



**Somerdale Educate Together
Primary School**
'Learn Together to Live Together'
Newsletter (Term 1 Week 7)
September 2023

Value of the Month for

October:

Respect

INSET Day: Monday 30th October

Out of hours safeguarding procedures: <https://www.somerdaleet.org.uk/our-school/>

Dear Families,

During the month of October our Learn Together focus has been based around Article 2: Every child has rights without discrimination of any kind. We have celebrated Black History Month learning about inspirational figures from our local and international community.

Alice Baker

We would like to wish Alice the all the best on her maternity leave. We look forward to welcoming her back sometime in the near future. We look forward to meeting baby Baker!

Nut Free School

A gentle reminder that we are a nut free school and we have a number of children with serious nut allergies. With this in mind, could we politely ask that no products containing nuts are sent into school. If you have any questions in relation to this, please contact the Headteacher.

Calling all amazing writers at Somerdale!

The 500-word story writing competition which is now open for submissions and will run till Friday 10th November. This year, the two age categories will be **5-7 year-olds** and **8-11 year-olds**.

If your child has some free time over half term and would like to enter, here is the link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/about-500-words/zctk7v4>

Entering is entirely optional for Somerdale children. If you do enter, we would love to share and celebrate your stories in school. We will give a prize for our favourite story in EYFS/KS1 and KS2. Email your stories to info@somerdaleet.org.uk



Turtles (Pre-School)

Pre-school have had so much fun this month finding out about Black History Month. We have read lots of stories which have helped us to explore the things that make us unique. We have discussed the differences in our skin tone, hair and eye colour and the things that we feel make us beautiful. We also found out about Mae Jemison who was the first African-American woman to go to space! The children have loved exploring all things space and science since then and have even created their own rockets using different materials!



Wildcats (Reception)

We have had a fantastic first term of school and the adults are so extremely proud of how well the class have settled in. We are developing a real 'team spirit' and we LOVE the enthusiasm for learning!

This term we have focussed on the book 'The Gigantic Turnip' and we have created our own version, 'The Giant Broadbean' with the children helping with the word choices and drawing the illustrations. The children planted their own broad beans which we will harvest next year. Something to look forward to!! We even had a chance to play the violin this term – what busy Wildcats we have been!



Hedgehogs (Year 1)

A bit of a crazy week in Hedgehog Class due to me being off poorly! The children did so well and adapted fantastically to having lots of different adults and different routines. I was so glad to be back today and be able to join the children on their surprise treat of a trip to the cinema! After a class vote, the winning film and firm favourite was Luca. What a lovely way to end a busy, fun and rather tiring first term! A massive thank you to all the Hedgehog families for all your support during the first 7 weeks of Year One. Where did they go!?

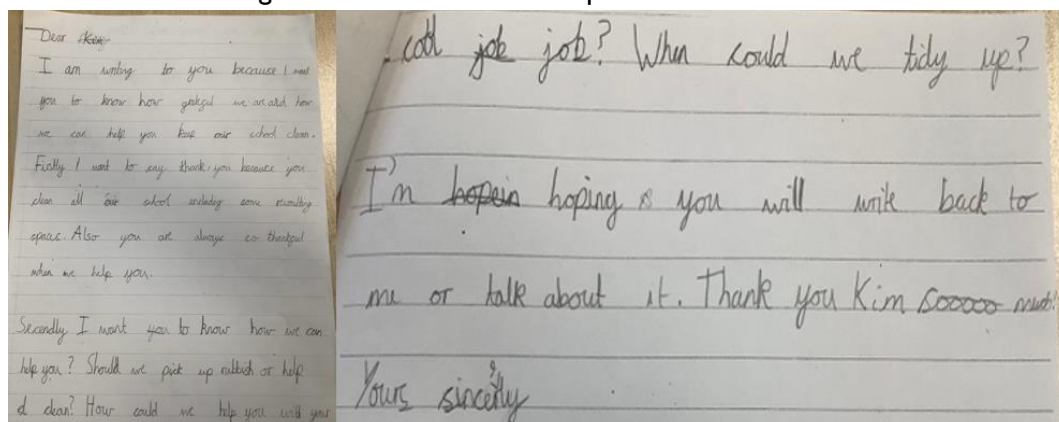
Bumblebees (Year 2)

On Friday 6th October, Year 2 attended a workshop entitled 'Speak up!' with Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola as part of Bath Children's Literature Festival. The children were able to hear all about their new books 'Clean up!', 'Speak up!' and 'Look up!'. The children also participated in a workshop where they learned how to draw a cat from one of the books.



Puffins (Year 3)

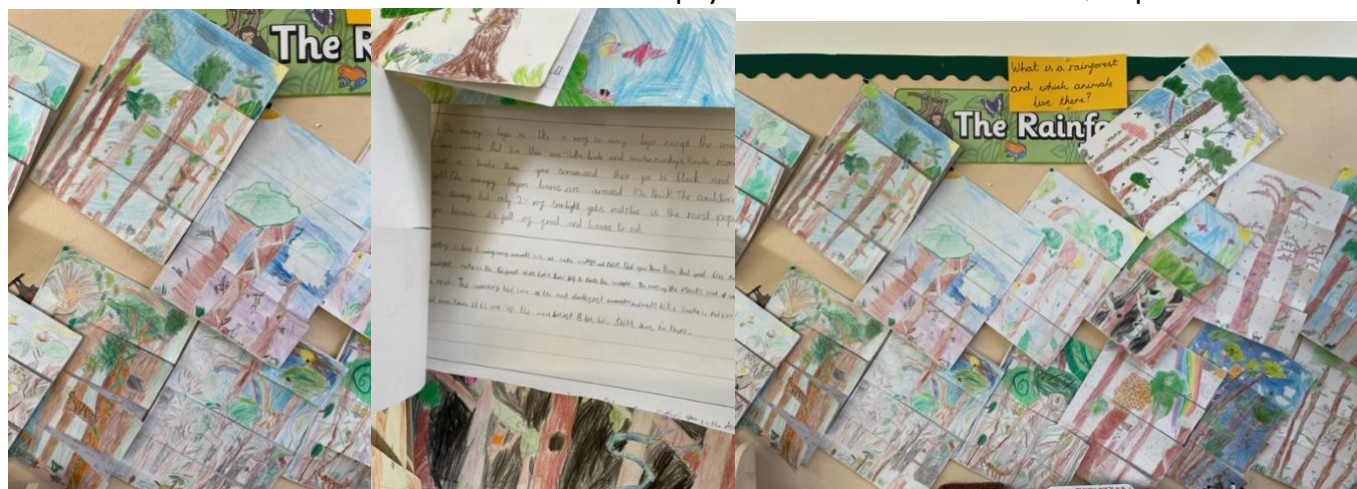
Puffin Class have had such a fantastic term. For the last couple of weeks, we have been focusing on letter writing in English. We used these skills in our Learn Together sessions, focussing on responsibility and our environment, to write letters to our cleaning team. Check out an example below.



We were so excited when Kim came in to chat with us and we are hoping to organise a recycling team in Term 2, where children collect the recycling from each class at the end of the day!

Elephants (Year 4)

Year 4 have been conducting their own research to find out about the different layers or the rainforest and what lives there. They worked in partners and used books and the internet to find facts and used their artistic skills to create wonderful rainforest art. The end result is a fantastic display in our classroom. Great work, Elephants!



Tigers (Year 5)

What a busy week it has been for Tiger Class. Not only have we given an amazing effort in a gymnastics competition we also gave an incredible assembly in the same day!



Thank you again to Preludes Group, Ian and Emma, for their help with music and to all families who could make it.

Leopards (Year 6)

On Wednesday 4th October, year 6 attended a workshop on Myth and Magic as part of the annual Bath Children's Literature Festival. Two authors Lizzie Huxley-Jones and Elle McNichol shared details about their books: Vivi Conway and the Sword of Legend and Like a Curse. Lizzie and Elle both explained how being autistic was challenging at school and then positively impacted their lives and their choices to become authors. The children were then able to ask questions and talk to the authors face to face which they found inspiring!



Food Bank

Anyone can find themselves at crisis point – please don't leave it until your cupboard is bare before you ask for help. If you feel you are struggling to put food on the table, then we can help you by supplying a food bank e-Voucher where appropriate, or you can speak to another referral agency. More information is available via the link below: <https://tinyurl.com/3xn5r6a5>

School tours for families who have children at Somerdale.

As part of our drive to increase opportunities for families to engage with school, we will be offering tours to existing parents for you to see how the school is progressing. There will also be the opportunity to meet with the Senior Leadership Team and to discuss the school's Development Plan. Members of the pupil voice team will be present to provide their perspective. The tours will focus on Years 1-6, as EYFS families have recently toured the school. Please click on the link below to book a tour on Thursday 2nd November or Tuesday 14th November. <https://forms.office.com/e/GLvMIaY6MV>

Coronation Pond News

We are delighted to announce that the Friends of Somerdale Educate Together were successful in their application for a grant from Bupa! Alongside the £500 FOSET kindly donated to the project, and the £88 from our fundraising event last year, it means we now a grand total of £2292 to fund the project.

We would like to commence the project early Term 2. If you are able to help with the project, as I know that some companies allow volunteering days, please let Sam know. Our first job will be to put a picket fence and gate up, followed by lots of digging for the pond!

Online Safety – Parental Controls

The online world gives us access to a huge amount of information and services, but the scale of information available also means that there is content that is inappropriate for children. Check out the NSPCC website for a great guide on how you can check your parental controls to keep your child safe from harm at home:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Outdoor Area – Help needed!

As we continue our work with the charity, Learning through Landscapes, we would like to ask our fantastic community to see if they can help us source some materials to improve play and learning outdoors. If you are able to help at all, please let Sam know via info@somerdaleet.org.uk.

Logs – We are looking for a variety of logs. We'd like some larger logs that can be used to add to our barked area circle for children to sit on, as well as some slightly shorter logs and log circles that children can use to move as they love to create bug houses and nature pies at lunchtimes. We would also love some hazel rods that can be used for den building.



Jenga – A request from some children is a giant Jenga! If you have one lurking in your shed that you never use, we will gladly put it to good use!



Loose Parts – The children would like more loose parts that they can use to play with. Suzi from LtL will be back later this year to lead staff training on how we can use loose parts and den building to promote play and learning.

Cable drums (good quality, and small enough that children can move)

Milk/food crates (good quality and sturdy that could hold a child's weight if stood on – not brittle or thin plastic)



YOU'RE INVITED TO

**FOSET
HALLOWEEN
PARTY**

WEDNESDAY 1st NOVEMBER

PRESCHOOL/RECEPTION 3.10PM TO 3.45PM

YEARS 1-3: 4.00PM TO 4.45PM

YEARS 4-6: 5.00PM TO 5.45PM

£3 PER TICKET

FREE OPTION WITH CODE: BOO

DISCO, CRAFTS FUN AND GAMES

FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL



Somerdale Educate Together
Primary School



SEND COFFEE MORNINGS

26.09.2023

22.11.2023

17.01.2024

06.03.2024

17.05.2024

21.06.2024

9am in the school hall

**Theme for each coffee morning will be announced
nearer the time.**



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



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

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

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM



Anxiety
Low Mood
Anger
Panic

Self-esteem
Body Image
Worries
Social Anxiety

We are a team of Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) from the NHS. We work with children and young people aged 5-18 years to provide early mental health support within schools for mild to moderate mental health difficulties.

We provide:

1 1:1 Sessions

Talk to us about your feelings in a safe space. You will work with us for 6-8 sessions

2 Groups

We provide a range of group work to assist young people who are facing similar difficulties



If you would like support from an EMHP, speak to your teacher or a member of the pastoral team.