

Term 1 Newsletter (Otter Class)

Dear families,

I hope you have had a lovely summer and the children are enjoying their first week in Year 2. I have been so impressed with how helpful, polite and kind they are and how well they have listened and got into routine over the last few days. I look forward to getting to know you all as families over the coming months.

This newsletter aims to provide you with an overview of the main learning planned for this term, alongside other useful information. As it is the start of the year, it is a bit of a long one! As always, if you have any questions, concerns or worries, do come and talk to me. I am available at the end of the school day, if it is quick, or please email me via info@somerdaleet.org.uk.

The Year Two team:

Jocelyn Gillard
Class Teacher

Beth Baker
(PPA) cover teacher

Helen Hesketh
LSA (Mornings)

Enquiry Questions this term:

I wonder how learning about different belief systems can help us respect and appreciate each other?

(Learn Together)

How can we keep ourselves healthy, and what do we need to survive?

(science)

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus in particular at these three rights:

Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

Article 14: You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

Article 24: You have the right to a clean and safe environment.

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website.

[Please click here to view the overview for this term. \(Y2\)](#)

Home Learning

Reading

It is our recommendation that children should be reading daily where possible. The expectation is that children read **a minimum of 4 times a week**.

Spelling

Spellings will be given out on Monday 7th September. These will be quizzed each Friday.

[Spelling Shed Home Use \(For weekly spellings including interactive games\)](#)

[Access Letter Join at home to practice letter formation and spelling. Available on desktop, laptop and tablet.](#)

Maths

Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly.

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1, the expectation is that children learn their addition and subtraction number facts to 10 at home. At school we use a programme called Numbersense. Follow the link below for the Numbersense overviews which also give you advice on games and activities you can do at home to support your children with what is currently being taught in class.

[Numbersense Home Learning Overviews \(Year 1, Year 2 & Year 3 Autumn Term\)](#)

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise number facts at home.
<https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.

[Year 1](#) [Year 2](#)

[Free Downloadable Workbooks for Year 1 – 6](#)

[Busy Things also has some good games which support addition and subtraction number facts.](#)

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[Year 1](#) [Year 2](#)

[Free Downloadable Workbooks for Year 1 – 6](#)

[Busy Things also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.](#)

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Class Page

You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

Reading Records

Please date and sign yellow reading record when your child reads at home. Children need to read 4 times get a golden ticket for a chance to win a book.

School Clothing Guidance

Please see the [page on our website](#) for more information on appropriate clothing for school.

Library Day

Our Library Day is on **Wednesdays**

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

PE Day

Our PE days are **Mondays and Thursdays.**

On these days, please ensure your child is wearing a loose-fitting top and shorts/jogging bottoms which allow them full movement of their bodies. Children should also wear suitable footwear such as trainers. Ear studs should be removed or covered with medical tape for health and safety purposes.

Class Assembly Date

Keep the date in your diary! Our class assembly for this academic year is on:

Year 2: Mon 22nd March 2026 – 2.40pm

Please read the whole school newsletters regularly as they include other important dates.

What does my child need to bring into school every day?

- Bookbag with reading record and reading book inside. (Bookbags are then put into children's drawers. If you need a replacement bookbag, contact the office for the price.)
- Filled Water Bottle
- For Year 3 - 6, a piece of fruit or vegetable

Healthy Snacks for Playtime

In the Early Years and Key Stage One, the children are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable via the Government scheme.

Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars.

For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.

For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a

- Library book on library days

healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.

Welcome to Year Two Parent Information Session

On Monday 22nd September at 9am (school hall), we will be running a short parent workshop to welcome you to Year Two and to familiarise yourselves with our routines and expectations. We hope to see you there.