



Somerby Primary School



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Working in partnership: Ab Kettleby and Somerby Primary Schools

July 4th 2023

Summer Term Round Up!

Dear parents and carers,

I cannot believe we are at the end of yet another academic year. I know people say time flies, but it really does!

With a new roof, new carpet, a newly painted set of railings (well nearly!) and a refurbished library - we really are looking like a different school than this time last year!

Transition Y6

We are preparing to say a goodbye and good luck to our incredible Year 6 team as they move onto their next stage of their life in secondary school. They really will be missed. It has been a pleasure to get to know this fantastic group of individuals and their families. We are proud that they will leave us with a set of strong values and I have no doubt they will be a credit to their new school and will continue to make us all proud.

We still have our Leavers' Assembly on the last day of term to look forward to and this will give us all a chance to reflect on their time with us and wave them off in style.

Staffing Structure 2023/24

I am delighted we are keeping all our staff this year, with no major changes!

OAK - Year 4,5,6

Mrs Sida will continue as Lead Teacher and teacher of Oak and will be supported by Mrs Allen.

ASH - Year 2,3

Miss Miller will continue as teacher of Ash class and will be supported by Mr Hyde.

WILLOW - EYFS, Y1

Mrs Parker and Mrs Green will be our teachers of Willow Class and will be supported by Miss Robertson. Mrs Parker will be in class Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Mrs Green will be in class Thursdays and Fridays.

Mrs Fryer will support Ash Class and Oak Class from August, covering the teachers when they have their planning and preparation time, until Mrs. Toghill returns from maternity leave in the Spring Term.



Music Provision Autumn Y4,5,6

I have secured further music provision for the Autumn Term for Children in Oak Class. One afternoon per week, Oak children will receive guitar lessons from September to December. Following this, parents will be given the opportunity to pay separately for small group or 1:1 tuition if your child wishes to develop the skill of playing the instrument further. The plan is that each Autumn term a new instrument will be introduced, giving children the opportunity to enjoy 3 different instruments over the time they are in Oak. Further details of paid tuition will follow at the end of the Autumn term.

FOSS

My heartfelt thanks go to all those who have contributed over the year to FOSS fundraising events, however small: it all adds up. Huge thanks go to the Buckenham family for the donation as a result of a successful Clay Shoot in June. With this, and other donations from FOSS, we have been able to refurbish our library area. It has taken us longer than we anticipated as we have done most of the work ourselves to keep the costs down. Thank you to Mrs Ferguson for being our painter and decorator, in between organising our school for us!

If any parent would like to be involved in organising activities with FOSS, or have fundraising ideas, please let me know.

Behaviour and Uniform Policy

Our priority, as always in the new academic year, is to get routines and expectations established as quickly as possible to help all children settle after the summer break and feel secure. We are looking forward to building on our exemplary behaviour and attitudes. Children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days as usual, and as this will form children's uniform one day per week, and the expectations to wear the correct PE uniform is just as important. Please label all belongings to avoid it being lost. Please keep an eye out and make sure the odd coloured sock, trainers on non-uniform day, or coloured hairband don't start to sneak in over time!

Parent Feedback

Feedback continues to be positive via our Parent Forum meetings. I am always willing to take ideas, suggestions and solutions to help improve the provision we can offer our children. Please don't wait until these meetings - if you have an idea - please do share!

The new dates for the Parent Forum meetings will be issued early in the new academic year. The 6pm meeting was not as well attended as the others, so I will stick to 9am and 3pm times for the next ones.

Communication between Parents and Teachers

Open communication with parents is vital. If you have a query or concern, we are always happy to help. For non-urgent queries Dojo is the first port of call. Please understand that our teachers will not respond during teaching time but will endeavour to reply within 24 hours. Please avoid sending duplicate messages to teachers to try to get a faster answer as this just causes unnecessary workload, and potentially mixed messages. For parents in Willow Class, please be mindful of the working days of Mrs Parker and Mrs Green - as they will only respond on their allocated working days.

If your query is more urgent, please contact the office to make a face to face appointment with your class teacher, in the first instance. Be clear as to your concern, what resolution looks like and how you would like the issue resolved.

If things don't improve, please make an appointment to meet with Mrs Sida, as lead teacher in my absence, or myself.

Autumn Dates 2023 / Term Dates

We are currently putting together dates for the new academic year and we will send these out in good time for the start of the Autumn Term. Children will start back on Tuesday 29th August.

I have added our term dates to this newsletter. Please note, we have an INSET day for staff training on Friday 13th October, therefore school will close on the evening of Thursday 12th October for the autumn half term break.

Reach More Parents app

Please make sure you have downloaded the app needed to access Reach More Parents, as from the new academic year we will no longer be sending letters out via email. Processes such as reporting an absence, giving consent for trips, paying for school dinners and viewing calendar events will all be available through Reach More Parents.

End of year reports

End of year reports will be sent home on Monday 10th July. I hope you enjoy reading your child's end of year report as much as I did. They have all made amazing progress and we are so proud of every one of them. Each child at Somerby Primary School brings their own unique style and together make our lovely school small but mighty!

Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my amazing team at Somerby Primary School for the relentless hard work and dedication they have shown this year. I am very lucky to have such a dedicated team.

With only a few days of the term left, I wish you all a super summer break and I hope the sun shines. We look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 29th August to share their news from their summer!

Thank you to all our parents for your continued support with our small but mighty school!

Andrea Brown
Headteacher