



**Somerdale Educate Together
Primary School**
'Learn Together to Live Together'
Newsletter (Term 4 Week 3)
Friday 8th March 2024

Value of the Month for

March

Justice

Dear Families,

This week we have celebrated World Book and International Women's Day which linked with our Rights Respecting learning on Article 2 and 13.


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.

We have been reminded of the importance of community through FoSET's tabletop sale and the SEND coffee morning. Looking ahead to next week, I would remind you of FoSET's legendary St Patricks Day Themed Quiz night (see flyer at the foot of the newsletter) which will take place on Thursday 14th March.

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. Children to bring their jokes into school next Friday ready for the Joke-Ha-Thon.

*Why don't the circus lions eat the clowns?
Because they taste funny!*



World Book Day

World Book Day is a fantastic opportunity for children to dive into the wonders of reading and express their creativity through the exploration of books. During the day the children dressed up as their favourite characters, swapped books, read with their reading buddies, and attended a workshop with the author Mimi Thebo.



International Women's Day Friday 8th March

We have marked International Women's Day at Somerdale by having a whole school assembly on the theme of Inclusion for 2024. Some classes have created art inspired by women and inclusion which will be displayed in class windows. Here is Year 6's wonderful work and a beautiful flower made by Antoni and his mum for the teachers to mark this special day - thank you!



Curriculum

Turtles (Pre-School)

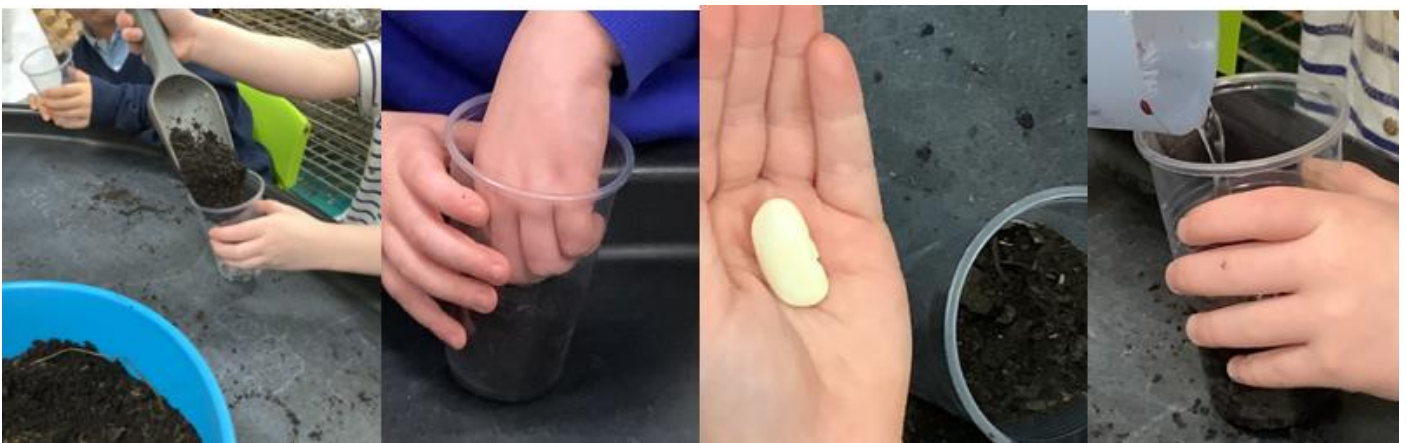
This week we have enjoyed exploring our enquiry question - "I wonder how animals and plants grow?". We have planted some broad beans which we are watching grow (just like in our Jack and the Beanstalk story) and in our outdoor learning session this week we planted some wildflower seeds in the Early Years garden, ready for the bees and butterflies in summer!



Wildcats

Our enquiry question this term is, 'I wonder how vegetables and plants grow?'

We have been exploring our focus book 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' We decided to grow our own beanstalks. To do this we discussed what we will need and how to sequence the process.



We can't wait to watch our beanstalks grow!

Bumblebees (Year 2)

This term, our focus has been on our enquiry question: "How can we work together to keep ourselves and our planet safe?" We've taken several actions to address this, including creating recycling posters and distributing them around

the school to raise awareness. Additionally, we've initiated a community effort by organising and sorting class recycling bins.



Puffins (Year 3)

For the first half of this term, we have been immersing ourselves in our focus book, Planet Omar – Accidental Trouble Magnet. I have been so impressed with the deep conversations we have had around prejudice, kindness, and acceptance. The children have re-written a chapter from a different character's point of view, and there has been some great empathy evident in the pieces of writing. I am looking forward to the start of our next focus book next week – The Silence Seeker! In Learn Together we are looking at how we can make a difference at school. The children have decided the class project will be on increasing the amount of comics in our library, and will be meeting Chris next week for his approval. We will then come up with a plan of action!

Elephants (Year 4)

This term our focus text is 'Malala's Magic Pencil' by Malala Yousafzai. Elephants have been exploring who Malala Yousafzai is and the work she does. We have been discussing our right to an education and the methods Malala used to fight for this. We have also begun to explore our Enquiry question, 'What was life like in Ancient Rome?' So far, the children have been exploring and retelling the tale of Romulus and Remus, the founding of Rome and the expansion of the Empire.

Tigers (Year 5)

This term, Year 5's enquiry topic is all around the Mayans and we have been conducting our own research into questions we wanted to ask about their culture and lifestyle. The Year 5's have been hard at work this week piecing together presentations on Google slides having now finished drafting up their research notes. As we are busy learning how to effectively present information in a presentation format, we will soon be ready to unveil our new mighty Mayan knowledge. Stay tuned to see how they come out!

Leopards (Year 6)

This term, the year 6's have been junior detectives using their skills of deduction to solve The Highrise Mystery by Sharna Jackson! They have been learning all kinds of complex new vocabulary around the genre of crime mystery, for example alibi, sleuth, hypothesis, corroborate, culprit and so on. The children are now planning their end of unit write using their own ideas for plot and character. Their detective skills are also being developed in our science unit this term on light where they are having to use scientific skills to solve another mystery.

Outdoor Update!

The team have been working hard on creating a play policy, in which children's rights are embedded to highlight the importance of play. We have also been using the feedback from the children via the Rights Respecting Ambassadors to decide on what to spend our £1000 grant on, subject to Learning through Landscapes agreeing on our choices!

This week, Suzi will lead another staff training session where we began to plan a celebration after Easter for families to celebrate the completion of our project with Learning through Landscapes. We hope to also have the school pond completed by then as well, so it will be a chance for families to see our pond!

With the outdoors in mind, we are requesting some help with the following:

-We would love any old tarpaulin, perhaps from decorating, or shower curtains you may have. This will help us to create a box of resources for den building.

- We'd also love to more delivery crates (of the sturdy kind that children can stand on)
- If you have any spare/old but still sturdy bits of decking, we'd be happy to take these off your hands as well!

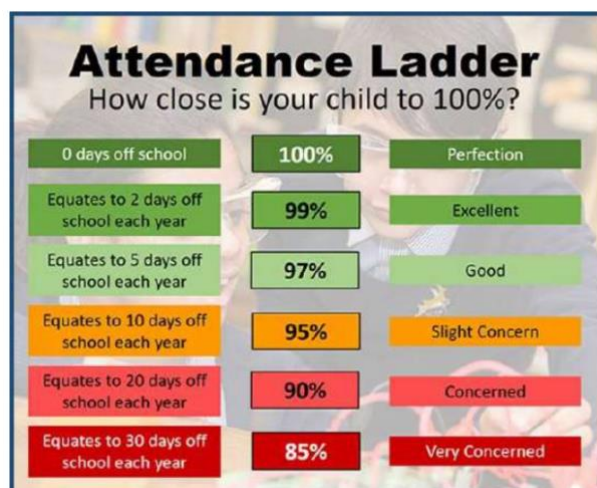


If you can help at all, please drop them off at the office for the attention of Sam.

Messages

Class Attendance: September – March 8th 2024

Class	Attendance
Pre-School	92.87%
Reception	93.83%
Year 1	93.17%
Year 2	96.2%
Year 3	95.45%
Year 4	96.86%
Year 5	95.46%
Year 6	92.24%
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.

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.



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 \(enthuse.com\)](#)

Future Events

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!

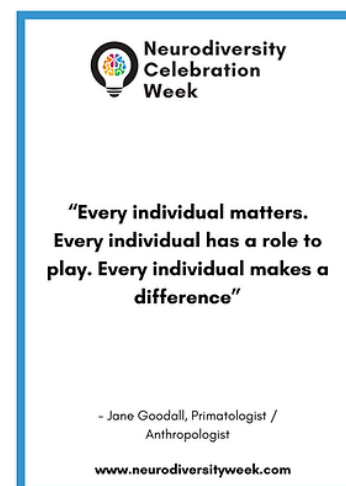
Neurodiversity is based on the idea that everyone has a differently wired brain and their own unique way of thinking and experiencing the world.

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>



Term 4 Overview

Week Beginning	Week	Rights Focus	Global Goal Link	Event(s)
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 (15.03.24)
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				

Friends of Somerdale Educate Together

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

BRING PLENTY OF
CHANGE TO TAKE PART
IN EXTRA GAMES (WE WILL
HAVE CARD FACILITIES TOO)

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Follow this link to order labels for school clothes and items. We receive 30 percent for the school from every sale. Our fundraising code is 36296.

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

FoSET is really happy to announce the return of our children's Easter party! With an Easter egg hunt, disco and crafts there's something for everyone 🐰

Tickets are £3 each, or free with code EASTER24 for those who need it:

<https://friendsofsomerdale.wixsite.com/website/event-details/easter-party-27-03-24>

We'd also love some volunteers to help us make the parties extra special! If you can lend a hand with setup, running or pack-down, please let your class rep know or speak to a member of the FoSET team 🙋

A colorful poster for the FoSET Easter Party. At the top left is the logo for 'Friends of Somerdale Educate Together'. The background is light blue with white clouds. A string of colorful Easter eggs hangs across the top. The text 'FOSET EASTER PARTY' is written in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, the date 'WEDNESDAY 27TH MARCH' is in red. The times for different age groups are listed in red: 'PRESCHOOL/ RECEPTION: 3:10PM - 3:45PM', 'YEARS 1-3: 4:00PM - 4:45PM', and 'YEARS 4-6: 5:00PM - 5:45PM'. The ticket price '£3 PER TICKET - BOOK HERE!' is in red, with 'HERE!' in blue. Below that, 'FREE OPTION WITH CODE: EASTER24' is in red. At the bottom, the activities 'DISCO 🐰 EGG HUNT 🐰 CRAFTS' are listed in blue. The bottom of the poster is decorated with colorful Easter eggs and flowers.





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.**

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.