies

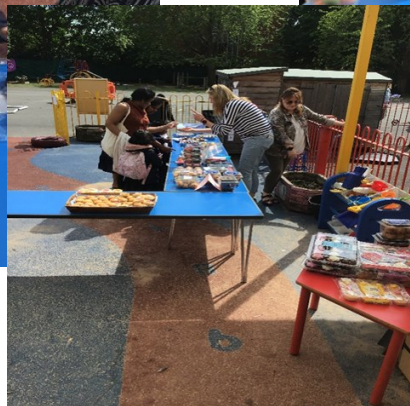
### Half term

School closes on Friday 24th May at 3:15pm. Your child must be collected promptly at this time. We will be monitoring attendance as we approach half term. Absences leading into the holiday and also those straight after the holiday, will not be authorised unless medical evidence is provided. We have been issuing penalty notices for term time leave as we really need to ensure that all children are at school during term time.

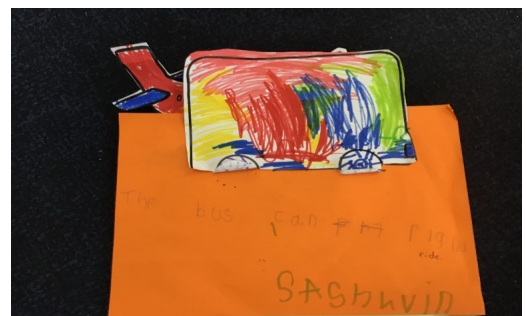


Our Reception and Nursery cake sell was a great success. There was a range of cakes for all to buy. Thank you staff, parents and children for all your support.

There will be a cake sell on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May after school.

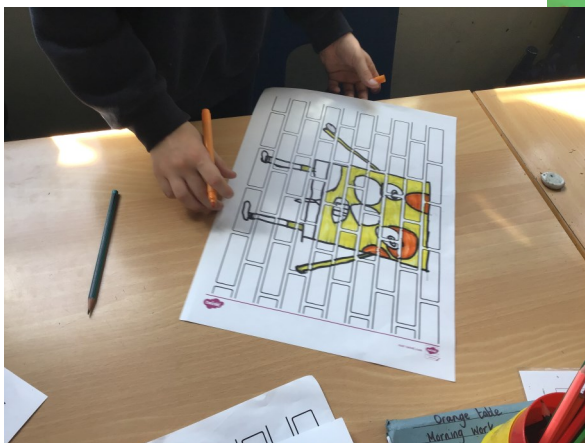


The children have had the opportunity to choose a picture and write about it. They are learning to write sentences using capital letters at the beginning of a sentence and a full stop at the end.



# Graffiti

In Year 3, we have been exploring the wonderful work of the mysterious artist Banksy. We had a go at using his stencil technique to create our initials and also created our own graffiti designs!



# MITCHAM MARKET DINNER CLUB

Saturday 25th May • 4pm to 8pm



‘The Dinner Club’ is a pilot street food market with  
live music in the heart of Mitcham Town Centre

Come and support small businesses!

[merton.gov.uk/events](http://merton.gov.uk/events)

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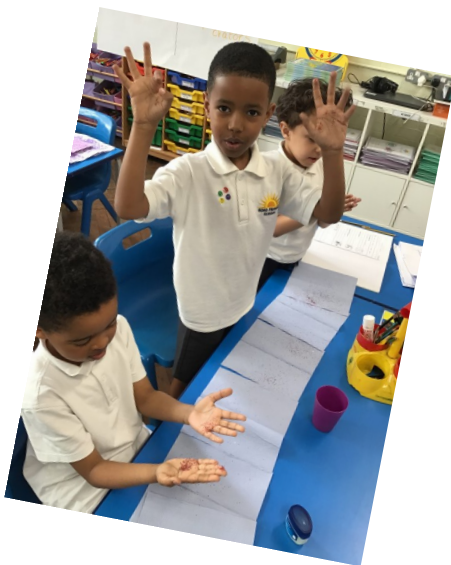
## Removing Germs Investigation!

In science this week, year 2 were discussing how we can be clean and hygienic. The children completed an investigation where they used glitter and pretended that the tiny pieces of glitter were... **germs!**

In groups, they had to **predict** which option would work best at removing ALL the glitter.

The three options were:

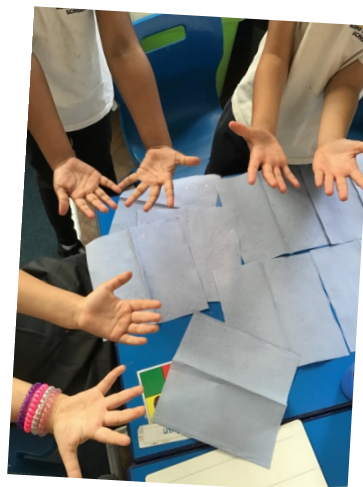
- One child used a paper towel
- One child used water only
- The last child used soap and water.



They spread the glitter across both hands!  
*The children got a bit messy but really enjoyed it!*



The class **concluded** that using *soap and water* worked best at removing ALL the glitter from their hands!



# We NEED cardboard



Dear Parents / Carers and Children

This year's carnival projects are based on D&T outcomes and we'll be needing lots of cardboard to make our end products, across the school.

We are seeking your help! Please start to bring any cardboard boxes to school. Flatten the boxes for ease of storage and carrying.

Please only send clean boxes to school (no cereal boxes, please as these will be too small and too flimsy to use).

Thanking you in advance for your continued support!



# Computing

If you've seen Beat the chasers or the 1% club, you're probably a keen game show fan.



In year 5, as part of our computing, we have been learning all about selection. This is a necessary code which is used to program blocks. Understanding that commands and selections has helped us to design our very own quizzes. We have learnt that the animation we see on tv is all controlled by carefully selected codes with outcomes. We tested each

other's quizzes and had fun answering questions and watching our answers give animated results.

Creating and completing games is a great way to laugh, relax and take care of our mental health. We celebrated Wear it Green day by designing games which bring joy to peers in other year groups and ourselves.



# Persuasive Writing

In Year 4, we have been learning about expressing our opinions through persuasive texts. We held debates on, 'Should school holidays be shortened.' As you can imagine the children had lots of opinions about this topic but had to skilfully use writing techniques and appropriate vocabulary to express their views.

## The big debate: should school holidays be shortened?

The government officials have stated that we should have shorter holidays, but I most certainly disagree. Of course everybody doesn't want their school holidays shortened, because of similar reasons to mine. We need to take our minds off things and relax, spend time with our relatives and enjoy the weather.

Firstly, after a vast amount of learning, working hard and finishing all the tasks at school we need to take our mind of things relax and calm ourselves down.

My main reason is you don't get to spend time with your relatives. Imagine after a tiring day of school and you're relatives are waiting for you but you're too tired that you go to your bedroom without even saying hello which is unfair.

My final reason is we need to enjoy the weather in the holidays because imagine if the weather is scorching and your just sweating trying to concentrate but you can't since the weather is too hot which is soo unfair.

To top it all of we need a long break to relax, spend time with our loved ones and enjoy the weather so remember to do all of that between the summer holidays

By AFFAN DAWOOD



## The big debate should school holidays be shorter: By Ashley

Government officials have said that our school holidays should be shorter, because of the gaps which Covid has caused. I disagree, because children and teachers need to rest, enjoy the weather and travel. My opinion is that we shouldn't shorten holidays, instead they have to make holidays longer.

My first reason is because of the weather in London. It is normally cloudy in London, so when the sun shines, it is a good chance to enjoy the weather and longer days.

Secondly, being with family. We don't spend much time together, so in the summer, we get time to spend more time with family and friends.

My last reason is that children and even teachers need rest from children.

After all I said and done, shorten summer holidays is actually a bad idea, because weather is now hot and normally it is cold. And I like to be with my family and friends, we need to relax, are brain and hand of all the hard work that we do to do are best.

By Malcolm

## The big debate: should school holiday be shortened?

Government Officials have stated that our school holidays should be shortened, but in my opinion school summer holidays shouldn't be shortened because learners and teachers haven't got any time with their family and they also can't stand the hot weather in the classrooms.

Firstly, summer holidays definitely shouldn't be shortened because you wouldn't have to wake up so early in the morning, which is a positive of having a holiday. What would be way worse is if you're tired, but you to have wake up in the morning. Better still, you can have a beautiful day out with your family.

Secondly, I think that school summer holidays should not be shortened because we need to relax our minds and also play with our siblings or cousins, especially when we are able to game with them. With shorter holidays we have less fun time.

And then thirdly, we might have problems at school or with someone. We just want to have a longer break to get away from those problems. If we have shorter holidays it could stress us out knowing that we have to so much work.

Briefly to summarise, shortening holidays will not improve anything. It will lower mental health and will cause depression. We really need longer breaks and relax ourselves and minds. What would you choose?



## The big debate: should school holiday be shortened?

Azeez

The educational experts have been arguing and stating that our school holidays should be shortened and cut off. In my opinion, I am absolute certain that school holidays shouldn't be shortened, because people need time to travel and also spend time with their families, we also need to rest and the school need to prepare for the coming term.

My first reason on this debate is that we all know that family time is a great time in everyone's life, and imagine having to work 195 days and the so called experts are still trying to cut the 30 days holidays you've got for your family and travel, it's not fair! I really disagree with that opinion and it's so annoying to staffs and students because they know what they have faced all year, and I don't blame the educational experts on this one, I think they don't know how it feels.

My secondary reason on this field is that clearly at every points in life you need to rest and recover properly after every hard work, and that is what everyone that has to do with educational system needs to get. We need to rest and recover for the coming term and keep our head straight.

Surely the government know it's the summer holiday where the schools need time for upgrades and changes, because that is the first priorities of every school when its summer holiday, the plan is change quite a few things for the coming class which is the freshers class, and they've got to do this for weeks if the holidays is cut short, how are they suppose to do this things perfectly? I don't think they are making the right decision, by saying that the holidays should be shortened.

To briefly paraphrase the topic, I think the idea of the summer holiday being shortened is never benefiting to the staff and student that wants to spend time with their families and travel, also having a resting period, and lastly we know the school is not gonna have time to prepare for the coming term. With these few points of mine, I hope and believe the summer holiday won't be shortened.