

FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

SOMERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome back to the new school year!

It has been wonderful to see everyone back at school looking refreshed and smart. Our new Reception children have made a fantastic start to their school journey too.

Mrs Frampton

Term dates

Please note that term dates for this school year and next school year can be found on our school website. Please refer to these when booking holidays. Thank you.

Cauliflower Cards

The children have been busy designing their Christmas cards and will be bringing the designs home this week. If you would like to order some cards (and tags, mugs, calendars etc...) you do so online but then you **must** return the design to school by **23rd September**.

INSET days for this academic year—school will be closed to children

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Friday 25th September 2026

Friday 18th December 2026

Friday 12th February 2027

Friday 2nd July 2027

Climbing wall and cave

On Thursday 24th September we will be visited by a mobile climbing wall and caving experience. All children across the school will have the opportunity to participate.

Children need to come to school wearing PE kit that day in Years 2-6. Children in Reception and Year 1 will change into their kit for their session.

Address:

Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS

Tel: (01202) 485436

Email: office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk

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Allergy aware

All staff and volunteers in school have undertaken allergy training this year and our Allergy Policy can be found on our website.
We do have some children in school with nut allergies and it is important we all make our school a safe place by ensuring we do not have nuts in school.
Please ensure packed lunches and snacks do not contain nuts - this includes things like many chocolate spreads.

School Nurse drop in

The school nurse will be holding a Drop In Session here in the school to answer/advise with any concerns or questions you may have on the 7th October from 08:45am.

School uniform reminders

Our Uniform Policy can be found on the school website.
These are some of the things that can get forgotten and can cause some challenges in school so we would appreciate your support.

- Only 1 stud earring in each ear maximum
- No acrylic nails
- No nail varnish
- No make up
- Plain black trainers or shoes
- No hoodies

If your child needs a reasonable adjustment to our uniform policy, please talk to your child's class teacher. We are flexible, but any adaptations need to be agreed in advance.

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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 year so far

Year group	Attendance
Whole School	96.8%
1	98.39%
2	95.56%
3	98.7%
4	95.24%
5	95.2%
6	97.11%

We have had a fantastic start to the year's attendance across the school and two classes earned a non uniform day for 100% attendance in the first week!

Our real focus for this half term is trying to reduce lost learning time for appointments.

- Please try and make routine appointments after school if at all possible
- Remember Specsavers is open after school and at the weekends
- If your child has an appointment during the school day, they are expected to attend either side of the appointment where possible
- Please provide the appointment letter or screenshot of text or email reminder for our records

Thank you for your support

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Safety Information from Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service would like to welcome everyone back to school.

We would like to share some safety tips for you to discuss with your child as appropriate.

Enter our prize draw quiz to win a VIP trip to a fire station and other prizes by using what3words to find the firefighters [Find the Firefighter - what3words – Fill in form](#)

Travelling to and from school:

In the car or other vehicle:

- Always wear your seatbelt
- Do not distract the driver
- Exit the car carefully, especially if you are stepping onto the road

As the driver, always drive to the road conditions and take extra care around the school area where there could be young children crossing the roads.

Please park considerately to avoid accidents or preventing emergency vehicles getting through.

On your bike or scooter:

- Wear your safety gear; helmets, wrist, elbow and knee protectors.
- Ride carefully being aware of other road and pavement users
- Use lights as it gets darker in the mornings and evenings.
- Make sure your bike or scooter is in a good condition.

Walking:

- Cross the roads carefully; remember stop, look, listen and think before you cross.
- As the mornings and evenings get darker, wear bright and reflective coats so you can be seen.
- Always listen to the adult you are walking with.
- If there is help to cross the road such as a crossing patrol, a zebra crossing, traffic lights then use them.
- If you are old enough to walk without an adult, remember to take care and never rush to cross the road.

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Water and ice:

If you walk near waterways such as rivers or canals, always take care and never walk near the edge, especially if it is muddy and slippery.

Never walk on ice.

Know how to “float” like a star if you ever get in difficulty in water.

At home:

Cooking

If you are old enough to be allowed to cook at home, always take care around the cooker.

Never leave the cooking unattended.

Around the cooker should be tidy so things do not fall onto the hot hob.

Never play near the cooker.

Charging items

If you have any items which need charging, and you are old enough to be allowed to plug them into charge make sure you always plug them in carefully.

Only charge items when you are awake.

If you have a mobile phone, never leave it in your bed or under your pillow whilst you sleep

Always use the correct charger for the item ie your phone, tablet, switch etc

In an emergency

- If the smoke alarm sounds:
- Get out – make sure you know your fire escape plan
- Stay out - until an adult tells you it is safe to return inside
- Call 999 – give the address of where help is needed and what the problem is

If you have a mobile phone, consider downloading what3words so you can give an accurate location, this is very useful if you need help outside.

Stay safe and have a great time at school
Thank you, from the firefighters of Dorset and Wiltshire

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Somerford
Primary School
Enjoy • Aspire • Achieve

*Small steps.
Big differences.*

FREE Mental Health Webinars for parents, carers and educators

The Charlie Waller Trust are offering a series of free, expert-led webinars to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.



Supporting young people's resilience:
Bouncing back? Or moving forward!
 Wednesday 23 September
 1.30 – 2.30pm



Supporting young people's wellbeing online
 Thursday 8 October
 12.30 – 1.30pm



Supporting young people with perfectionism
 Monday 19 October
 12.30 – 1.30pm



Charlie Waller TRUST
Real change for a happier, healthier younger generation

Find out more and book your place



Scan here

 charliewaller.org/mental-health-webinars

*Stronger minds
brighter futures
together* ♥

KINDER PEOPLE BRIGHTER FUTURES ♥

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