



Somerdale Educate Together Primary School
'Learn Together to Live Together'
Newsletter (Term 4 Week 3)
Friday 14th March 2025

Value of the Month for

March:

Honesty

Dear Parents/Carers,

What an exciting few weeks we've had at Somerdale. Our World Book Day celebrations were filled with creativity, laughter, and a love of reading, as children dressed up as their favourite characters and took part in wonderful storytelling activities. Science Week was just as thrilling, with hands-on experiments, guest visitors, exciting discoveries, and lots of curious minds at work! It's been fantastic to see the enthusiasm and joy in our classrooms.

Looking ahead, we're excited to support **Red Nose Day on Friday 21st March**. This is always a special event, and we look forward to raising money for a great cause—more details to below!

Finally, a gentle reminder that we are a **no-nuts school**. Please ensure that any snacks or packed lunches do not contain nuts, as we have children with severe allergies.

No-Nuts Statement: <https://www.somerdaleet.org.uk/school-information/food-culture/>

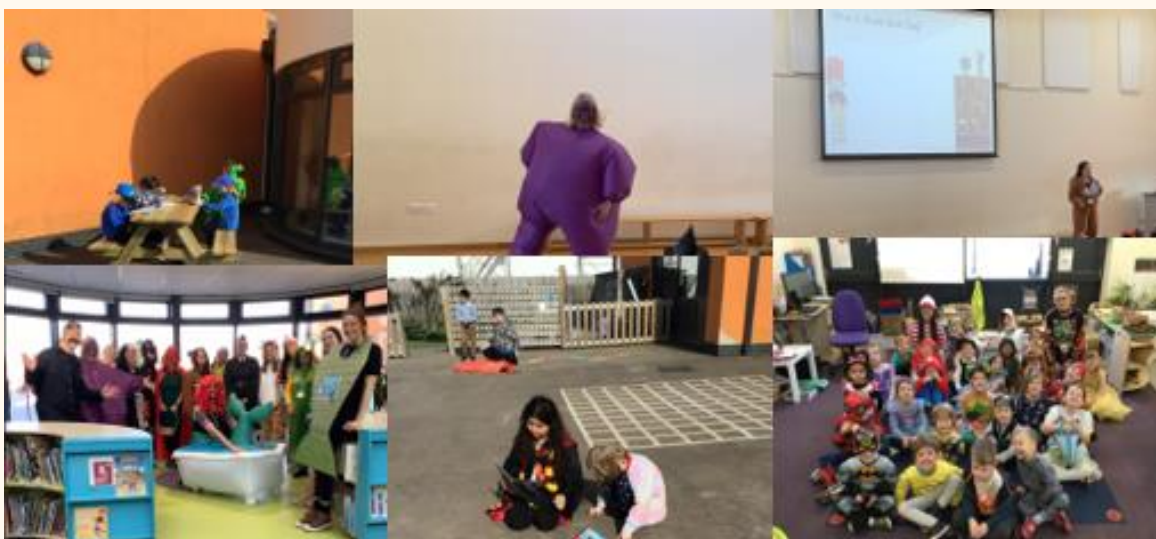
Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to more fun and learning ahead!

Red Nose Day 2025

Red Nose Day takes place on Friday 21st March. We are asking children to come into school wearing either red or spotty clothes. If you would like to make a small donation to this charity, please do so via the JustGiving link- https://www.justgiving.com/page/somerdale-educate-together-23?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

World Book Day

World Book Day is a fantastic opportunity for children to dive into the wonders of reading and express their creativity through the exploration of books. During the day, the children dressed up as their favourite characters, swapped books, read with their reading buddies, and entered a competition by creating a book token!



Science Week

All the children at Somerdale have loved celebrating Science Week this week and there have been some exciting experiments happening all across the school. From planting in the garden, investigating changing of states and making volcanoes, the children have loved all the practical science. We were really lucky to have Mark come to the school and chat to the children about how science influenced his career. He also took the children to our makeshift 'Science Lab' where he demonstrated how exciting dry ice could be. All of us at Somerdale want to say a huge thank you to Mark for giving up his time to make Science Week even more exciting.



Pre-School

We have been talking about the pioneering ecologist Rachel Carson and identifying some of the skills that a successful ecologist might need: quiet watching, careful recording and taking care of the natural world. The Turtles continue to be fascinated by the tadpoles and have done a fantastic job of detailing their growth. We have talked about the things that we put into the natural world and experimented with how mixing can give unexpected results. The Turtles have been keenly watering their seedlings and making observations and predictions about their growth. It's been impressive to see the responsibility they take for watering their plants.



Reception

Otters started the week by investigating Mary Anning and her discovery of fossils. We talked about where she found fossils and where these dinosaurs may have lived. We then explored creating habitats for animals we made in class. We discussed why animals live in these places and what we could add to our habitats to make sure our animals were happy. I was very impressed by the children's creativity.



Year 1

Year 1 have loved taking part in Science week this week! We have made wind socks, shadow puppets, wormeries, volcanoes and planted. We also watched some demonstrations of elephants' toothpaste and colour-changing water! I have put a video of the children's shadow puppets on our class page on google drive for you to take a look at!



Year 2

This week, Year 2 have been busy exploring and experimenting for Science Week! We conducted exciting experiments, made predictions, and wrote our conclusions. One of our investigations focused on water pollution, where we observed how different substances affect water quality. We also explored wax resistance and investigated the impact of degradable and non-degradable materials on the environment. It's been a fantastic week of hands-on learning and scientific discovery!



Year 3

Team Bumblebee were amazed with Wednesday's experiment where we were able to make a paper clip float in water, due to water tension. We have been learning about Tu Youyou in Vipers who was the first Chinese woman to win a Nobel prize and her discovery of a drug to treat malaria has saved many lives. On Thursday and Friday, we learnt more about pollinators, planting up the school planters, and also spent some time observing nature within the coronation pond.

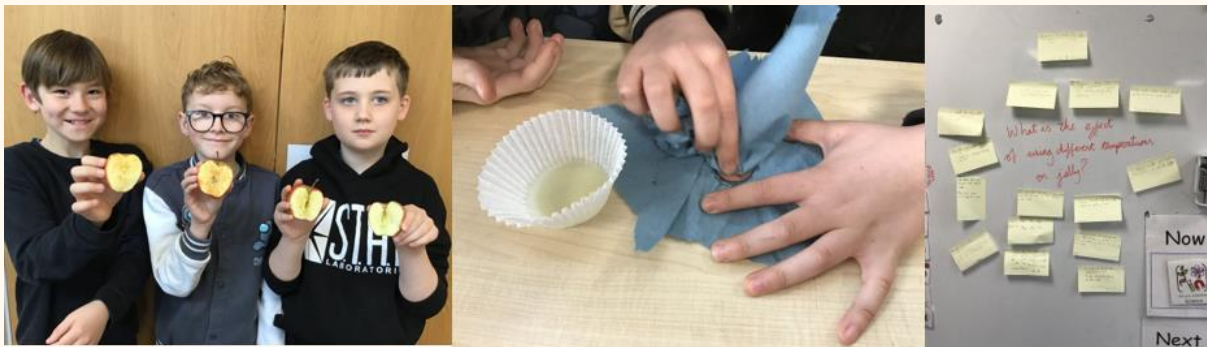
Year 4

Puffin Class have really got their hands dirty for Science Week and have had a blast exploring solids liquids and gases. We have questioned what makes something a liquid, made Oobleck, learned about the water cycle and explored evaporation and freezing. We have also been challenging the idea of what a scientist is and recognising how science plays a part in so many job roles, learning about the amazing zoologist and primatologist Jane Goodall and her work with chimpanzees. Our highlight was probably our visit from a real-life scientist and wonderful parent at Somerdale who blew our minds with some dry ice experiments and more.



Year 5

Year 5 have been learning about how materials oxidise. When materials react with the air, they oxidise and create a substance on the surface which can make them appear brown. We used natural substances like lemon juice, honey and vinegar to preserve apples and slow the browning process. Then we used vinegar to soak brown pennies and they became bright and shiny!



Year 6

Tiger class have been exploring light during Science Week! Using a glass of water we were able to turn an arrow backwards, create mirror writing and more. We drew all the blinds in the hall and used mirrors to reflect light. We worked in groups to create a mirror maze bouncing the ray of light until it hit a target. In reading we found out about Dorothy Vahaugn who was an amazing mathematician and computer programming in the times of segregation at NASA in America. She fought for equal rights for black people and women in the field of science.



PINS Update 3: Anxiety and Worries

What is anxiety and why do we feel it?

- Anxiety is a natural response to a potential challenge- this can keep us safe
- Anxiety is a normal response to situations that are new and challenging
- Anxiety is not normal if it is affecting your everyday life

Think about and discuss what happens in your body when you are anxious. Talk with your child about how being anxious makes your body feel.

Scan the QR code to watch the video for more information on the following ideas to help you/ your child when you are feeling anxious:

- Breathing techniques
- Grounding
- Challenging negative thoughts
- Distraction
- Visualisation



Zero Carbon Schools Project

As a school, we are taking part in the Zero Carbon Schools project. As part of this, we had to submit data relating to four areas – energy, travel, purchasing and food - in order to calculate our school’s yearly carbon footprint. Please see below! Year 4 are spearheading the project and have voted to focus on food as the focus area. As a class, they will be designing a project aiming to reduce our carbon emissions in this area.







Parent/Carer Forum

The next forum will take place on Friday 28th March 2025 at 9am in the school hall.

Term	Date	Time/Location
4	Friday 28 th March 2025	9am/school hall
5	Thursday 15 th May 2025	2:30pm/school hall
6	Wednesday 2 nd July 2025	9am/school hall

Term 4

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

Week Beginning	Week	Rights Focus	Global Goal Link	Event(s)
(w/c 10/03/25)	3	Article 29: A child or young person's education should help their mind, body, and talents be the best they can.		Science Week Year 3 Assembly (10.03.25) SEND Coffee Morning (14.03.25)
(w/c 17/03/25)	4	Article 23: Children with disabilities have the right to special care and education.		Neurodiversity Week Whole School Assessment Week Governors Meeting (18.03.25) FoSET Meeting (18.03.25) Red Nose Day (21.03.25)
(w/c 24/03/25)	5	Article 23: Children with disabilities have the right to special care and education.		World Autism Acceptance Week Year 2 Class Assembly (24.03.25) Parent/Carer Forum (28.03.25)
(w/c 01.04.25)	6	Article 3: Adults must do what's best for children.		Value of the Month for April – Dignity FoSET Easter Disco (02.04.25)
End of Term				

FOSET



Friends of
Somerdale
Educate Together

Save the date 2025



<p>MAR 1-14 Online buy a book for Somerdale for World Book Day</p>	<p>MAR 8 1PM - 3PM Spring Tabletop Sale School Hall</p>	<p>APR 2 3.20PM - 6PM Easter Party</p>
<p>APR 5-21 Somerdale Easter Trail</p>	<p>APR 22 Somerdale Easter Trail Prize Draw</p>	<p>MAY 9 Mike's Quiz Pavilion</p>
<p>JUN 7 1PM - 3PM Summer Fair Start of Summer Raffle</p>	<p>JUN 16-17 Rags to Riches for Schools' clothes donation collection</p>	<p>JUL 14 Summer Raffle Prize Draw</p>

@reallygreatsite



YOU ARE INVITED TO FOSET'S



WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL

PRESCHOOL/RECEPTION: 3.20pm - 4.00pm

YEARS 1 to 3: 4.15pm - 5.00pm

YEARS 4 to 6: 5.15pm - 6.00pm

Disco ~ Games ~ Crafts



Friends of
Somerdale
Educate Together



3 CORRECT MAPS
DRAWN ON
TUES 22ND APR.
EACH WINNER GETS
A CHOCOLATE EGG

INVITE YOU TO OUR

EASTER EGG TRAIL

SATURDAY 5TH TO
MONDAY 21ST APR

SUGGESTED DONATION FOR
SOMERDALE TRAIL MAPS:
£2 EACH / £1 FOR SIBLINGS

Available from:

School gates pick up
(Mon 31st Mar/Fri 4th Apr)

School Reception

(Tues 1st-Fri 4th Apr 10am-2pm)

Pavilion Reception

Sat 5th-Mon 21st Apr



Completed trail maps emailed to:
FriendsofSomerdale@hotmail.com

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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 4th October 2024

Wednesday 27th November 2024

Tuesday 28th January 2025

Friday 14th March 2025

Friday 9th May 2025

Wednesday 11th June 2025

9am in the school hall.

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

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



Children's Occupational Therapy Advice Line

Do you have any questions about a child or young person's ability to carry out daily tasks and activities?



01225 82 6659

**The first and second
Tuesday of each month.
2pm – 4pm**

Our Advice Line is open to Parents / Carers, Schools, Nursery and Healthcare professionals of children who have a **BANES GP**.

The RUH, where you matter

If the child is already on our Waiting List or is known to BANES OT Service, and you would like to speak to a member of the Occupational Therapy team, please contact 01225 82 4220.