



# Somerby Primary School



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Working in partnership: Ab Kettleby and Somerby Primary Schools

December 2024

## Autumn Term Roundup

Dear parents and carers,

We have safely arrived at the end of the Autumn term once again! 16 weeks completed and 23 to go (very nearly halfway through!).

I would like update you on a few things before we sign off for a well-needed break!

### FOSS

I would like to thank the team who run FOSS, Friends of Somerby School, for organising events in order provide funds to our small but mighty school.

Schools rely heavily on fundraising and donations for many reasons:

- Fundraising - school budgets are forever decreasing with cost of running schools forever increasing! Monies received from FOSS this year have provided us with our fabulous Reading Pod - something we would not have been able to buy without their help. We are hoping to buy a personalised, pop-up gazebo. This can be used on multiple occasions over the year: Somerby Summer Fair; Sports' Day; sunshade for the field in the summer or even over our TuckShop Fridays!
- Memories - these events are loved by all children (and families!). In the Autumn Term, FOSS organised a Halloween Disco for the children to enjoy - and they did - and of course our weekly Tuckshop is always popular!
- Community Spirit - the bringing together of our families is important to us, such as the Nativity at the Church last week, and these events are perfect for doing this. Without our families supporting these events, they wouldn't be as lucrative - so thank you to all who contribute - however small.

### Mental Health Award

As you know, Mental Health is at the forefront of our day. Many children deal with the day to day stresses very well, with resilience and perseverance but some children don't find this quite so easy. To show our commitment we applied to Leeds Beckett University and have spent the last 6 months reflecting on our mental health provision. We have established two link Governors for the Trust, who will be responsible for holding the Trust to account for the work we do to



Part of Mowbray Education Trust

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Children First

support mental health; we have wellbeing and mental health as a standing agenda item at our Community Committee; we have a clear pathway to support children and staff within our Trust and share information with the wider community. As a result of this, we were awarded SILVER STATUS Schools Mental Health Award from the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools. There are over 20,000 primary schools in the UK; 410 of these have achieved the Mental Health Award since it started in 2017; 173 have achieved the Bronze Award; 173 have achieved the Silver Award and 64 have achieved the Gold Award. We are proud to be part of those statistics!

### **Friends of the Tenth**

Children from our school represented FOTT memorial again this year and our Head Boy represented our school at FOTT Remembrance Day. The relationship we have built with FOTT is special to us and we look forward to continuing this next year. FOTT have gifted us a beautiful memory book where each year we can place a photo of those who attended these services. Over the years this will build up to a lovely piece of history for our school to share with future generations!

### **Student Teachers**

We are committed, as a school, to help support the next generation of teachers. Our Trust works closely with many Initial Teacher Training Providers in the area, such as East Midlands Teacher Training, Nottingham Trent University and Derby University. As part of this, children in Oak Class will be joined by a student teacher, Miss Lindsey, from 13<sup>th</sup> January until March and we look forward to welcoming her to our team.

### **Clubs Complete 2025 Wraparound Care**

We are delighted to announce that Local Authority have agreed funding for “Clubs Complete” to provide our Breakfast Club and After School Clubs from 8am to 6pm.

This will benefit us for many reasons, including: an increase in prospective parents, supporting our current working parents; releasing the pressure on our staff to run after school clubs and offering a range of different activities for our children to enjoy.

“Clubs Complete” will start this provision from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025. Until Ofsted send us our registration documents, parents are only allowed to use 2 hours of this service. As soon as the documents arrive, the full service can be used, which we hope will be imminent.

Our Sport Clubs, run by Kat at Urban Movement on a Monday and Tuesday will continue until the summer, as well as a 6 week gymnastic club on a Thursday from January to February half term. These will be booked in the usual way via our Mowbray App. All other clubs run by “Clubs Complete” will be booked via their website [www.clubscomplete.co.uk](http://www.clubscomplete.co.uk) and search for Somerby Primary School.

### **Catchment Area - Consultation**

On behalf of Somerby Primary School, I have requested to increase our Catchment area to include the village of Owston. Historically, Owston was part of the catchment for Tilton on the Hill and when the school closed, the surrounding catchment area was not reallocated to other schools.

Owston is one of our closest villages and being part of our catchment enables children to attend their local primary school without having to appeal.

The population for Owston, as of the 2011 census, was 112 therefore increasing our catchment to include this area will not significantly impact our admissions numbers.

The request must go out to stakeholders for consultation for 6 weeks and will end 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025. The change to catchment will be effective from 2026 admissions.

### **Spring 2025 Dates**

I have updated and attached the Spring and Summer dates for your information. Further details will be sent about each event closer to the time.

### **Extra Inset Days 2025**

Please note the Trust have added 3 extra inset days in 2025 for staff training. A letter explaining this was sent to parents this week. Therefore, school will be closed to children on the following days:

14<sup>th</sup> February 2025 & 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

### **Contact over the Christmas Period**

As we near the end of our Autumn Term, our fabulous team have worked hard to provide high quality teaching, learning and care for your children and are in need of time with their own family and time to recharge the batteries. I would kindly ask that parents refrain from contacting staff over the holiday period via Class Dojo. If you have any reason to contact school in an emergency over the holiday period, please contact me.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Andrea Brown  
Headteacher