



**Somerdale Educate Together
Primary School**
'Learn Together to Live Together'
Newsletter (Term 2 Week 7)
Friday 15th December 2023

Value of the Month for

December:

Peace

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

Dear Families,

On behalf of the staff and children of Somerdale Educate Together I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year. We would like to thank you for your continuing support and look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 2nd January 2024!

EYFS Christmas Performance

The children did a brilliant job in their performance of the nativity. Thank you to all of those who came to watch. I'm sure you'll agree that they all sang beautifully and looked fantastic in their outfits. We are certainly in the Christmassy mood now!



KS1 Christmas Performance – Nobody Wraps Like An Elf!



KS2 Christmas Performance – Songs by Candlelight

Last week our Key Stage 2 children and parents gathered for some festive songs by candlelight. Even though it was dark and wet, our spirits were high, and the children sang and played recorder beautifully! Thank you to Ian from Preludes for accompanying the children on guitar- we hope your amp recovered from the rain!



Carla and Jenna's World Famous Christmas Dinner

Our catering team produced another wonderful Christmas dinner for the children and staff!



Choir Performance

Key Stage 2 children who regularly attend Choir, with Ian and Emma, were lucky enough to perform to family and friends at St. George's last Wednesday. They even had the opportunity to sing alongside The Fitzhardinge Consort, a leading ensemble in choral music. Well done and thank you to all the children involved, they sang with great energy and enthusiasm. It was a truly fantastic day and left everyone feeling in the Christmas spirit. A huge thank you to Lisa and our parent helpers, we could not have gone without you.



St John's Christmas Tree Festival

Did you see our beautiful tree at St. John's church? Thank you to our creative children and everyone who contributed in any way.



Classroom News!

Turtles (Pre-School)

Pre-School have been learning about "Christmas Around the World" this week. We asked our families to share pictures and information about their traditions at Christmas and looked at how each family celebrates differently! We also discussed other celebrations throughout the year in other religions to help us understand that not everybody celebrates Christmas! We are finishing the week off with our pyjama party on Friday which we are all very excited for! Have a lovely holiday and see you all in the new year!

Wildcats (Reception)

Wildcats have been very creative this week. Exploring lots of different ways to express themselves through art and design. Here are just a few photographs of what they have been up to.



We are also so, so proud of the children's amazing attitude and hard work for our Christmas Concert. They have all been such achievasours, remembering the songs, actions, words and when to come on and off the stage! Well done everybody! And thank you parents/carers for your support with costumes and learning words at home.

We hope you have a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing you in Term 3 for lots more exciting learning!



Hedgehogs (Year 1) and Bumblebees (Year 2)



This term, Hedgehogs and Bumblebees put a lot of effort into their play 'Nobody Wraps Like An Elf!'. They practiced their lines and sang wonderfully. We're super proud of them!

Puffins (Year 3)

Over the past two weeks, Puffins have been working hard in English to create their own non-chronological reports on the Stone Age. They have really impressed me with their research skills on the computers to make detailed notes on life during the Stone Age, which they used to inform their English writing. Well done, Puffins! In science, we have enjoyed learning all about fossils, looking at some interesting fossil samples, including mammoth teeth!

I have really enjoyed our first term together and I'm looking forward to Term 3!

Elephants (Year 4)

The Elephants have been working hard over the past two weeks on their brochure creation in English. We are currently writing brochures advertising holidays to the Amazon Rainforest by combining all of our new knowledge from Geography and English. As a part of VIPERS, we are reading 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. This week we have been performing our own interpretations of Chapter 2.

All Elephants have been amazingly resilient and really demonstrated their growth mindset during assessment week last week so well done to you all and thank you for all your hard work throughout our first full term together!



Tigers (Year 5)

This term the Year 5 have been extending their printing skills. We have been observing Anglo-Saxon artefacts attempting to carefully sketch them, then improve our drawings each week. We then took our final sketches and etched them into printing blocks.

The results speak for themselves! Well done Tigers, amazing effort as always!



Leopards (Year 6)

On Tuesday, Year 6 had the experience of a lifetime! We boarded the coach at 7:30am and travelled to London. We arrived at Victoria Tower Gardens and walked first to Westminster Abbey then on to the statues of former prime ministers, passed the war office and onto Downing Street. There was a climate demonstration outside so the children saw protest in action! The children commented on the Women at War memorial as they noticed there were so few representations of women in Whitehall. As we were walking towards Big Ben, there was a massive thunder and lightning storm! When we arrived at the Parliamentary Education Centre, a little wet, we passed through airport-style security before our tour of the Palace of Westminster. We were able to sit in the public gallery of the House of Commons and watch the debate. Then the children took part in a debate, parliamentary style, to pass a bill. We all had an unforgettable experience which brought our Civil Rights enquiry topic to life!



BSF – Y5+6 Netball Competition

Once again Somerdale takes to the courts to show off our skills! Our Year 5 and 6s entered a competition this week against other schools as part of our ambition to begin a more permanent Somerdale Netball Team. We put on an excellent effort and all who took part had an amazing time.

A special thank you for the support from our Somerdale families in giving up their time to make this happen. Another thank you too for teachers Amber and Jo in helping organise on the day.



SET Football Team – Results

A huge well done to Years 4, 5 and 6 this term for all the effort and progress we've made as a team. Our squad have been regularly attending training sessions (whenever the weather permitted it) and the Y5/6s have played some excellent football in matches throughout the term.

In the end, we finished the current season with 2 well-played losses and 2 ambitious wins. A fantastic start for our school I'm sure you'll agree. This put us second in our table which is an incredible result! Well done to all, I am sure you'll join me in looking forward to seeing what happens next.

Thank you so much to our amazing SET football families too, who give up much of your time supporting transport, training and huge buckets of encouragement. A special mention to both football parents and coaches Rich and Phil – thank you for all your help.

-Jim

Sports at Somerdale Board – photograph request

Thank you to all those who have submitted their photos already – the board is already showcasing some of those achievements for Term 2. We are now building a collection ready for Term 3! If you have a photo of your child that you would like showcased on our Sports Board, check out the details below:

Do you have a sporting achievement outside of school? Do you regularly attend a club that involves lots of physical activity such as Cubs/Brownies? Then we would like to celebrate your children's physical literacy and active lifestyles by hosting their photos up on our school Sports Board. Simply submit a photo at: info@somerdaleet.org.uk (FAO: Sports Board Photos) to have a chance to be featured in the main hall of our school for all to see!

A message from Preludes Music Team

Over the Christmas period the Bristol Ensemble are putting on several Christmas concerts aimed at children and families, including Peter and the Wolf and Shaun the Sheep (film with live orchestra).

In case any of the children are interested they're offering 50% off ticket prices with the code NHSOFFER. It's a great opportunity to hear some live music and should be tonnes of fun!

Merry Christmas!

Emma and Ian 🎄



Reading volunteers

Calling all volunteers! If you, or a family member (such as grandparent) have a few hours to regularly spare each week and you would like to help us out then that would be really appreciated!

We would love some adults who can help with:

- listening to children read across year groups
- developing reading resource packs and our library

If you are interested then please fill in the online form via the link: <https://forms.gle/HcSTVaKetKyasohZ7>

Volunteers will need to have a DBS check completed for safeguarding reasons. Amy or Rachel in the office will organise this and there is no cost. Once you've indicated your interest, we will get back to you as soon as we can.

School Lunches

We will be changing the way children order their school lunches from Term 3. Families will be asked to pre-order lunch options via our online pupil information system, Arbor. There are several important reasons why this change is needed: Pre-ordering school lunches reduces the school's carbon footprint, we can accurately order quantities of food which reduces the amount of food waste, buy produce in bulk which in turn provides cost savings to the school and helps to reduce the possibility of price increases. There will be deadlines for ordering, Friday mornings at 9am for the following week. If you know that your child will be having the same lunches each week, you can pre-order for the whole term, weeks in advance. Home packed lunch option will also need to be added to your child's choices.

If you are experiencing any difficulties, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.



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.**

It's Christmas Time – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

It's Christmas Time!



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Skips

www.skipssafetynet.org

Developed in partnership with





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.

The Chocolate Quarter Block D

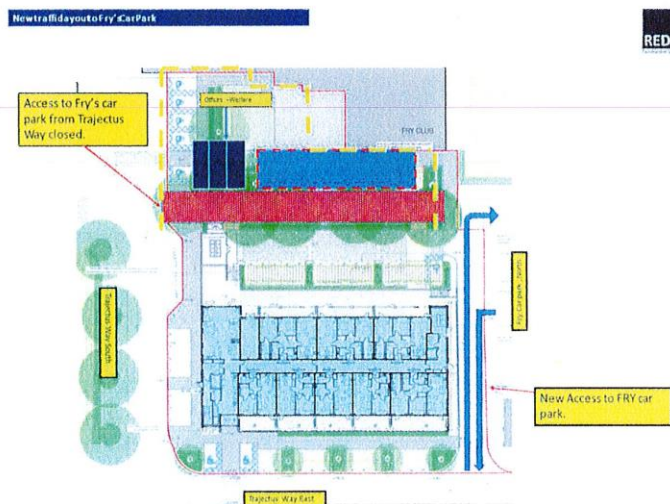


Dear Resident

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the planned works for the construction of the Chocolate Quarter Block D which is due to commence on the 4th December 2023.

The construction period is scheduled to last until Autumn 2025 and throughout this period RED Construction will do it's utmost to minimise disruption and inconvenience to local residents and community.

Prior to the main construction works (starting 13/11/23) we will be carrying out some changes to the surrounding roads and installing our welfare and office facilities which will be positioned in front of The Pavilion, this will mean the current access to the Fry Car Park will be closed for the duration of the contract, an alternative access will be opened adjacent to Trajectus Way East with new parking restriction and cameras to be installed.



If you require any further information regarding any of the future works please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the RED team.

Kind Regards,

Richard Witcombe

Project Manager – Red Construction Ltd

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