



THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER 2025

On behalf of the staff team and Governors, I would like to wish you all a happy holiday and a merry Christmas if you are celebrating.

We have really enjoyed this term and I am so proud of all the children have achieved. Thank you for your ongoing support and for working so closely with us.

#teamsomerford!

Mrs Frampton

Goodbye and welcome back!

We are saying goodbye to Miss Salih today who has been teaching in Year 3 this term. We would like to thank her for her hard work and commitment to the children.

In January, we welcome back Mrs Gregory from her maternity leave. Mr Wallace will continue to teach the class on a Monday and Tuesday and will ensure there is a smooth transition for the children.

Christmas holiday club

There are a few spaces left in the Premier Education holiday club over the Christmas holidays in our school hall.

This club is free for children in receipt of free school meals.

The club will be open Monday 22 Tuesday 23 Wednesday 24 December and Monday 29 Tuesday 30 Wednesday 31 December.

You can book via this link:

School Closed to children

Our term ends today at the usual times.

Tomorrow, Friday 19th 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 food 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.

Resourced Provision Informal Consultation

You will have received an email this week about an exciting new provision we hope to open at Somerford. Please do read the short consultation document and share your views and comments via the Form or email us on the office email. It is important to us to hear the views of our community. Thank you.

Address:

Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS

Tel: (01202) 485436

Email: office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk

Website: www.somerford.dorset.sch.uk

Facebook: Somerford Primary School

Twitter: @mrsfsomerford



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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 is £80 per parent, per child.**

Attendance over the last term

	Year group	Attendance	National	
Year 3 and Year 5— let's make it a Spring Term focus!	Whole school	94.6%	95.0%	Well done to Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6 who all met or exceeded national attendance this term!
Girls also attended less than national averages this term— come on girls!	1	95.9%	94.7%	
	2	94.4%	95.1%	
	3	92.6%	95.4%	As a whole school we are very close to national attendance.
	4	95.3%	95.3%	
	5	91.6%	95.2%	
	6	94.6%	94.9%	

Attendance awards

In assembly yesterday we gave over 100 Bronze Certificates, stickers and badges to children who met the expectation of 96% attendance or more. This is fantastic!

Well done to all those children!

Children who did not quite achieve their Bronze Award this term, can aspire to earn it next term.

We also celebrated over 40 children who had 100% attendance this term. We know this is not possible for every child and this is not our expectation, however, it is a significant achievement for some children and we like to mention them too.

Well done to those children!

Date of next newsletter

Friday 9 January 2026

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Nativity performances

It was wonderful to see the children perform so confidently in the nativity performances last week—thank you for coming to watch them.

Next year, tickets will only be available via the Arbor shop. They will remain free but you will only be able to order them from there. The teachers will not have any tickets to give out and will not be able to accommodate additional requests.

Christmas Jumper Day

It was great to see the school looking so festive in a vast range of Christmas and winter themed jumpers. We raised £98.20 for Save the Children.

If your child wore a jumper and you forgot to bring a donation for the charity, please pop it in to us next term. Thank you.

Return to school

We return to school on Monday 5th January at the usual times.

Foodbank—thank you

Thank you for your donations to the Foodbank today. They will be of great support to many families this Christmas. If you need any support with food over the holidays, please pop down and see Tracy and her amazing team.



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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 24/7:

Connection is a 24/7 phone helpline for people of all ages in Dorset who are experiencing mental health issues and need support.

Call 111 and select 'mental health' or dial 0300 1235440 to access support as part of the Dorset Crisis Response Service.

Connection also offers assessments for adults outside CMHT operating hours.

BHCA Domestic Abuse Helpline

01202 710777

Childline

0800 1111

Samaritans

If you are desperate to talk to someone, the Samaritans can help – they offer emotional support and a listening ear 24 hours a day, 365 days a year:

116 123

This is a FREEPHONE number that can even be called from a mobile that has no credit. Your call will not appear on the phone bill.

Shout 24/7:

is the UK's FREE, confidential, 24/7 text support service.

Text the word 'SHOUT' to 85258 and you will start a conversation with a trained Shout Volunteer.

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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SOMERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Safeguarding Concern

We have been made aware that several titles in the 'According to Humphrey' series contain a weblink at the back of the book that no longer directs people to information about the books. Instead, the link has been compromised and now leads to inappropriate and unsafe material that should not be accessed by children at any age.

Below are images of some of the front covers in the series to help you identify the books should you have any at home. The link can be found on the back cover or may be also included on a page inside.

For clarity and reassurance, we are not aware of any children who have accessed this link at our school and have removed copies of the book with the weblink from school circulation.

Actions and Next Steps:

- If you have any of these books at home, we advise you to remove them immediately or remove the page with the weblink.
- Be extra-vigilant with all children's books that contain links and ensure that they are checked by an adult.

We are grateful for your continued support in working together to keep our children safe.



Cycle safety advice from Safer Schools & Communities Team

The shorter days and hazardous winter weather pose increased risks when cycling, especially on the roads. It is paramount that those who regularly ride a bicycle, whether that be commuting to school or in their own time, are aware of the steps they need to take to ensure that they keep themselves, and those around them, safe.

We advise that, during these winter months, cyclists **ALWAYS** wear **fluorescent clothing** and attach a **red rear light** and **white front light** to their bicycles to ensure maximum visibility. Attaching **reflectors** is also advised. Cyclists **must obey all road signs and signals** and ensure they are practicing **safe road positioning**.

Please see the links below, which offer more detailed guidance on how to stay safe while cycling.

[Cycle Safety – THINK!](#)

[Tales of the Road](#)