



# Somerby Primary School



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Working in partnership: Ab Kettleby and Somerby Primary Schools

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## Spring Term Round Up!

Dear parents and carers,

I think this is the fastest Spring Term yet! It has been great to see children enjoy their learning: Children in Oak have gone back to the Egyptian times; Ash class have enjoyed different artwork and being Eco Warriors and our youngest children in Willow have enjoyed different toys and the beats of music.

### Post Ofsted Actions

I am sure you have all read the awful news about the death of Headteacher Ruth Perry, following her Ofsted report. No job should affect your personal life in such a way to want to end your life, but it is so hard not to take Ofsted feedback, or in fact any feedback about our lovely school, personally as we all work incredibly hard to improve the lives of the children we teach and to improve the experiences they have in our school. We don't always get it right, but it isn't due to the lack of trying.

### Curriculum - next steps

Our Subject Leaders are now working to develop Knowledge Organisers for each of their subjects. The Organisers will specify exactly what skills, knowledge and vocabulary the children will learn during a specific term. Teachers will then be able to use these organisers as assessment tools to assess for progress within the Foundation Subjects such as music, history, geography etc.

### Behaviour Boosts

During the first week of each half term, we focus on our Behaviour Boost. This helps unpick certain behaviours that need refining! Our Boost for the beginning of the Summer term will be:

“What does an engaged learner look like?”

### Behaviours we are looking for:

- We will have a particular focus on the “A” of SLANT - Ask and Answer questions - children will be encouraged to answer questions to help consolidate their learning and in addition to this, encouraged to think of questions to ask to help deepen learning. Opportunities will be given throughout the day to answer any questions children have about the world they live in.

### Behaviours which need refining:

- Non - verbal body language - we have a number of children who use non-verbal body language such as eye rolling, shrugging of shoulders or making eye contact with other children to disturb learning, and these are the behaviours we would prefer not to see. This will be our focus during the Summer Term.



## **Staffing**

As you know, Mrs Fryer started her maternity leave at the end of last year's summer term. As she is now a mum of three, she has made the difficult decision to reduce her working hours. I am delighted to announce that she will be returning to Somerby Primary School after Easter, rather than Ab Kettleby. Mrs Fryer will mainly be working with children in Oak and Ash class in the Summer term, supporting our class teachers to narrow gaps. Mrs Fryer's SENCO role will continue to be Mrs Emma French, SENCO from The Grove.

Mrs Parker started with us in January to support Willow Class on a temporary two-term contract. I am delighted to announce that Mrs Parker wants to stay with us in Willow from August! Mrs Parker has requested to work on a slightly reduced contract of 3 days from August and Mrs Green, who currently covers Willow in Mrs Parker's absence, will complete their job share. Mrs Parker will teach Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Green will teach Thursday and Friday. They work brilliantly well together: they will plan and prepare the learning together and I know will make a great team for our youngest children.

## **Sport**

What a spring term of sporting experiences! Sportsability, gymnastics, football, dodgeball, as well as their daily boost!

Thank you to Mrs Brown from Ab Kettleby Primary School who organises such amazing opportunities for our children.

## **FOSS**

Our FOSS team of parents continue to fund raise and offer us money to spend on resources we wouldn't normally be able to afford. As a result of their funding, we are currently rejuvenating the library area. We have had a spring clear out, painted the walls and the new carpet is being laid this week! After the Easter holiday we will furnish it, add the books and enjoy using it! Photos will follow once it is complete!

## **Our Environment**

As you know, we are continuing to improve our environment. Over the summer term, we are hoping to have our fallen wall rebuilt, our railings painted and our field and garden area back to full use. I have also sent an updated email to Highways following an oil tanker incident last week, which mounted the pavement then decided to reverse while still on pavement taking the barrier out of the ground at the same time! We were horrified but luckily no one was hurt. The Trust are helping me to raise the profile of this issue, and I will keep you updated once I know more.

## **Summer Dates 2023**

Summer dates have been planned and were sent out last week. Letters with more detail about each event will be sent out nearer the time.

So, as the end of the spring term comes to a close, I would like to wish all our staff, children and families a very happy Easter and I look forward to welcoming our children back for our summer term.

Andrea Brown  
Headteacher