



**Somerdale Educate Together
Primary School**
'Learn Together to Live Together'
Newsletter (Term 4 Week 1)
Friday 23rd February 2024

Value of the Month for
February
Kindness

Dear Families,

What a term we have planned for you! It is jam packed with so many events that I wanted to get a newsletter out to you in the first week in order to give you advance notice. Please refer to the overview below to see the whole school events and associated 'rights' that we are learning about. As we move into March our value of the month will be 'Justice'. Class newsletters will be published on the class Google drives today. As always, please contact the school should you wish to discuss anything in relation to your child's education.

Term 4 Overview

| Week Beginning | Week | Rights Focus | Global Goal Link | Event(s) |
|------------------|------|---|---|---|
| 19/02 | 1 | Article 2 – No child should be treated unfairly on any basis. |  | LGBT+ History Month |
| 26/02 | 2 | Class Choice |  | Year 1 – Phonics Assessment Meeting (29.02.24) (8.50 - 9.10am) Year 4 – Multiplication Times Table Check Assessment Meeting (01.03.24) (8.50 – 9:20am) FOSET Table Top Event (02.03.24) |
| 04/03 | 3 | Article 2 – No child should be treated unfairly on any basis. Article 13 – You have the right to find things out and share what you think. |  | International Women's Day (06.04.24) SEND Coffee Morning (06.04.24) World Book Day (07.04.24) |
| 11/03 | 4 | Article 29 - Children's education should help them fully develop their personalities, talents, and abilities. It should teach them to understand their own rights, and to respect other people's rights, cultures, and differences. |  | Neurodiversity Week FoSET St Patrick's Day Theme Quiz Comic Relief (15.04.24) |
| 18/03 | 5 | Article – Class Choice | | Science Week (moved to Term 5) |
| 25/03 | 6 | Article – Class Choice | | Year 4 Trip to The Roman Baths (26.03.24) FoSET Easter Disco (27.03.24) Year 6 Life Skills Trip am only (25.03.24) |
| HALF TERM | | | | |

Attendance

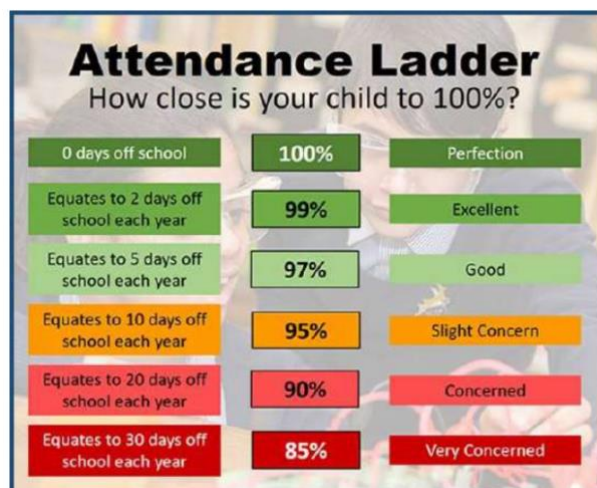
Attendance in schools has been in the headlines a great deal recently as there are worrying trends across the country of children not being in school when they should be. Somerdale is no different, and our aim is for children to be in school at least **95%** of the time. Our attendance has taken a significant dip over the past two terms. There are many valid reasons for absences, but also a significant increase in children being taken out of school during term time for holidays. We do know that you have a dilemma when it comes to child sickness- do you send them in when you know they are poorly or do you keep them at home. There is no easy answer to this, however we would encourage you to send children in to school if they have a mild illness such as a cough or a cold, or if they are feeling a little under the weather but with no specific symptoms, as we can always ring you if we see symptoms getting worse. Other things are clearer, such as if they have a temperature above 38 degrees or have vomited, when they should remain at home. Further guidance is available on the NHS website about other common childhood conditions: [NHS Guidance](#)

We do not give out '100% Attendance' certificates, which were used in the past by schools to celebrate this, as it was recognised that many children may not have 100% attendance and this is in no way their fault, but we do track the percentage per class. For your reference I have included the attendance statistics for each class below:

Class Attendance: September – February

| Class | Attendance |
|------------|------------|
| Pre-School | 92.9% |
| Reception | 93.39% |
| Year 1 | 93.48% |
| Year 2 | 96.12% |
| Year 3 | 95.45% |
| Year 4 | 96.96% |
| Year 5 | 95.62% |
| Year 6 | 91.97% |

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Whole School Attendance | 94.6% |
| National Average | 94.3% |



Holidays are not permitted within term time, so please try to organise these accordingly. The dates up until 2026 will be on the website within the next few weeks, allowing you to plan ahead. Fixed penalties are used, with fines of £60 per child, per adult used for the calculation (the adult can include the partner of the mother/ father the child lives with, as well as the birth parents). [B&NES – Unauthorised Absence information](#)

Road Safety

We have had reports of cars driving too fast around the school site during the start and end of the school day. Please can you ensure that you adhere to the correct speed limits and park safely. The Listening Team will be writing to the community about this subject in the next couple of weeks.

Curriculum

Term 4 Enquiry Questions

| | |
|------------|--|
| Pre-School | I wonder how plants and animals grow? |
| Reception | I wonder how vegetables grow! |
| Year 1 | How can you stay famous for more than 5 minutes? |
| Year 2 | How can we work together to keep ourselves and our planet safe? |
| Year 3 | Is standing up for what we believe in always hard? |
| Year 4 | What was life like in Ancient Rome? |
| Year 5 | Who were the Mayans? |
| Year 6 | Which society of the past has had the biggest impact on modern British life? |

World Book Day

We are thrilled to announce our upcoming celebration of World Book Day on Thursday, March 7th! This day offers a fantastic opportunity for children to dive into the wonders of reading and express their creativity through the exploration of books. Here's what we have planned for this special occasion.

Book swap: We invite each child to bring in a book they no longer read or wish to donate. On World Book Day afternoon, we'll host a book sale, allowing children to "buy" books donated by others.

Dressing up: Children can dress up as their favourite book characters.

Masked readers: Throughout the week, staff members will disguise themselves and read their favourite books. Children will watch the videos and guess the identity of the masked readers.

Reading Buddies: We're introducing "reading buddies," where children partner with peers from different classes to share and enjoy books together.

Neurodiversity week – 18th- 24th March 2024



Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. Together, let's change the narrative to understand, accept and celebrate neurodiversity!

Neurodiversity is based on the idea that everyone has a differently wired brain and their own unique way of thinking and experiencing the world.

Neurodiversity is about recognising and respecting that we don't all learn the same way.

Differences in the way our brains are wired means that you may struggle to do things that others find easy. Some of the different ways of thinking, learning, interacting and perceiving the world have been given labels, such as: ADHD, autism, dyslexia, dyspraxia and Tourette Syndrome.

Throughout the week, children will be completing various activities that link to Learn Together strands (including Equality and Justice and Moral and Spiritual).

For more information, visit <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/resource-hub>



Comic Relief

We are asking the children to dress in their best red clothes on Friday 15th March to raise awareness of the inspirational work funded by Comic Relief. Each class will take part in a Joke-Ha-Thon competition where children can perform their favourite jokes. The funniest entries will be published in the school newsletter.



Reading Records

To ensure that we can monitor and support children's reading, it is essential that reading records and books are brought to school every day.

Statutory Assessment Meetings

| Year Group | Date and Time of Meeting |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Year 1 – Phonics | 29.02.24 – (8.50 - 9.20am) |
| Year 4 – Multiplication Times Table Check | 01.03.24 - (8.50 – 9:20am) |

Messages

Head Lice

Please be vigilant regarding head lice and nits. The school nurse recommended reading the following article if you require advice: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>. You can also book an appointment with the school nurse via the school office.

Jim and the Bath Half marathon



Raising for:
Bristol Sport Foundation

In the last few years working at Somerdale Primary School, I am amazed at how fun, professional, and genuine the Bristol Sports Foundation team are at what they do. As a sign of appreciation for their work, I am running the Bath Half to help support this awesome charity and the work they do at our school.

If you are able and comfortably can, please consider donating to a charity half marathon that I am running on their behalf so that they can continue to do all the incredible work around our school alongside many others.

[Bristol Sport Foundation: Jim's page \(enthuse.com\)](#)

Many thanks for all your help.

Friends of Somerdale Educate Together

🧹 Are you feeling the urge to declutter and Spring clean after Christmas?

🧦 Did you get just one too many pairs of socks this Christmas? 😊

🌸 With Spring just around the corner, FoSET are organising a Spring Tabletop Sale, which will be 10:30 am - 12:30pm on Sat 2nd March in the School Hall.

☕🍰 It's a lovely opportunity to find a bargain, maybe a Mother's Day gift 🎁, and socialise over coffee and cake.

👕🧸📖 We need donations of good quality pre-loved clothes, toys, books and household items for the sale. Please bring donations to the school reception from the week commencing Monday 26th February.

And if you have a budding car boot style sales person in your family and would like to book your own table for £10 to sell your own unwanted items, please follow the link below. £8 if you bring your own table.

<http://friendsofsomerdale.wixsite.com/website/event-details/table-top-sale-mar-2024>

Unfortunately, we aren't able to include businesses at our Tabletop sale, but keep your eyes peeled for stall holder opportunities at our Summer fair!

Thank you for your continuing support.



FOSET INVITE YOU TO A

SPRING

TABLETOP SALE

SAT 2ND MARCH

10:30AM - 12:30PM

SCHOOL HALL

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

The poster features a light pink background with decorative floral borders. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold and regular fonts. There are two red tulip icons, one in the top left and one in the bottom right.

Are you feeling lucky?

GET YOUR TEAM TOGETHER FOR A ST. PATRICK'S DAY
THEMED NIGHT OF FUN, GAMES AND KARAOKE

QUIZZY-OKE



HOSTED BY
QUIZMASTER
MIKE

FAB
PRIZES
TO BE WON

Thursday, March 14th 2024 7pm
Somerdale Pavilion, *Bar Open Until 11pm*
(Quiz kicks off at 7:30pm and will finish
by 9:30pm; then Karaoke until close!)

Entry £15 Per Team (Max 6 per Team)

Get your tickets using this [link](#) or via the
QR code below



Friends of
Somerdale
Educate Together





SEND COFFEE MORNINGS

26.09.2023

14.11.2023

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.**

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<https://www.stikins.co.uk/name-labels/>

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.