



Somerdale Educate Together  
Primary School  
'Learn Together to Live Together'  
Newsletter (Term 1 Week 4)  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Value of the Month  
for  
September  
**Responsibility**

Dear Families,

Welcome to this edition of our school newsletter! It's been a wonderful start to the term, and we're thrilled to share all the exciting things happening across the school. From settling into new classes to celebrating special events, there's so much to look forward to in the weeks ahead. This newsletter will keep you updated on important dates, activities, and achievements as we continue to support your children's learning and development. Thank you for being a part of our school community!

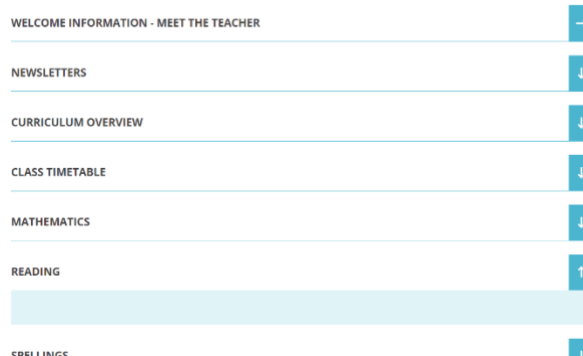
### **National Teaching Assistant Day – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September**

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September marks National Teaching Assistant Day. We would like to say a special thank you to our wonderful teaching assistants who work tirelessly to support the children and staff. We would be lost without you!

### **Class Pages – School Website**

Please refer to the class sections on our school website where you can access information relating to area such as:

- Class timetables
- Newsletters
- Curriculum overviews
- Parent workshop slides
- PE days



### **Class News**

#### **Turtles (Pre-school)**

The children in pre-school have all settled brilliantly! We are becoming familiar with the daily routines and developing independence within our everyday experiences. We have also really enjoyed exploring different sensory resources in the tuff tray, for example shaving foam!



### **Otters (Reception)**

WOW! What a super start to school Otters have had! The children have been busy finding their way around the classroom and school, learning new routines and making new friends! We have had lots of fun exploring the story 'Peace at Last', the children enjoyed going for listening walks, making watches, exploring light/torches, finding other stories with bears and SO much more. This week we began phonics and learning our first set of sounds. Everybody has been practising their fine motor skills and learning how to hold their pencil correctly.

We have also been exploring Autumn, and the changes we can see outside. Here are some photos from our local walk where we found lots of leaves and conkers which we use in our discovery time.



### **Wildcats (Year 1)**

Wildcats have really enjoyed learning about our focus text, Dear Greenpeace! It features a girl called Emily who finds a blue whale in her pond! We had great fun outside working together to see if we could be as long as a whale and have written some brilliant sentences – what a great start to the year!



### **Hedgehogs (Year 2)**

Hedgehog Class has transitioned into Year 2 remarkably well. We've witnessed some incredible learning, including mastering place value in math and writing detailed character descriptions in English, inspired by The Robot and the Bluebird. The children have also acted out scenes from the story and engaged in class discussions about the characters' emotions!



### **Bumblebees (Year 3)**

Bumblebees have had a busy start to the term. In Learn Together, we have been learning about the history of Educate Together, and of Somerdale School – This week they wrote some questions to ask Jo, who has been working here since Day 1, and Chris to find out their perspectives of how the school has developed and why it is so important.

This week we have also been supporting the world record attempt with ideas for what counts. Here are some examples written by the children:

- I think what counts is friends because they give you happiness inside your body and they play with you when you're alone.
- I think what counts is family because they support you when you feel upset, mad or lonely.
- I think what counts is kindness because it makes a good day happen.
- I think what counts is our mind because if we didn't have our mind it would be a boring world.
- I think what counts are friends and family because if you are ill or something is bad happening, there would be no-one to help and you have the right to be safe.
- I think what counts is safe, drinking water because people need safe drinking water to live.
- I think what counts is being loved because children should be cared for and loved.
- I think what counts is that there are rights for children under 18 because all children have rights.

### **Puffins (Year 4)**

Puffins have had a great couple of weeks in Year 4, producing some beautiful descriptive writing, exploring numbers up to 10,000 and practising netball skills, amongst so much more. In science, Puffins have been looking at how to stay safe with electricity and have created some AMAZING poster to go up around the school. Check out a couple below.



### **Elephants (Year 5)**

Elephants have taken off this year and we've been exploring space. In the last couple of weeks, we looked at how planetary bodies are *mostly* spherical, observing how our solar system moves and created our own heliocentric models.



This week, we looked at the arguments for a flat Earth and the history of Earth as a spherical body. This all accumulated with us holding a livestream to Japan where we could observe in real time how time zones work. Our contact Matt Harvey was able to show us Saitama skyline at night 22:00 his time when we were still enjoying a clear afternoon at 14:00.

It's been an absolutely cosmic effort by all – bravo Year 5!

## **Tigers (Year 6)**

Tigers have made a great start to Term 1. We have been reading a range of books linked to alchemy in our English lessons including *The Last Alchemist* by Colin Thompson, *The Myth King Midas of the Golden Touch* and *Once were Wizards* by Cressida Cowell. Next week, we are fortunate to be visiting the Bath Literature Festival to hear Cressida Cowell speak in a workshop on Magic and Dreams. The children analysed the characters, Looter and Xar, then created roleplays of the dialogue.



## **Parent/Carer Forum**



The forum will provide parents/carers with a termly opportunity to discuss school related issues with the Headteacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.



## Asda Cashpot for Schools



Asda are currently running a scheme where if you use the Asda app, every time you spend at Asda, the school gets 0.5% back in a cashpot. Even if you do not shop at Asda, just selecting our school on their app adds £1 to our cashpot. It currently stands at £80.80!

Please do let others know about this, so we can raise some money to support the children of our school. We have also posted it onto our Facebook page for ease of sharing. For more information, please visit: <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

The scheme runs until the end of November.

## Messages

A purple-bordered advertisement for Stikins Name Labels. The top text reads 'FUNDRAISING WITH NAME LABELS'. Below this, 'STIKINS® Name Labels' is written in large purple letters. A QR code is on the left. To the right, it says 'SIMPLY STICK IN NO SEWING &amp; NO IRONING' and 'Save time and money with one multipurpose name label for clothes, shoes, lunch boxes, and all school items'. At the bottom left, it says 'PLEASE QUOTE OUR FUNDRAISING NUMBER 36296 when you buy Stikins name labels and we will receive 30% commission'. At the bottom right, it says 'TO ORDER VISIT: WWW.STIKINS.CO.UK'. A small badge says 'over 11,000 schools'. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are at the bottom.

Follow this link to order labels for school clothes and items. We receive 30 percent for the school from every sale. Our fundraising code is 36296.

<https://www.stikins.co.uk/name-labels/>

# make a difference

Work with children  
Connect with your community  
Enrich lives & learn new skills

## Volunteer at Lifeskills

Join us for a taster hour!  
Learn more about lifeskills, get in touch.



**0117 922 4511**

[volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk)



# MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM



Anxiety  
Low Mood  
Anger  
Panic

Self-esteem  
Body Image  
Worries  
Social Anxiety

We are a team of Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) from the NHS. We work with children and young people aged 5-18 years to provide early mental health support within schools for mild to moderate mental health difficulties.

We provide:

## 1 1:1 Sessions

Talk to us about your feelings in a safe space. You will work with us for 6-8 sessions

## 2 Groups

We provide a range of group work to assist young people who are facing similar difficulties



If you would like support from an EMHP, speak to your teacher or a member of the pastoral team.



# SEND COFFEE MORNINGS

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025

9am in the school hall.

Theme for each coffee morning will be announced nearer the time.