



Somerdale Educate Together  
Primary School  
'Learn Together to Live Together'  
Newsletter (Term 2 Week 3)  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Value of the Month  
for  
November:  
Friendship

Dear Families,

It has been a busy and exciting couple of weeks at school, filled with wonderful activities and opportunities for our children. From the fantastic Christmas Fair to raising funds for Children in Need, we've seen incredible generosity and community spirit. We also came together to promote kindness and understanding during Anti-Bullying Week and celebrated World Children's Day, highlighting the importance of children's rights and voices. Thank you for your continued support in making these events so meaningful for our school community.

### **Christmas Events**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Key Stage 2</b> Year 3-6	Songs by Candlelight <i>Top Playground</i>	Christmas Carol Concert (12.12.24)  4.30pm – 5.15pm	Join us for some festive songs chosen by the children in the top playground. Wear your best Christmas jumper and Christmas hat! (Children to arrive at their classrooms for 4:15pm)
<b>Key Stage 1</b> Year 1-2	Christmas Rhyme <i>School Hall</i>	KS1 Christmas Play (13.12.24)  2.15pm – 3pm	<i>Max of 2 adults per family.</i>
<b>EYFS</b> Pre-School & Reception	Nativity Play <i>School Hall</i>	EYFS Nativity (17.12.24) 2.15pm – 3pm	<i>Max of 2 adults per family.</i>
<b>All Children</b>	<b><i>Christmas Dinner</i></b>	(18.12.24)  12:00-1:00pm*	Pre-school children not attending school on 18.12.24 are invited to attend the Christmas dinner.

### **Christmas Fair**

Thanks to your incredible efforts, we've raised an amazing £1,300! This is a significant achievement and a testament to the time and energy FoSET and the community have put into planning, promoting, and running the fair. The funds raised will make a meaningful difference in supporting our playground development project.

### **Poppy Appeal**

We are delighted to share that our school raised an impressive £216 for the Poppy Appeal this year. Thank you to all our parents, carers, and children for your generosity and support. Your contributions will make a meaningful difference in helping those who have served and continue to serve our country.



## Anti-Bullying Week

Thank you for all your participation in Anti-Bullying Week last week by wearing your Odd Socks. The theme this year was 'Choose Respect' and we had so many amazing entries for our poster competition! There were two winners for each age range and one overall winner who were announced in assembly as: Sylvia (Y5), Addie (Y5), Holly (Y3), Miles (Y4), Saman (Y2), Thea (Y2) and the overall winner: Heethushri (Y4). These posters will be displayed around school for everyone to see. The anti-bullying ambassadors also took part in a discussion with other schools across the country around respect. They voted on different topics and gave their suggestions and ideas which will be published in a report in a few weeks.



## Children In Need

We are thrilled to announce that our school raised £91 for Children in Need! A huge thank you to all our parents, carers, and children for your kindness and support. Your donations will go a long way in helping to improve the lives of children and young people across the UK.

## Class News

### Otter Class

Otters' have been exploring our new text, Iris and Isaac. We have discovered Antarctica and all of the amazing animals that live there. Children have investigated weather conditions, where Antarctica is in the world, how the animals there live and so much more.



We linked this to Anti-bullying week and Children in Need by talking about the importance of kindness and sharing. In the story, Iris and Isaac are sad because they can't both fit in the snow nest they had made. So, after receiving a letter from Iris asking us for help, the children have been working on how they can create their own snow nests and igloos for Iris and Isaac to share (and did a fantastic job!)

We have also been finding 1 more and 1 less this week, which children have very much enjoyed. And exploring all kinds of practical ways of showing 1 more and 1 less than, numbers to 5. We have also been practising our number formation, which can be tricky alongside letter formaton. But Otters did incredibly well. Well done all!

### Wildcats Class

Wildcats have been enjoying getting to know our key text 'Mixed' by Aree Chung. I only gave the children the three primary colours and they had a challenge to mix as many different colours as they could! They then turned these into their own characters like those we see in the book. We have started writing our own versions of 'Mixed' this week and I am excited to read them when they are finished!



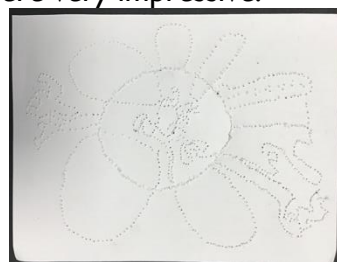
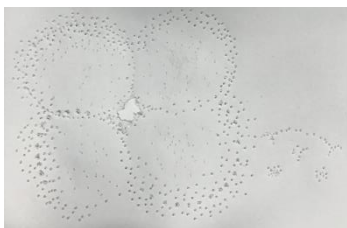
### **Bumblebee Class**

This term, we are being historians, focussing on the Stone Age! In our latest session, we learnt about the different tools and even had a go at creating our own models! The children have also shown great engagement within our Learn Together sessions where we are learning all about single-use plastic. This week we investigated one popular supermarket's weekly bulletin, and found that half of the products advertised contained single-use plastic. Next week the children will write a letter to the company to ask them more about this and persuade them to use more sustainable packaging.



### **Puffin Class**

In art, this term, we are looking at exploring pattern. To kickstart this, we looked at creating sensory drawings, inspired by Gillian Adair McFarland. We used pencils and pins to create holes in paper and make beautiful sensory patterns. Everyone loved it and the results were very impressive.



### **Elephant Class**

As part of Learn Together, we led our amazingly successful Cake Sale for Children in Need and wow – what a success it truly was! The children organised the entire operation from the ground up, the concept, the pricing, the layout on the day, the signage, the advertising, the way we assigned who was bringing what, they truly planned it all.



Thank you again to our Year 5 families at home who supported the event behind the scenes. Thank you to those who took part on the day as well.

## **Tiger Class**

In science this week, we have been learning about the circulatory system and how blood is pumped around the body. To investigate the components of blood we made a blood 'smoothie' using orange juice (plasma); raspberry (red blood cells); marshmallow (white blood cells) and sprinkles (platelets). We then tasted the smoothie which we agreed was delicious!



## **Christmas Card Postbox**

The Christmas Card postbox has returned! If your child has any cards they wish to hand out at school, please ensure the child's name and class are written on each envelope as they will be put into the postbox and handed out by Father Christmas's little helpers!

The postbox is situated in the library.

## **'Be A Star' Christmas Appeal**

Every year, St Monica's Trust of the Chocolate Quarter organise the Salvation Army 'Be a Star' present appeal, and they've asked if our community can support this year.



If you can support, please donate new, unwrapped toys and gifts for children who might not otherwise receive a Christmas present. The gifts will then be wrapped and distributed to those in need by the Salvation Army.

# Suggested Gift List for Children and Young People

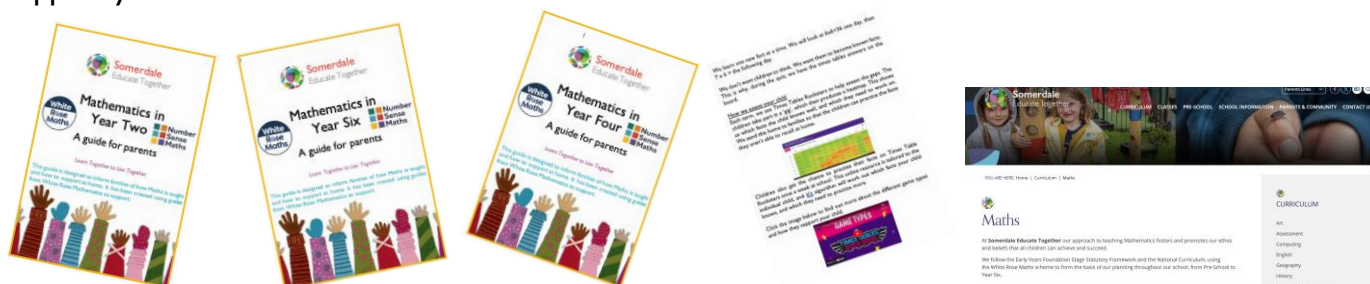
We believe every child deserves a new gift at Christmas so we are unable to take used or second hand items for the Christmas Present Appeal.

- **0-3 years:** dolls, teddy bears, cot mobiles, baby clothes, bath toys, puzzles
- **3-5:** dolls and action figures, cars, lorries, colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles
- **5-9:** educational games & toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), books, puzzles, wordsearch, crosswords
- **9-12:** games and toys, stationery, books, t-shirts, hair accessories, gloves, scarves, hats
- **13-16:** books, make-up and toiletries (please try to ensure non-allergic ingredients if possible), gloves, scarves, hats, t-shirts, hair accessories and gift vouchers

Please bring in any donated new toys and gifts by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. We will place these in our library before St Monica Trust pick these up on the 6<sup>th</sup> Dec.

## Website Update

We have updated the Mathematics curriculum page on our website. You can now find the parent guides for each year group on this page. The booklets include hyperlinks to resources, videos and more to support your child at home.



## Term 2

Dates and times are available on the school website: <https://www.somerdaleet.org.uk/parents-and-community/upcoming-events/>

### **Christmas Jumper Day – 18.12.24**





On the 18<sup>th</sup> December we will be raising money to support Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. Whilst we encourage children to wear Christmas clothing on the day we will be marking the event by making special Christmas dinner hats. The children will have the opportunity to make their hats in school but we welcome home-made entries. Details of our Save the Children Just Giving Page to follow later in Term 2.

### **Parent/Carer Forum**

The next forum will take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 2:30pm in the school hall. Parents/carers can contribute towards the agenda via the [online form](#). The form will close on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November. An agenda for the meeting will be distributed on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Staff Training – 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Following the practice of our other Educate Together schools, we will be closing at 1:15pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December to allow our staff the time for essential training. Therefore, it is important that all children are collected at 1:15pm. On this day, there will be no after school childcare provision available, so it is crucial that arrangements are made for your child to be collected at the earlier time of 1:15pm. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter as it is important for the continued professional development of our staff.

<b>Week Beginning</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Rights Focus</b>	<b>Global Goal Link</b>	<b>Event(s)</b>
(w/c 25/11/24)	4	Article 24: Health, Water, Food, Environment		SEND Coffee Morning- 27 <sup>th</sup> November Wombles Litter Pick FoSET Coffee Morning-29 <sup>th</sup> November
(w/c 2/12/24)	5	Article 2: No Discrimination - All children have rights no matter what their differences are.		Peace/International Day of Persons with Disabilities 3 <sup>rd</sup> December Internal assessment week  Parent Carer Forum- 3 <sup>rd</sup> December
(w/c 9/12/24)	6	Article 2: No Discrimination - All children have rights no matter what their differences are.		KS2 Songs by Candlelight- 12 <sup>th</sup> December KS1 Christmas Production- 13 <sup>th</sup> December Human Rights Day
(w/c 16/12/24)	7	Article 2: No Discrimination - All children have rights no matter what their differences are.		EYFS Nativity- 17 <sup>th</sup> December  Y6 Life Skills- 17 <sup>th</sup> December  Children's Christmas Dinner Day- 18 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>End of Academic Year</b>				