



THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2025

As we reach half term, we also reach the half way point of the school year—hasn't it flown by! We hope you have a restful week off from the school runs and we look forward to seeing you back on 24th February at the usual times.

Mrs Frampton

Forest School donations

Thank you so much for the many donations we received for our new Forest School. You were so generous!

We now have enough to get us going. The only things we could do with a few more of are metal kitchen utensils such as ladles, spoons, whisks etc. for our mud kitchen. Thank you again.

Learning Events over the last week....

- Y2 enjoyed a wintery walk to Mudeford Woods
- Y6 had an assessment week to help them prepare for their tests in May
 - Year 3 had an exciting last Forest School session
- The Stormbreak group in Y5 had their final intervention session
- Year 1 and 2 wrapped up warm for their after school Forest School club
 - Rocksteady band practice continued
 - Siblings groups met with Mrs Miles
- We celebrated Internet Safety Day across the school
- Year 5 made Greek salads as part of their Design and Technology learning

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 sent home—particularly the information about the clothing and footwear children need.

Reminder—school closed

Our next staff training day is **TOMORROW** Friday 14th February and school is closed to children. On this day teachers will be completing assessments and starting to write your child's

Address:

Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS

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A focus on aspiration

We are part of a project called Start Small, Dream Big. As part of this, we are making links with different employers to try and expand children's ideas of and experiences of jobs and the world of work.

So far, we have had visits from a geologist, Bournemouth University, JP Morgan, a farmer and other online experiences.

If you would like to talk to a class or group of children about your job, we would love to arrange this—please contact the school office and we will be in touch.

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 last week

Year group	Attendance	96% expectation
Whole school	93.3%	Below
1	93.06%	Below
2	93.97%	Below
3	95.63%	Just below
4	98.66%	Above
5	89.35%	Well below
6	89.16%	Well below

Well done to Year 4!!

Date of next newsletter

Friday 28th February 2025

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Mrs Hinz-James



Mrs Hinz-James is our Reception teacher and EYFS lead.

Mrs Hinz-James has many important jobs in school including:

- teaching Reception
- managing children's transition in to school and visiting pre schools and nurseries
- administering the baseline assessment to Reception children
- leading music and RE across the school
- being part of the school's leadership team

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

Next time we will find out more aboutMiss Southam!

Goodbye

Mrs Francois is leaving our kitchen team today. We are very sad to see her go but wish her well in the future. We are pleased that Mrs Francois has agreed to do some cover days for us if needed in the future so it is not a complete goodbye!

Coming up....

On Thursday 27th February we are excited to be welcoming Andrew Moffat to visit school for the day. He will be teaching his No Outsiders curriculum to each class and this really compliments our ethos at Somerford. Teachers from the local Christchurch schools will be watching some of the lessons too as part of a shared professional development opportunity.

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