

Term 6 Newsletter (Turtles)

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 6, I can't believe how quickly this year has flown past and what a lot of learning the Turtles have been doing!

This term will see the start of transition events for those children moving from pre-school to reception classes. Please do let us know how we can support you with this transition, I know that Becca has lots of events planned for those Turtles who will be moving to Somerdale's reception class. Many other schools offer these events and we would really encourage you and your child to attend and become familiar with their new school.

As the summer begins it's really important that the children have their sun hats and water bottles in school everyday. The Turtles are outside for long periods of time and our play area is quite a suntrap so please do apply sunscreen before school.

Enquiry Questions this term: Who lives in the oceans, in the land and in the sky?

This term we will be learning about some of the Earth's biomes, we will be exploring these through the texts *Whoever you are*, *Handa's Surprise* and *The Little Mermaid*. The Turtles will be talking about what plants and animals we might find around the world and some of the similarities and differences between the people who live in these places. In maths we will be working on shapes, shape and measurement, we will also be revisiting some learning on number. In Learn Together we will talk about how we can all make a difference in our world, using the starting point of no one is too small to make a difference.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus on the right:

- Article 12: children have the right to give their opinions freely on issues that affect them. Adults should listen and take children seriously.

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. \(PS\)](#)

Home Learning

Reading

We encourage any opportunity for reading either at home or in pre-school, it doesn't matter what you're reading but rather that it is a quality and enjoyable interaction between you and your child. The children will be visiting the library once a week and will have a free choice of which book they choose to withdraw.

Spelling

Whilst we will not be doing spellings in pre-school, promoting name recognition is a good skill to support children within their everyday experiences, such as finding their self-registration card.

Maths

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

Pre-School & Reception

[Click here to view our parent guide on how to support with mathematics.](#) This has lots of ideas on play-based activities to help your child with key mathematical skills.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise early 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.

[Early Years](#)

[Busy Things can be accessed from home with useful maths games and activities.](#)

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.

[Early Years](#)

[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.

Nature Area

We try and spend as much time as possible outside and will be visiting the nature area on Monday and Thursday afternoons. Children will need waterproof coats in school on these days.

School Clothing Guidance

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

Library Day

As a class we visit the library on a Friday afternoon, but for those children who are in earlier in the week we ensure that they have the opportunity for a brief visit each week.

PE Day

Our hall slots are on a Mondays and Thursdays, we use this time to develop our gross motor movement skills. It's helpful if children are wearing comfortable clothing and trainers on these days.

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

- A waterproof coat.
- Sun hat if required
- Filled Water Bottle-containing water.
- Spare changes of clothing: top, bottoms, underwear, socks, another pair of shoes.
- Nappies and wet wipes if needed.

Questions or concerns

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to Chelsea during drop off or pick up times, alternatively you can send an email to info@somerdaleet.org.uk.

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