



FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2024

Welcome back!

The children have made a fantastic start to the new school year—thank you for helping them to feel so prepared. A big welcome to our new children too. It has been wonderful to see them become part of our school family so quickly.

Mrs Frampton

Uniform

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

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. Hoodies are not allowed.

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.

School shoes can be expensive! If you are finding this tricky, please ask for a school shoe voucher.

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 3.20pm. 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
Website: www.somerford.dorset.sch.uk
Facebook: Somerset Primary School
Twitter: @mrsfsomerford
Headteacher : Helen Frampton



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Our focus for this year

- Further develop our curriculum to focus on KEY learning and build in opportunities for retrieval and spaced practice (including online safety, Start Small Dream Big, science)
 - Improve children's arithmetic skills
 - Improve attendance and decrease the number of persistent absentees
- Continue to improve children's writing (Place Value of Punctuation and Grammar, Drawing Club)
 - Further develop pupil and staff wellbeing
 - Improve outcomes for groups of SEND learners
- Continue to improve children's phonic knowledge and early reading skills

Attendance

Our expectation for attendance is 96% or above.

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. **This has now increased to £80 per parent, per child.**

Attendance at the end of this week

Year group	Attendance	National attendance
1	95.0%	94.8%
2	94.4%	94.9%
3	98.3%	95.0%
4	100%	94.9%
5	99.1%	94.9%
6	100%	94.9%

What a great start! 2 classes with a non uniform day on Monday for 100%! Let's keep this up!

Date of next newsletter

Friday 20th September 2024

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Staff training day—school closed to children

School will be closed on Monday 30th September for staff training. We will be reviewing our curriculum offer and considering ways to improve children's retention of knowledge.

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 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. The one consent form is on Arbor and you will receive an email asking you to re consent on the app.

We will continue to seek consent for those trips involving transport.

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 **25th September** 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.



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Who are we?

On each newsletter we will share with you a little more about the amazing staff who work at Somerford and how they can support you and your children.

Mrs Macmillan



Mrs Macmillan is our Pastoral Lead and works part time across Monday to Thursday. As Pastoral Lead, Mrs Macmillan works with children, parents and staff to help everyone be as safe, well and happy as they can.

Mrs Macmillan holds several other important roles in school such as:

Anti Bullying and Wellbeing Champion
Senior Mental Health Lead
Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Young Carer Champion

A typical day for Mrs Macmillan may include helping a child settle in to school in the morning, working 1:1 with a child, attending meetings for children with a social worker, advising staff on ways to support children in their class, meeting with parents and being on the playgrounds at break and lunch.

Children know how to access Mrs Macmillan if they need to and she offers drop ins for children throughout the week.

If you would like to contact Mrs Macmillan you can email her on Imacmillan@somerford.dorset.sch.uk or call the school office on 01202 485436 and she will call you back if not available immediately. You could also catch up with her at the Crafting Minds parent sessions through the year—look out for more information coming home soon!

Next time we will find out more about Mr Thorne, our SENCo.....

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