



Sommerby Primary School

Working in partnership: Ab Kettleby and Sommerby Primary Schools



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July 2025

End of Summer Term Roundup!

Dear parents and carers,

Reflections of the year

I can't believe this is the end of my 4th year here at Sommerby Primary School and couldn't be prouder of the journey we have been on: the dedication of the team I work with and the support we get daily from our families makes my job worthwhile. The children at Sommerby are just the best: they bring a smile to our faces every day and continue to make us proud.

The year, as always, has been busy with the usual school events as well as welcoming a new CEO to Mowbray Education Trust and getting our heads around Bromcom's "My Child At School"! But we have survived to tell the tale as we come the end of yet another academic year.

Year 6 Goodbyes

This is the hardest part of our year - saying goodbye to our Year 6 team - and what a team they are. I first met them as a Year 3 cohort and to watch them grow as an individual, as a friend, as a learner and an integral part of our small, but mighty school, fills us with pride. They have all worked so hard, this year especially, and deserve every success. Each one of them hold our school values at the heart of what they do and I have no doubt they will hold onto these values as they step into the big wide world and move into the next phase of their education.

Hello New EYFS

As we say goodbye, we also say hello! We can't wait to have our newest 3 EYFS children starting in August. They have already spent some time with us at our Stay and Play sessions and our Transition sessions and already feel part of our family! We still have some spaces left in our school, so if you know anyone who is looking for a small, but mighty school, please spread the word!



Part of Mowbray Education Trust

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Staffing Structure 25/26

We are happy to announce we have no staff changes for Autumn term!

Oak - Year 4,5,6

Mrs Sida will continue to be our Lead Teacher and teacher in Oak. She will be joined, as usual by Mrs Allen.

Ash - Year 2,3

Miss Miller will continue as teacher of Ash Class and supported again by Mrs Burdett.

Willow - EYFS, Y1

Mrs Parker will start the beginning of the week off, looking after Willow on Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Green will end the week from Wednesday afternoon to Friday. Mr Hyde will continue to support children in Willow throughout the week.

Mrs Toghill will continue to support Oak and Ash Classes from August, covering the teachers when they have their planning and preparation time.

New SENCO

We are sad to say goodbye to Jess Watson as our SENCO, however she isn't going far! She is staying in her role as Assistant Head and SENCO at Sherard but is reducing her hours to 4 days a week. As from August we welcome Natalie Jones, SENCO from Buckminster. She is going to be working across all 3 village schools (Ab Kettleby, Somerby and Buckminster). Currently we have a SENCO for ½ a day per week, however, Natalie will be with each school for 1 day a week and will be more involved in observations and interventions for our children who need a little more support. Jess is Natalie's mentor so will be working alongside her, and will still be on hand for advice when needed, to ensure a good handover is in place.

New Website

All Mowbray Education Trust Websites have been revamped and ours is now up and running. The website is a wealth of information so please take some time to find your way around it.

Uniform

School uniform is really important part of life at Somerby Primary School. It promotes a sense of pride, a sense of belonging and maintains an equality, all of which positively contributes to the wellbeing of children. From time to time, incorrect uniform tends to creep into our school (e.g. incorrect hair accessories or sock colour, incorrect jewellery or logo shoes/trainers on non-PE days). We need parents to help us maintain our high expectations and double check the correct uniform is being worn for school and for PE days. As a reminder, the full uniform can be found on our website: <https://www.somerby.org.uk/page/?title=School+Life+and+Term+Dates&pid=33>

Attendance and Punctuality

This is just a reminder to all parents of the new statutory guidance which came into force as of August 2024, regarding the importance of good attendance, punctuality, and penalties for unauthorised absences. The learning day is so full, that even one day off school can cause gaps

in children's knowledge and understanding and this can have a negative effect on their self-esteem and mental health. Our aim is for children to attend school 96% or above, this gives leeway for genuine sickness, which may occur, in the academic year.

Children are required to be in school at 8:30am, when learning starts. Arriving after this time may disadvantage your child as they will miss the introduction of the first learning task, cause unnecessary anxiety and affect their self-esteem. Our gate opens at 8:30am and any time arriving after this time is lost learning time for your child. The gate will be closed at 8:45am. Anyone arriving after 8:45am will need to report to the office and will be marked as late.

Music Provision Summer 2026

Leicestershire Music Services has offered to support children in Oak for another year of music tuition. For 25/26 academic year this will take place in the Summer Term of 2026 and more information will be available nearer the time.

Clubs Complete /School Club Offer

As you know, we have had concerns for some time about the quality of provision that has been offered at Somerby, for wraparound care by Clubs Complete. Despite numerous meetings, support from LCC and an improvement plan written by Clubs Compete, significant improvements were not seen. I am still working with LCC to try and find alternative provision, but from August we will revert back to offering 3 school-led clubs Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 3-4pm. Kat at Urban Movement has kindly offered to run two of these evenings and details of these clubs will be sent out in time for the new academic year.

Trip Consent

Mrs Ferguson spends too many hours of her day chasing consent for trips and therefore we have decided to streamline this process from the autumn term. One letter will be sent to all parents, at the start of the new term, which will ask for consent for all trips that occur during the 2025-2026 academic year, which take place within the school day, such as class trips or sporting events. Separate consent will be required for overnight trips, such as the residential, and any trip which leaves before the beginning of the school day or returns after the end of the school day. Hopefully, this will make things easier for us all!

Yearly Planner 2025-2026 Dates and INSET days

A yearly planner will be finalised during our August inset day and sent out to parents with our usual annual events, so you can start filling up your diary! A copy of the term times have also been attached, please note two new inset days have been added, giving us 7 inset days:

Thursday 21st August 2025
Friday 22nd August 2025
Monday 27th October 2025
Friday 28th November 2025
Monday 5th January 2026
Tuesday 6th January 2026
Friday 10th July 2026

End of year reports

I hope you have enjoyed reading your child's end of year reports as much as we enjoyed writing them. Each and every one of our children have made great progress, not just academically but emotionally and as a valued member of our small, but mighty team. We are proud of all of them.

Thank you FOSS

Before I end, I would like to thank Team FOSS for their fundraising activities that have been on offer yet again this year, from discos to tuckshops and the biggest fundraising event of the year, the Clay Shoot. This money is invaluable to us and this year alone we have been able to provide our children with a new Reading Pod and a personalised gazebo to enjoy! Thank you also to Rosie and her gang for the weekly Tuckshop that she offers - this in itself has raised just over £1000 since it started! We are looking to use the money to develop our outdoor field area. These events do not just happen - they take a great deal of time, organisation and planning and many of our FOSS team hold down a full-time job on top of this. Parental support in any form is vital and greatly appreciated in order to raise money for our small, but mighty school. Thank you to everyone involved in organising or spending to help raise these funds.

My final thank you go to my fabulous team, who continue to strive for high standards, excellent teaching and above all provide a safe and inspiring place to learn. It is time for them to down tools and take a well-earned break from school life and spend time with their own families to re-charge the batteries.

On behalf of my team at Somerby, we would like to wish our families a safe and happy summer break and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 26th August.

Andrea Brown
Headteacher

