



FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2022

Following the very sad news of the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, we came together as a school in assembly to reflect on the Queen's life and all that she achieved.

Children had the opportunity to ask questions in class and if any child was upset, we gave them additional support.

We are awaiting further guidance from the government to support us over the next 10 days and I will share this with you when we know more. The current guidance tells us to remain open at this time.

We have continued to send this week's newsletter home so you have the information you need at the start of a busy term.

Mrs Frampton

Uniform

We still have lots of pre loved uniform in school. If you would like some spare uniform, please talk to Mrs Lucker on Reception who can sort some out for you. We just ask for a small donation.

PE kit is plain black shorts or joggers and a plain white t-shirt. Children use their blue school jumper or cardigan if it is cold.

Children in Y2-6 can come to school in their PE kit on their PE days.

Children in Reception and Year 1 need to bring their kit in a bag and leave it at school. They will change in school to help them practice getting dressed and undressed independently.

Thank you

We were very grateful this summer to receive a donation from some local residents. This generous act means we do have some support for uniform / school shoes if any parent is in real need of help. Please see Mr Walsh if you could benefit from this.

New Year R children

We have really enjoyed welcoming our new Reception children to school this week and have been impressed with how grown up they are. They have looked so smart in their school uniforms and are settling in to school life brilliantly.

Reception children start their full time day on Monday starting at 8.50am and finishing at 3.15pm. Please drop off and pick up from the front gate.

Holiday Club

We would like to thank Premier Education for running such a fabulous holiday club over the summer. Many of our children attended and all had a great time taking part in a real range of activities. We are looking forward to welcoming them back in future holidays.

Address:

Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS

Tel: (01202) 485436

Email: office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk

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Headteacher : Helen Frampton



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Our focus for this year

This year we are focussing on 3 key areas to make our school even better:

- ensuring we have the highest expectations for children, parents and staff
- increasing children's independence
- developing children's resilience in their learning

We will be talking to children about these areas in class and in assemblies and the School Improvement Plan will be available on the school website soon.

Within these areas we are particularly working on improving writing and attendance.

Attendance

Our expectation for attendance is 96% or above.

Children need to be in school every day and on time to ensure the best chance of them reaching their potential.

The government has released new guidance on attendance work in schools and our Attendance Policy is being updated and will be shared with you when approved by the Governors.

Please remember that where possible, medical appointments should be made out of school time and the school will not authorise leave in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Holidays are not considered exceptional circumstances and are likely to result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to each parent for each child.

Attendance at the end of this week

Whole school: 94.9%
Year 1: 91.1%
Year 2: 96.3%
Year 3: 100%
Year 4: 93.1%
Year 5: 94.4%
Year 6: 94.7%

That means across the whole school, children have missed a total of 47 days learning already!

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Climbing wall and caving experience

We have the mobile climbing wall and caving experience visiting our school again next Thursday and Friday. Mr Wallace has sent a letter with more details. This is part of our PE curriculum as part of the Outdoor and Adventurous Activity section. We can't wait to show you pictures on twitter!

Bikeability Level 1

We are pleased to be offering Level 1 bikeability to Year 4 and 5 this half term. Mrs Whitehead will be sending home further details.

Please ensure your child wears a helmet when cycling or scooting to school.

Foodbank

Christchurch Foodbank is running really low on stocks after supporting so many families over the summer. We always have a donation box in school so if you are able to drop any cans, tins or packets off to us, we will make sure they are delivered to the Foodbank.

They are particularly in need of:

- tins of fruit and vegetables
- tinned meat meals
- meatballs
- hotdogs

Trees

Please ask your child not to climb the trees at the end of school. Thank you.

Arbor

You have been sent a letter explaining that we are moving our Management Information System to Arbor. If you have a sibling at the Grange you will already be familiar with this system. Please bear with us while we move over this half term!

Building works

This half term we will be moving the location of our school kitchen to another room in school. This will obviously involve some building work on site. We will ensure the site is kept safe and accessible and we will talk to the children about being safe and not entering any builders' areas. Please reinforce this message with your children.

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Cauliflower Cards

Every child in school will be designing a Christmas card again this year and you can choose to have these designs made in to packs of Christmas cards, present tags, mugs and much more.

The children will be creating their designs over the next few weeks and will bring a letter home with their design to show you.

If you would like to order some cards, all of the information for ordering online is on the letter. You **must** return your child's design to school by **12th October** so we can send them off to Cauliflower Cards for the magic to happen!

The school receives commission on each order placed so you are helping the school as well as receiving some fantastic cards.



Local area trips

For trips and visits that happen in the local area and do not involve transport, we will be asking for your consent on one letter to cover all trips this year.

These may include:

- High Cross Church
- Waterman's Park
- Christchurch town centre
- Stanpit Marsh
- Christchurch Priory
- Christchurch Library
- Grange School
- Mudford Woods

You will always be informed of the details of the trip but you will no longer need to remember to return the slip!

The one consent form will be coming home soon.

We will seek consent for those trips involving transport.

Date of next newsletter

Friday 23rd September 2022

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SOMERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Watermans Park September Programme



GreenFingers

Mon 5 & 19 Sept | 2pm - 4pm

Join our GreenFingers volunteer group to enjoy the outdoors and get involved in practical conservation in your local park.

Tasks include park maintenance, planting, and caring for our new nature pond.

For more information contact:
melinda@parksfoundation.org.uk

Nature Tots

Tues 6 & 20 Sept | 10am - 11am

A fun group for under 5s and their carers, themed around nature and the changing seasons.

Your child can become a bold explorer and develop their curiosity through play and discovery in the park.

Free event



Park Life - After School

Mon 12 Sept | 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Discover nature in the park at this after school session.

Drop in and learn about nature in fun, crafty, and science-based activity sessions.

Free event



Making Meadows

Wed 21 Sept | 3.30pm - 5pm

It's time to manage our meadows.

Come and help cut back patches of the meadow, collect seeds, re-sow areas, and define patches to be left untouched throughout the year. We'll be talking about the importance of grassland meadows and how you can help at home.

Free event



Amphibian Construction

Thurs 29 Sept | 3.30pm - 5pm

Join us to help build an amphibian and reptile habitat in the park.

We'll construct a fixed deadwood compost bin to help encourage frogs, toads and slow worms into our Nature Recovery project parks.

Free event



To book: parksfoundation.org.uk/events

parksfoundation.org.uk
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 E: info@parksfoundation.org.uk | T: 01202 143724



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