



FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2025

We've had another great week at school with some year groups out on trips. All children represented the school brilliantly and we are really proud of them.

Mrs Frampton

Safer Internet Day 2025

This years theme for Safer Internet day is:

Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online.

Each class will be finding out about potential scams and issues they may encounter and how to respond to them. They will be discussing trusted adults and be encouraged to talk to adults about their Internet use.

Please follow the link below for some top tips for parents

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025/tips-for-parents-and-carers>

Learning Events over the last two weeks....

- The School Council met with our school cooks. They sampled some of the new menus and gave their feedback to Mrs Barnes
- Year 3 enjoyed more Forest Schools sessions
- 16 children from Year 1 and 2 hunted for bugs in their Forest School after school club
- Rocksteady lessons continued
- Y6 children continued their Books and Stories sessions with Bournemouth University
- Year 3 were visited by a geologist to learn more about her job
- Year 5 visited the Grange School to take part in a dance workshop
- Luca, our reading dog, visited to listen to some more children read
- Year 6 had a great trip to the Tank Museum
- Reception enjoyed exploring Mudeford Woods
- Year 5 got active with Bournemouth University's Sporty me workshop
- Mr Wallace took an amazing group of children to a Step into Sport festival at the Grange School
- Open the Book delivered a fun assembly to us
- Year 3 visited Christchurch library and got lost in some books
- We all celebrated Number Day and raised some money for the important work of the NSPCC

We have been busy!!

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Headteacher : Helen Frampton



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A focus on attendance

Our results at the end of last year showed clearly that if a child attends school more often, they will achieve more. We are committed to every child coming to school, on time, every day they are able to so they can achieve their best.

143 children are coming to school more than 90% of the time.

94 children are meeting our expectation of 96% or more. Well done to those children!

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.**

Reasons for these absences

Chicken pox

Hospital stays

Impetigo

Medical appointment

Also...

Holiday

A little under the weather

Running late

Attendance for last 2 weeks

Year group	Attendance	96% expectation
Whole school	92.0%	Below
1	83.14%	Well below
2	96.09%	In line
3	95.33%	Just below
4	95.0%	Just below
5	88.4%	Well below
6	89.66%	Well below

Well done Y2!!

Super attendance stars!

Date of next newsletter

Thursday 13th February 2025

Reminder—school closed

Our next staff training day is Friday 14th February and school is closed to children. On this day teachers will be completing assessments and starting to write your child's annual report which will come home in March.

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Number Day

We raised **£104.13** for the NSPCC—thank you for your donations.

Bags2School

Our next collection is Friday 28th February.

Please have a sort out at home over half term and bring in your bags anytime. All the funds we raise help us provide additional things for the children.

Forest School Y4

After half term, Year 4 will start their Forest School sessions on Monday afternoons. Please look out for more information coming home soon—particularly the information about the clothing and footwear children need.

Mrs Barnes



Mrs Barnes is our Head Cook.

Mrs Barnes has many important jobs in school including:

- cooking delicious lunches for our children
- preparing the breakfast bagels each morning
- planning and designing the menus
- linking with the other schools we serve meals to
- ensuring our kitchen is compliant with food hygiene standards

-A typical day for Mrs Barnes may include ordering food for the next week's menus, planning menus with our Area Manager from Educatering, checking with Mrs Cutler who has ordered meals for that day, ensuring children with dietary requirements have their correct meal and cooking for staff and children.

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

Next time we will find out more aboutMrs Hinz-James!

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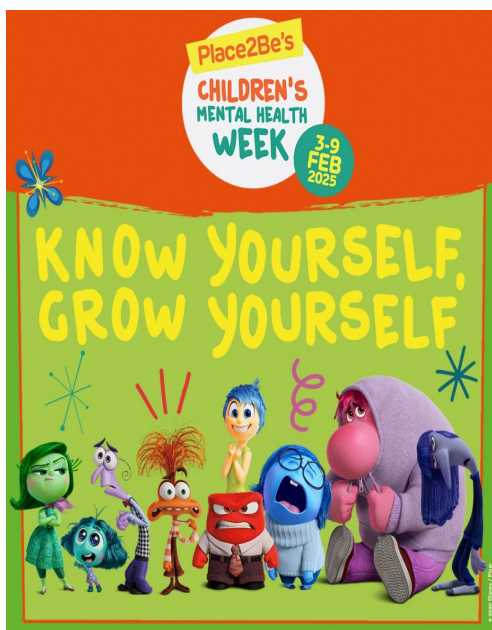
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Hello from the Pastoral Team.

As part of Children's Mental Health Week our Wellbeing Ambassadors came together as a group and thought about how we feel when we experience different emotions. They then presented this work to the school in a whole school assembly. They were inspiring and brave, and they continue to help our whole school community to think about mental health and wellbeing. Well Done Wellbeing Ambassadors! You can watch them on our Instagram page: somerford625

We also ran a competition called "Matter Splatter"; encouraging our students to think about the theme "know yourself to grow yourself" and express what matters to them.

Our winners were: Traye Year 2 Keeva Year 5 Emmanuel Year 3

We have been asked to add this to our newsletter by Dorset Police Vapes – A warning and a plea for information

Dorset Police and local schools are becoming increasingly aware of a rise in children being in possession of vapes and vape products, such as vape liquids. The legal age to supply or use a vape in the UK is 18, yet some retailers have failed to uphold this rule and are putting our children at risk.

Additionally, there have been reported incidents of children becoming unwell after using vape products. With a rise in counterfeit vapes and illicit vapes containing banned substances such as THC (the principal psychoactive constituent of cannabis) or other dangerous synthetic substances, we all need to be aware of the risk of harm these pose to children and work together to remove them from the streets.

In order for Police and Trading Standards to take positive action and keep our children safe, we need you to tell us where children might be sourcing vapes and vape products, and who may be supplying them. This may be a particular shop, individual, or other illegitimate vendor. You can provide this information either by contacting Dorset Police, Trading Standards or anonymously via Crimestoppers.

Should your child become unwell after using a vape, please seek urgent medical attention. Although such cases are rare, adverse reactions seen in recent incidents include dizziness, heart palpitations and even falling unconscious.

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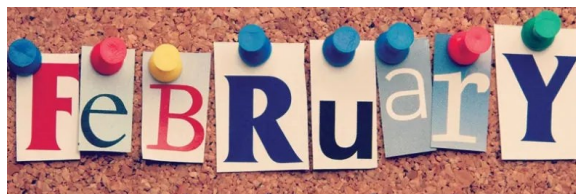
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As it is Children's Mental Health Week we thought you might like to get your child involved in this fantastic competition: please follow the link below the picture to read more about it and enter.

Young Designer Competition

CALLING ALL YOUNG CREATIVES!

Create a winning design for our 2025 YoungMinds Hello Yellow kidswear collection

IT'S TIME TO LET YOUR IMAGINATION SHINE!

We're looking for inspiring designs to feature on two special pieces in our 2025 YoungMinds Hello Yellow kidswear collection - on a yellow sweatshirt and a yellow hoodie that will be sold in M&S stores and online.

So what would you say to a friend who needs you? How would you brighten their day? Whether it's words, drawings, or doodles, we're looking for something that stands out and reminds everyone that one chat can change everything.

If you're aged 5-11 or 12-16, we'd love to see your ideas. You can design a hoodie or a sweatshirt, and we'll choose two lucky winners (one winner from each age category). The winners have their designs featured on our Hello Yellow pieces, with all profits supporting YoungMinds.

Be bold, be bright, and put what's inside on the outside. Good Luck!

To enter, ask your parent or guardian to upload your entry by 11.59pm on 31 March 2025.

Disclaimer
T&Cs apply

THE PRIZE!

The winners will see their designs come to life on a sweatshirt or hoodie sold by M&S and gain exclusive behind-the-scenes access to watch their creations become a reality.

The winner (going with a parent or guardian) will be invited to visit the M&S office in London to see their designs transformed into artwork or for the supplier factory in the Midlands to watch them printed live. They will also participate in the September launch event.

Additionally, the winners will receive enough sweatshirts or hoodies featuring their winning design for every student in their class to wear on Hello Yellow Day, 10 October 2025.

<https://mnsyoungdesignercompetition.powerappsportals.com/>

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