



FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2022

SOMERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

I can't believe this is the last newsletter of September already!
We have now firmly established our routines and systems and the children are working really hard.
It has been fabulous to welcome some new children to classes and watch how kind and welcoming their new friends are.
Mrs Frampton

Arbor

We are hoping to move to Arbor from SIMs on 5th October. Staff have had training and we are getting ready to switch. We hope you won't see any differences initially but we would appreciate your understanding and patience if we can't find information as quickly to start with!

Climbing wall and caving experience

What a great couple of days we had! The children were so excited to take part and even those who were nervous overcame their fears and had a go. We found hidden talents in some children as they raced to the top of the walls and one child was having so much fun in the caves he tried to hide so he didn't need to come out! Thank you for your kind donations towards this. Budgets are so tight at the moment that it really helps to make these experiences possible. There are lots of photos on Twitter @mrsfsomerford

Building Work

The relocation of our commercial kitchen will start on 3rd October. There will be a builder's compound on site from next Tuesday. We will be talking to children about being safe on site—please can you reiterate those messages at home.
We are trying to keep the disruption to lunches to a minimum but there will be a period of time when we can't cook or serve hot lunches on site. I will keep you updated as to the arrangements.

Reception Starters 2023

We will shortly be starting our tours and open days for children who will be starting school next September. Please spread the word about our amazing school and encourage people to come and visit.

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Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS
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Website: www.somerford.dorset.sch.uk
Headteacher : Helen Frampton



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Our focus for this year

This week in assemblies we have talked about being resilient—bouncing back when something has gone wrong.

Often we talk to ourselves in a negative way if we have failed (I'm rubbish, I'll never do it) and we tried to reframe those thoughts in to a more growth mindset (I can't do it...yet!)

Notice how your child reacts if something goes wrong and try to help them reframe their thoughts if needed.

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: 94.8%

Year 1: 94.3%

Year 2: 96.7%

Year 3: 95.6%

Year 4: 93.5%

Year 5: 94.5%

Year 6: 94.6%

Well done to Year 2!

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Punctuality

We understand mornings are hard work!
It is, however, really important children are here for the start of the school day on time. Learning starts straight away and the start of the day tasks are designed to help children revise learning from the day before. Teachers also explain the timetable and ensure children are ready for a productive day. If children are late, the day becomes harder for them and they miss the reinforcement of learning that all children need. We know things go wrong some mornings but we will need to meet with parents where children are consistently late to try to help ensure the children are in on time.

Staffing updates

We would like to congratulate Mr Parry, our Site Assistant, and his fiancé on the birth of their daughter, Otilie.

Mr Foreman is currently off work unwell and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Mrs Maddison has been off work unwell but we look forward to welcoming her back on Tuesday.

The Grange and Twynham Open Evening

The two schools are holding their open evening at The Grange School on Thursday 29th September at 5.00pm. Y6 parents have received more information via Marvellous Me.

Bike to school week

This starts on 3rd October and it would be great to see as many children cycling and scooting to school as possible. Please ensure your child's bike is in a roadworthy condition and they are wearing a helmet.

School Closed—staff training

A reminder that we are closed to pupils on Friday 7th October for staff training. We will be learning more about how to support children to be independent and resilient learners.

Date of next newsletter

Thursday 6th October 2022

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