



Somerdale Educate Together Primary School

'Learn Together to Live Together'

Newsletter (Term 6 Week 7)

Wednesday 22nd July 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of Our School Community,

As we come to the end of another vibrant and successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on all that we have achieved together. It has been a year filled with hard work, memorable moments, and continued success.

We were delighted to receive the **Gold School Games Award for the third consecutive year**—a fantastic achievement that reflects our commitment to promoting healthy, active lifestyles and providing sporting opportunities for every child. We also **survived an Ofsted inspection** which was a wonderful opportunity to showcase everything that makes our school such a special place. It was especially heartening to see such positive feedback from our families through the Ofsted Parent View questionnaire, with **96% of parents saying they would recommend Somerdale to another parent** and **97% saying that their child is happy at school**. These results mean a great deal to us and reflect the strong partnership we have built together. To top it all off, our academic outcomes have continued to improve for the **fifth consecutive year**, reflecting the dedication of our staff, the resilience of our pupils, and the unwavering support of our families.

This year also marked the **second successful year of the PINS Project**, which has continued to strengthen the partnership between school, home, and wider support services. Through the project, we have built even stronger relationships with families, ensuring that children receive joined-up support to help them thrive both academically and emotionally.

Our pupil voice groups and community consultation groups have continued to play an important role in shaping school life, ensuring that every child and parent has the opportunity to share their ideas and contribute to our ongoing development. We are also incredibly grateful to **FoSET**, whose tireless fundraising efforts have provided many valuable enrichment opportunities for our children throughout the year.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our **Local Governing Board**, whose commitment, guidance, and strategic oversight continue to play a vital role in the success of our school. I would also like to acknowledge the many colleagues across our Trust—including our teams in HR, Finance, Estates, and Facilities—whose expertise and support, often working behind the scenes, are essential to the smooth running of the school. Their dedication allows us to remain focused on what matters most: providing the very best education and opportunities for every child.

I wish you all a happy, safe, and restful summer break. Whether you are spending time with family, travelling, or simply enjoying a well-earned rest, I hope you have the opportunity to relax and recharge. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning, opportunity, and success.

Year 6 2025-26

To our exceptional Year 6 children,

As you prepare to take your next big step into secondary school, we want to say a heartfelt **thank you** and a huge **well done**. You have been fantastic role models throughout your time at our school, showing kindness, resilience, leadership, and a wonderful sense of fun.

Whether on the sports field, in the classroom, on stage, or helping younger pupils, every one of you has made a lasting impression and contributed something special to our school community. You have worked hard, supported one another, and created memories that will stay with us for years to come.

We are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved and of the confident, capable young people you have become. Although we will miss you dearly, we know you are more than ready for this exciting new chapter.

As you begin your journey into secondary school, take everything you have learned here with you. Believe in yourself, embrace new challenges, stay curious, and always choose kindness. There will be new opportunities, new friendships, and exciting adventures ahead, and we have no doubt that you will make the very most of them.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school. We wish you every success and happiness for the future. Remember, no matter where life takes you, you will always be a valued part of the **Somerdale** family.

Good luck, Year 6—we'll be cheering you on every step of the way!



Statutory Outcomes 2025-26

We are delighted to share that our statutory outcomes have shown consistent improvement for the fifth year running. The school is now performing above the national average in all statutory subjects; we are proud of this sustained progress and remain committed to building further on these results in the next academic year.

We know this is a team effort, so a heartfelt thank you goes to our incredible children for their hard work, our dedicated staff for their commitment, and our wider community for your continued support.

Statutory Year Group	Somerdale (SET)	Provisional National Average
Reception	90% Good Level of Development	72%*
Year 1 Phonics	92% scoring 31+ out of 40	82%*
Year 4 Multiplication Check	Average Point Score 23.8 out 25	21.6/25*
Year 4 Multiplication Check	53% of children scoring 25/25	44%*
Year 6 Reading	90% Expected Standard	75%*
Year 6 Reading	41% Greater Depth	30%*
Year 6 Mathematics	86% Expected Standard	75%*
Year 6 Mathematics	31% Greater Depth	27%*
Year 6 Writing	79% Expected Standard	73%*
Year 6 Writing	14% Greater Depth	13%*
Year 6 Grammar Punctuation & Spelling (GPS)	79% Expected Standard	74%*
Year 6 Grammar Punctuation & Spelling (GPS)	34% Greater Depth	30%*
Year 6 Combined Reading, Writing & Mathematics	76% Expected Standard	63%*
Science	90% Expected Standard	82%*

A Heartfelt Thank You and Farewell

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the following members of staff for their dedication, support, and commitment during their time with us.

- Sam Nowak (CEO) – Thank you for your leadership, vision, and unwavering support. Your contribution to our school community has been greatly appreciated, and we are grateful for everything you have done.
- Holly Davies (Year 4 Teacher) – Thank you for your hard work, care, and commitment to inspiring and supporting our Year 4 and 6 pupils.

- Jenna Harrington (Pre-School LSA) – Thank you for your kindness, dedication, and support for our youngest learners. Your care and encouragement have been invaluable.

We wish Sam, Holly, and Jenna every success and happiness in their new ventures. They will be greatly missed, and we thank them all for the positive difference they have made. Good luck for the future!

Rachel Renney (Local Governing Board) – We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Rachel for her dedicated service as a member of the Local Governing Board for **4.5 years**. During her time with us, she has undertaken a number of important roles, including **Vice Chair** and **Pupil Premium Governor**, providing invaluable support, challenge, and guidance to the school. We are extremely grateful for her commitment and the significant contribution she has made to our school community. We wish Rachel every success and happiness for the future.

Congratulations, Berna!

We would like to congratulate **Berna** as she begins her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best as she prepares to welcome her new arrival and hope she enjoys this very special time with her family. We look forward to welcoming her back in the future.

Term 6

Turtles

What a fantastic year the Turtles have had, it has been incredible to watch their learning, skills and autonomy blossom- I can't get over how the time has flown!

The Turtles have really been enjoying learning about life under the sea, particularly what we might find in rockpools. The children have been really inspired by hermit crabs; we've seen some super models and ingenious dens just suitable for hermit crab to move into. They've also enjoyed learning about sea anemones and just how different they are to us.

Our potatoes were a great success; the children delighted in digging them up and were proud to enjoy eating them as their snack later in the week. Their digging skills came in handy when, during an outbreak of piracy the Turtles found significant quantities of 'treasure' buried near preschool.

The Turtles have been on an incredible journey this year, they should be very proud of the success that they have all enjoyed. It's been a pleasure to get to know so many of the Turtles' families, your support has made this year such a rich and enjoyable experience for the children. Thank you to everyone who has come into speak or sing, who has prepared food for us to share or has talked to us about their jobs.

We wish you all a wonderful summer and every success for the rest of your learning journey.

Badgers

What a wonderful year it has been for our Reception children in Badgers class! They have shown such curiosity, enthusiasm and growing confidence in their learning, and it has been a joy to see them succeed in so many ways. This term, the children have been investigating animals through our texts *Splash!* and *Handa's Surprise*. They have enjoyed exploring different creatures, talking about their features and thinking carefully about where they live. We have looked at the continents around the world and learned about the

habitats of a wide range of animals. The children have been brilliant at discussing why animals live in particular places and how the environment helps them to survive. We have also spent time learning about endangered animals and how we can help protect them. The children have shown real interest in this topic and have shared thoughtful ideas about caring for animals and looking after our world. Their questions and conversations have been wonderful to hear, and they have impressed us with their growing awareness of the importance of protecting living things.

Badgers have been fantastic this year, and we are so proud of all they have achieved. They have worked hard, played kindly, and approached every challenge with a positive attitude. A huge thank you also goes to all of the parents and carers for your support throughout the year. Your encouragement has made such a difference. As we come to the end of the year, we wish everybody a fantastic transition to Year 1 and a wonderful summer ahead.

Otters

Otters have had a brilliant year – I can't believe how fast it has gone! Over the year, we have had so much fun together learning about old toys, the chocolate factory and our local environment. The children have amazed me with their incredible writing – their favourite text being 'Beegu' as she came to visit our school! In Maths, the children have shown great perseverance and thought carefully with topics such as place value, money and time. I have also been impressed with their confidence to share their thoughts and ask questions, making our Learn Together sessions particularly enjoyable. We loved taking part in the Christmas performance where Otters had the chance to show off their singing voices and we also had a great time on our environment project which we celebrated through our class assembly. We have had lots of fun with our Pom pom rewards such as a trip to the cinema, a teddy bears picnic and a disco too!

It has been wonderful to teach some of these children again and get to know others for the first time. They are kind, determined and full of laughter and I know that they are going to have a brilliant time with Jocelyn in Year 2 next year. I am so proud of them all for what they have achieved! I hope you all have a great Summer and look forward to saying hello in September!

Wildcats

What a fantastic way to end the year! We have had a wonderful and very creative Term 6, with the children showing great imagination and enthusiasm in everything they have done. In DT, they designed and created their own puppets, and it was fantastic to see their ideas come to life.

I have had a brilliant year with the Wildcats and have loved watching them grow in confidence, resilience and independence. I am so proud of everything they have achieved this year. Thank you for all of your support throughout the year. I am really going to miss the Wildcats and wish them all the very best as they move into Year 3!

Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs have been absolute superstars this year. We are particularly proud of their progress in writing, and how they have developed a quick recall of key number facts and times tables. They engaged so well in the learning of the Stone Age and produced some fantastic artwork, using charcoal to create cave drawings. They enjoyed their visit to Bristol Museum where we learned more about Ancient Egypt and they loved our Ancient Egypt Sleepover book, which inspired their writing too. They worked hard on making Egyptian collars, using their sewing skills and have recently made a range of moving puppets in DT!

They have explored light, magnets, rocks, fossils and plants in Science and even carried out Scientific experiments, which was fantastic! They have learnt about volcanoes, earthquakes, and key features of our coastline and now have an impressive bank of knowledge about this. Hedgehogs have participated brilliantly in Learn Together discussions, covering PSHE and R.E topics in a respectful manner. They were brilliant for our local beekeeper, who came in with his bees, and the children loved trying on his beekeeper suit! This linked beautifully with our Science and inspired some fantastic writing about protecting bees.

We have also had loads of fun pompom treats such as a class disco, scooter time and a board game afternoon. Sports Day was a hit, with children enjoying the range of activities, and this was their first year as an ensemble for the KS2 performance – they did so well! We are so proud of them all! Have a lovely Summer, Hedgehogs, and enjoy Year 4!

Bumblebees

What a year! Bumblebees have achieved so much this year and enjoyed exploring many exciting topics. Learning about the Romans was a firm favourite and our trip to the Roman Baths was a great experience. As a class of keen historians, they have also really enjoyed learning about WW2. They are so enthusiastic about their learning and we have been so impressed by the thoughtful questions and use of primary sources to reflect on the past and how people's lives differed from now.

We have also enjoyed some great books, like Kaspar: Prince of Cats and Varjak Paw (sensing a theme here). If you're looking for some reading material over the summer, the sequel The Outlaw: Varjak Paw will definitely be a hit. As writers, they have made so much progress and should be so proud of themselves. We can't wait to see what they continue to produce in Year 5.

We ended the year, during this gorgeous weather with a water fight! Great fun! We hope everyone has a fantastic summer.



Puffins

In Year 5, we have been staying the course and sticking as best we can with our usual timetable and schedule which means writing; and oh what amazing standards of writing we have! For our final write of the year, we have produced recounts of the fictional librarian Morris Lessmore who helps others overcome a terrible affliction through the power of stories and reading. The detail and skill with which Puffins have written these is wonderful. Well done Year 5 for keeping that strong effort up right until the very end.

VV Wednesday 15th July
L.O. To write individual plans.

Morris Lessor the librarian
seller Lessor,
Morris, who had grew up in New York, is ~~considered~~ a prize
~~very successful man~~. Morris' achievements are classified and ~~then~~
~~appreciated~~ by many people as American New York
Times Library.

Morris Lessor, before he discovered the sentimental stories
library, lived in a hotel. Morris had been very jubilant until
badly drunk on January 18th 1951. A immense, destructive
storm called hurricane Debra came and left everything Morris
had over blown in rubble. Morris needed to take shelter and
recover. Hurricane Debra, Wilbur's donor → had been classified as a
category five wind → level hurricane with
speeds going up to 155 mph. It destroyed ✓ police stations,
hospitals, monumental structures and more buildings in reach.
Before the disaster, Morris - repeatedly - had written stories
on his balcony. He - desired to be an author and become
one with his best-selling book Jack in the box. ✓
Morris, who was devastated by the hurricane, suffered from a

Wednesday 15th July 2016

In G.T.O. we studied chronic.

Moms Katpa Leesman was a very famous librarian in North Dakota. He was most famous for his great efforts at helping other poor people who were suffering from the gray depression in which he created his first songs. The library he worked at was named "The Red Mill Library".

Moms resided in South Dakota for ~~80~~ years from 1904 to 1984, although in 1971, a terrible hurricane hit South Dakota. Everything was destroyed and that included Moms' house. Because of their poverty, Moms didn't have money to live ~~in~~ anywhere else. I always enjoyed his time for books very much. His ^{"sons"} have also said after the storm, when everything was over, it felt as if it was a relief. Everything was gone, my book, my house, everything. Moms suffered from an affliction named "the gray depression" which took away people's colour and passion. Over the course of just a month after the storm over 5200 people caught the grey depression and people like all the people.

Wednesday 15th July:
h.o. to use embedded clauses.

Morris Lessmore the Librarian

Morris Gould Lessmore, often known as 'Morris', was 28 years old when he started looking after Memorial Chabot in North Dakota Parangton.

Morris, who was born on March 30th 1903, was most famous for helping people fight through the grey depression. //

In 1913, disaster struck when Morris was living peacefully at a hotel. A horrendous ^{hurricane} ~~terrible~~ had hit three towns Parangton, Edington and Platigton. Hurricane Trump was a catastrophe that ruined Morris' life. A catastrophe that happened suddenly. A catastrophe that destroyed the city. As an author, Morris had many great books the most famous being Jack in the box. //

After a week, the storm had finally gone but a lot of damage was done. The storm, that shocked everyone, took away people's happiness, well being and passion. Over 36,700 people had suffered from the grey depression. Morris had travelled round the North coast till he reached the library. //

At many days later, he had discovered Memorial Chabot

Wednesday 15th July
h.o. to use embedded clauses

Morris Lessmore the Librarian

Morris Lessmore Lessmore, who is known as 'the Man Who Destroyed Gray', was the main librarian for The Owl and Quill Library for 46 years. ^{the library} //

is found 2 miles south of New York. Morris lived in ^{a small hotel in} ~~the city~~ from 1923 to 1941. He was the world was hard to make money in, made his ^{money} ~~his~~ by writing and selling his own books. In September 1941, a terrible storm came to his home in New York, that was nicknamed 'Hurricane Doherty', caused the storm caused heavy ^{business} ~~business~~ damage. ^{here destroyed and it was very very damage} //

'Morris' became a victim of the infamous 'Gray Depression'.

The city suffered over 150 million ^{dollars} ~~pounds~~ worth of damage, with nearly all buildings in the area affected. The Gray Depression ^{impacted} ~~affected~~ almost everyone in New York. It ^{took} ~~took~~ away people's ^{whole} ~~whole~~ and made people feel dead inside.

Elephants

Year 6 have achieved so much this year that it is hard to know where to begin! Throughout every challenge and opportunity, they have approached everything with humour, kindness and determination, making me all incredibly proud.

Their achievements have been outstanding. They worked exceptionally hard in preparation for their SATs, and every child made fantastic individual progress through perseverance, commitment and a willingness to go the extra mile, whether by completing homework or attending extra support groups in their own time.

This year has been filled with memorable experiences that have prepared them for the next stage of their journey. They discussed real scenarios at Lifeskills, enjoyed an inspiring visit to the Bath Literature Festival to meet author Frank Cottrell-Boyce, discovered more about democracy at Bath Guildhall and the Houses of Parliament in London, and challenged themselves on an unforgettable four-night adventure at PGL, where they stretched their comfort zones and created lifelong memories.

Their incredible performance of Disney's *Aladdin* was a true highlight of the year, with every single child shining on stage through their confidence, humour and character. This final week has been a whirlwind of celebrations, including a graffiti workshop, picnic, water play and, to top it all off, a wonderful Leavers' Assembly that reflected just how much they have grown.

I am so proud of everything Year 6 have achieved and of the kind, resilient and remarkable young people they have become. I wish each and every one of them the very best of luck in their new adventures at secondary school. Somerdale will miss you all very much, but we know you will continue to shine wherever your journey takes you.



FOSET

Somerdale is in Waitrose tokens

FoSET is delighted to announce that we are in the Waitrose green tokens scheme for July-September. If you find yourself in Waitrose buying fancy olives please please please vote for us and let all your friends and family know so we can bring in as much money as possible for our school 🍷🍷🍷

OTHER





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OUR FUTURE.



Keynsham Life Saving Club is holding a free taster session on Sunday 20th September 2026, 2–4pm at Keynsham Leisure Centre.

KLSC members learn first aid, water safety and specialist rescue skills. They can work towards Royal Life Saving Society awards, take part in competitions, and for older children, lifesaving can even count towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award. It's a fun way to keep fit, make friends and gain essential life skills.

The taster session will give a flavour of a typical club afternoon, including basic first aid, casualty recognition, safe pool entries and rope-throw rescues.

Places are free but limited – visit <https://klsc.co.uk/>



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