



FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2023

Welcome back!

It has been wonderful to chat to many of you at the gate and hear about your holidays. The children have returned so well and we are proud of how they have settled in to their new classes.

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 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 8.55am and finishing at 3.25pm. 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.

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Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS
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Facebook: Somerset Primary School
Twitter: @mrsfsomerford
Headteacher : Helen Frampton



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Our focus for this year



This year we are going to be EXCELLENT in everything we do. We will be excellent in our learning, how we look after the school and each other, in our behaviour, in our attendance and so much more.

We have been talking about what this means in our classes and our assemblies. We have really high expectations for all children and we will support them to meet them.

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.

Attendance at the end of this week

Year group	Attendance	National attendance
1	95.2%	95.3%
2	90.8%	95.2%
3	94.3%	95.6%
4	94.6%	95.5%
5	96.5%	95.3%
6	92.0%	95.2%

That means across the whole school, 166 children have met or exceeded our target of 96% attendance! Congratulations to those children!

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Circus in Schools

We have a circus visiting our school next Thursday and Friday. We are really excited to kick our year off with this excellent activity. Mr Wallace will be sending home more information next week.

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 tomatoes
- rice
- cereal

Thank you

Trees

Please ensure your child does not climb the trees at the end of school. Thank you.

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 **28th 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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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 but you will no longer need to remember to return the slip!

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

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

Staffing updates

Unfortunately we have two staff not returning this year.

Ms Roberts has been our specialist sports coach for many years and we have really loved having her as part of the team. Ms Roberts has now decided to focus on different things and we wish her the very best.

Mr Stark has only been with us a short time but I know has supported some parents and children and he will be missed. We wish him well for the future.

Staff training day—school closed to children

School will be closed on Friday 29th September for staff training. We will be welcoming Gareth Morewood to talk to us about creating low stress classrooms. We are also pleased to have teachers from other schools joining us too for this training.

Date of next newsletter

Friday 22nd September 2023

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