



# Somerby Standard

## Message from Steve Nash, the headteacher

Dear parents and carers,



Wow – I can't believe the term has finished!

The autumn term is always a busy one (as are all the others...) and I am constantly amazed at what the children manage to achieve.

Not only have they been working really hard in their lessons, learning as much as they can about their 'Animal Antics' topic, but they have also managed to fit in so much more besides (see the rest of this newsletter for details, but I couldn't even fit it all in!).

I'd also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone for welcoming me to your lovely school; I feel very lucky to be entrusted with being the headteacher at such a wonderful place and am excited to help Somerby go from strength to strength.

I am really keen to talk to anyone about school, so if you have any questions, concerns or other things you want to share, please come and find me in the playground before and after school – I will be there every day that I am in school.

Have a lovely Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to seeing you all in 2020!

Steve Nash

## School admissions

Please remember the deadline for applications for children to start school in September 2020 is **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020**. See the Leicestershire school admissions website ([www.leics.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.leics.gov.uk/admissions)) for details and to apply.

## Attendance

Our school attendance target is 96%. We are currently on 91.4%, so we're quite a way below. Please make sure children are in school every day that they are able – it makes such a positive difference to their learning!



Be in school and on time – the gates close at 8:45am so don't be late!

## Friends Of Somerby School (FOSS)

Thank you so much to every member of FOSS parents and teacher group who has helped raise money so far this term – you are all fantastic, and it is a huge help to the children! Thanks too if you were able to support any of the events.

If you'd like to join the FOSS and help raise money for the children in school please see the office, who can give you all the details. It really won't take up too much of your time if you join!

## Children in Need 2019

After the Macmillan coffee morning last half term, the children took part in fund raising for 'Children in Need' and learnt about how important it is to help other people. We raised over £75 – thank you so much!



### **Trips and visitors**

The children enjoyed an animal experience visitor to school who taught them about lots of different animals – the children even got to stroke and hold some of the animals!

### **Farm trip**

Some of the children went on a trip to Farmer Barnes' farm in Somerby to learn about how cows are milked and the care that goes into looking after them.



*With Farmer Barnes and some of her cows*

### **Nativity and the panto!**

The school also put on a superb nativity performance for families and friends which was really well attended (thank you so much to everyone who was able to support the children – they were thrilled to put on their show to such a large audience).



*The cast of the nativity, performed at Somerby Village Hall*

We also went to the panto to see Jack and the Beanstalk at Melton Theatre, and the children had a great time (Oh yes they did!).

### **Vet science**

The children in Class 2 enjoyed a vet science visit by Chris from Oakham Veterinary Hospital, who taught the children all about how to examine a dog. They loved listening to Teddy the dog's heart with a stethoscope.



*Some of Class 2 with Chris and Teddy the dog (who was obviously a bit camera shy!)*

### **Sport**

What an amazing variety of sporting experiences and competitions again this term.

Some of the competitions that the children took part in were: basketball, dodgeball, tennis and gymnastics.

They also had the opportunity to try a range of different sports clubs, activities and festivals such as: tag rugby, balance bikes, kick boxing, dance, cricket, badminton, orienteering and fencing.

## Music

The children have been listening to and playing different musical instruments this half term. As well as the whole of Class 3 learning the guitar with an expert tutor, Class 1 read the story of Peter and the Wolf. They read different versions, then watched a performance which was accompanied by an orchestra; they then had a go at making sounds with the instruments that were used in the orchestra to hear what they sounded like.



Children making sounds with instruments such as the violin.

## Bikeability



Here are some of the children learning the very useful life skill of cycling, earning their Bikeability qualifications on the roads around school.

## Team GB athlete visit

The whole school enjoyed an inspirational assembly and fitness session with Laura Samuel, a Team GB triple jumper and Commonwealth Games silver medallist. She visited to talk about her life, teach the children about aiming high and never giving up, and to put them through an intense fitness session!



Here's Laura putting the school through their paces in the village hall – it got sweaty!

## Dates for your diary

Start of spring 1 term:  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020

End of spring term 1:  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Start of spring term 2:  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020

End of spring term 2:  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

