



Somerdale Educate Together Primary School

'Learn Together to Live Together'

Newsletter (Term 1 Week 2)

17th September 2021

Dear Parents and Families,

Week two has certainly been a busy one and I have been pleased to see all our wonderful children settling into their new routines. There has been a real buzz around the school with children discussing and planning their enquiry questions. Friday marked the return of music lessons (and recorders) to our school! It has been lovely to welcome back Ian and Emma from Preludes.



Article 29: Children the right to a good quality education.

Thank You to Kate Aldworth - Chair of Governors

We would like to express our gratitude to Kate Aldworth who will be stepping down from her position as Parent Governor and Chair to become an Educate Together Trustee. Kate became a Parent Governor in May 2018 and Chair of Governors from June 2018. As Chair, Kate has built a cohesive team of governors, played an important role in driving school improvement, and supported the school through the growth and challenges of the last three years. Whilst no longer Chair of Governors, Kate will become our link Trustee, providing the bridge between the school and Trust Board. She will also be the Lead Trustee for Ethos and Values which underpin the Educate Together approach. Thank you again for your time, effort, and support Kate. We look forward to working with you as our link Trustee!

Kate says *"It has been an absolute privilege to have been part of the governing board thus far and I look forward to the challenge of leading on the ethos and values for the Trust"*

Parent Governor Opportunity

Information will be sent home on Monday 20th September regarding the vacant Parent Governor role at Somerdale. Closing date for nominations will be no later than 4pm on Friday 1st October 2021.

Article 3: When adults make decisions, they should think about how these decisions affect children.

Celebration Assembly

Year Group	Star of the Week	Rights Respecting Award	Learner of the Week
1	Freddy	Ollie	Jamie
2	Isabelle	Sylvia	Kingsley
3	Eloise	Sofia	Lenny
4	Finley	Holly	Sam
5	Barney	Ziggy	Olivia CB

Pre-School and Reception – Discovering their outdoor learning environments



Value of the Month: Responsibility

This week we explored the value of responsibility linked to online safety. We learnt about the SMART Rules for staying safe online and identified who children can talk to if they are concerned or worried about something they experience online.

Article 19: Children have the right to be protected from being hurt or mistreated, in body or mind.

Website	Useful Online safety Links
Swiggle	Swiggle.org.uk - Child Friendly Search Engine for Kids
SMART Rules	Be SMART online - Childnet
NSPCC E-Safety for Schools	E-safety for schools NSPCC Learning
CEOP Reporting	https://www.ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting/
NSPCC NetAware – Parent guide to social networks, apps and games	https://www.net-aware.org.uk

Rights Respecting Ambassadors:

After the fantastic achievement of gaining our Silver Rights Respecting Award (only a handful of schools have achieved this standard in BaNES) we are gearing up to achieve Gold by the end of the academic year. Our wonderful team of Rights Respecting Ambassadors did an incredible job at raising the profile of children's rights, and this week the school learnt how to apply to become a Rights Respecting Ambassador for the year ahead. Children will write a sentence or two about why they want to become an ambassador, and this will be followed by an 'informal interview' with Chris and Sam. We will announce this year's Rights Respecting Ambassadors after this process in an assembly, and in a newsletter.

Article 42: Children have the right to know their rights.

New Lunchtime Routines

With the return to school, playing and eating together, we have had the opportunity to revisit our lunchtime experience offer for children which seems to be going down really well with the children! Children now have the chance to sit with other year groups, and we have arranged the hall space to build a great conversational atmosphere. We have been really impressed with children's lunchtime behaviour and our new table captains have been fantastic helping to set cutlery for their table and helping to wipe down tables afterwards.

Our lunchtime experience extends to the playground where Jess has organised a brilliant array of resources and activities for children, where they are able to roam the outside area and play with children from different year groups. The new lines and painted hopscotch have also been a hit! Our team of teaching assistants who supervise lunchtime play will also be teaching different playground games to further add to the fun on offer.

Article 31: Children have the right to play and rest.

We will continue to review and enhance our lunchtime experience, alongside the children in our listening team to make sure that our lunchtimes are happy and fun experience for all of our children.

Highlights of the Week



Positive Covid-19 Cases - Reporting Procedures

Please inform the school immediately if your child has a positive PCR test. Whilst the guidance in the Covid -19 Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plan does not require classes to isolate, the school will still report positive PCR cases to parents and families for their reference via email.

Parent and Families Workshops

Last week we offered families the opportunity to vote on how they would like us to run the year group workshops. The majority of families voted for these events to take place in school. In response to your feedback we have organised the following dates, which will take place in the school hall.

Date (September)	AM (9:00 Start Time)	PM (2:40 Start Time)
27 th	Pre-School	
28 th	Reception	Year 1
29 th	Year 2	
30 th	Year 3	Year 4
31 st	Year 5	

Parents Evening Dates

Parents' Evening will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st of October. We are offering a blended approach to these meeting with families being offered either face: face or virtual meetings online.

Friends of Somerdale Educate Together (FOSET)

The Friends of Somerdale Educate Together (FOSET) are looking to recruit new members. FOSET which includes members of the school staff, play an important part in enhancing children's school experience. They organise events such as discos and Christmas Fairs, as well as raising funds which extend learning opportunities in our school. It is an incredibly important and rewarding role. If this sounds like a role you would be interested in then please complete the online form below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BcymLFFBdkWgrFakNRb0HpPmz5j-r49Go-RrD0yWP3xJUMUFVUzJXVUtCWEZYTTdST0Q1TKY1Mkw2Uj4u>

Year 5 – Secondary School Visits

We understand that many of the Year 5 parents will be actively looking at Secondary Schools in preparation for the 2023-24 academic year. Should parents wish to take their children to visit schools during school time then it will be marked as an authorised educational visit, providing the school is informed in advance. Over the academic year we will be developing transition links with local secondary schools in preparation for the future.

Wraparound Care

Please can we reiterate that pick-up time for Wraparound Care is no later than 5.30pm. This allows time for our staff to safely pack away and clean up after the session.

After School Clubs

Jess, our PE Lead, is working hard to put together the annual Sports Club offer. As an equality-based school we aim, where possible, to ensure that all clubs are free and part of the school curriculum. A letter and online sign-up form will be sent home on Friday 24th September.

Article 29: Children's education should help use and develop their talents and abilities.

Best Wishes

Chris Thomas-Unsworth
(Headteacher)

Equality Based, Co-Educational, Child Centred, Democratically Run