



THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER 2024

The staff and governors would like to wish you all a happy holiday and a very merry Christmas if you are celebrating.

We have had a fantastic term and we are so proud of what all the children have achieved. Thank you for your continued support—we can achieve so much when we work together.

A message from Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service firefighters will be available all the time over the festive period to come and help in an emergency.

Please help your children understand how they can stay safe by reading and filling in one of the prize draw quizzes.

[It was the lights before Christmas](#) is designed for Reception and Key Stage 1 children
[Winter Safety Firefighter Quiz](#) is designed for Key Stage 2 children

However, each child may enter both quizzes if appropriate.
Enter to win a VIP trip to a participating fire station, a Blaze Bear Teddy and a Lego or Playmobil Emergency Services set.

Electrical safety is of particular concern at this time of year, especially with the increased number of electrical items such as festive lights and new electrical goods. Please make sure all electrical items are in good condition, the correct charger is always used and you unplug items when not in use #unplugtounwind

Thank you and we wish you a happy festive period
Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

Premier Holiday Club

There are still a few spaces available in Premier's holiday club run in the school hall. Children receive a hot meal too. If your child is in receipt of free school meals this is free.

If your child does not receive free school meals and you are keen for your child to attend but cannot afford it, please do speak to us as we may be able to help. Children brought home a flyer with details and several messages have been sent home. We are also happy to help you book on if you give us a call.

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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A focus on behaviour

We will be kick starting the new year with a reminder of our school rules and Behaviour Policy. We will send the policy home to parents—there is a section for you too! Ask your children what our three rules are—they should be able to tell you. Hint—they all start with R.....

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 for the last week

Year group	Attendance	96% expectation
Whole school	91.05%	below
1	82.81%	below
2	91.07%	below
3	100%	above
4	93.52%	below
5	87.96%	below
6	86.21%	below

Your child will have brought home their end of term attendance summary for you to see. Remember you can check your child's attendance on a daily basis on your Arbor app.

Date of next newsletter

Friday 10th January

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School Closed to children

Our term ends today at the usual times.
Tomorrow, Friday 20th December is an INSET day so school is closed to pupils. The staff have all worked the 6 hours of the INSET day in after school training this term so staff will not be in school tomorrow either.

Holiday vouchers

As you know, we issue these to parents on behalf of BCP and they have told us there will be vouchers for this holiday period for all children in receipt of benefit related free school meals.

Mrs Luker has issued these this week. Please note, if you have more than one child receiving a voucher, you need to check your mobile and your email.

Foodbank—thank you

Thank you for your donations to the Foodbank today. They will be of great support to many families this Christmas. Unfortunately, someone broke in to the Foodbank recently so they are working hard to replace stock. Thank you for all of your contributions.

Coats and uniform

We have been given lots of new uniform and several pre loved coats recently. Please do ask if there is any help we can give you with uniform. We do not want you to buy new items if we can give them to you instead!
Donations always gratefully received but not expected.

Holiday activities

Premier holiday club run at our school

[BCP Holiday Activities](#)

[BCP libraries](#) have a range of activities over the holidays

[BCP Mumbler](#) has details of free things to do over the break

[The Parks Foundation](#) is running events in local parks—wrap up warm!

[Creative Kids](#) have fully funded full days for all children entitled to free school meals

Family Information Directory
01202 093131

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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 Vey



Mrs Vey is our Business Manager.

Mrs Vey has many important jobs in school including:

- Managing the school budget
- Managing staff recruitment
- Working with Mr Parry to ensure everyone who uses the site is safe
- Making sure all of our IT is working well
- Leading the office team
- Coordinating any complaints

A typical day for Mrs Vey may include monitoring our spending and checking our budget is on track, completing a site walk with Mr Parry, meeting with the admin team to make sure everything is running smoothly and writing an advert for a new staff member.

If you would like to contact Mrs Vey you can email on businessmanager@somerford.dorset.sch.uk or call the school office on 01202 485436.

Next time we will find out more about Mrs Luker.....

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Support over Christmas

MASH

01202 123334

E-mail—childrensfirstresponse@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Christchurch Foodbank +

Mondays, 10am – 12pm (donations only) Tuesdays, 10am – 12pm Thursdays, 11am – 1pm Fridays, 2pm – 4pm
07587 371088 or 07536 983678

Citizens Advice Bureau

www.citizensadvicebcp.org.uk

BCP Council Crisis Advice Team

01202 096622

Connection (Dorset's 24/7 mental health line)

0300 652 0190

BHCA Domestic Abuse Helpline

01202 710777

Childline

0800 1111

Samaritans

116 123

You First

0800 032 5204

SHOUT

Text 'SHOUT' to 85258

[Young Minds](#)

The Family Hub will be open up to and including 24th December and will reopen on 2nd January

If you are really struggling and don't know where to turn, please email the school office and someone will get back to you as soon as we can. Please note the school email will not be monitored daily and we cannot respond to general enquiries while the school is closed.

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