



**Somerdale Educate Together Primary School**  
**'Learn Together to Live Together'**  
**Newsletter (Term 4 Week 6)**  
**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

Value of the Month for

April:

Dignity

*Out of hours safeguarding procedures: <https://www.somerdaleet.org.uk/our-school/>*

As we reach the end of Term 4, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible achievements and celebrations we have shared as a school community. It has been a wonderfully busy and exciting term, filled with events that have enriched our learning and brought us together.

From the joy of World Book Day, where our children's love of reading shone through, to the curiosity and discovery of Science Week, and the important awareness raised during Neurodiversity Week, it has been fantastic to see our pupils engaging with such enthusiasm. We also came together for Red Nose Day, showing our generosity and support for those in need.

Our community events have been equally inspiring. The SEND Coffee Mornings, Easter Disco, PINS Meetings, Mental Health Support Team Training, and Parent Carer Forum have provided valuable opportunities for connection, discussion, and support. A special mention must also go to our Year 2 and Year 3 pupils, who impressed us all with their fantastic assemblies—what a wonderful way to showcase their confidence and learning!

Thank you to our staff, parents, carers, and the wider community for your ongoing support and involvement. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday break, and I look forward to seeing everyone back for an exciting Term 5!

Best Wishes

Chris Thomas-Unsworth

(Headteacher)

**Laura Bazell (Director of Inclusion)**

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Laura Bazell for the incredible support she has given Somerdale as the trust's Director of Inclusion. Her dedication and expertise have made a significant impact on the development of our SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) provision and offer.

Laura has also played a vital role in building staff confidence and capacity through the training she has delivered, and her commitment to inclusion has been felt across the entire trust and the Somerdale school community.

We are truly grateful for all she has done and wish her every success and happiness in the next chapter of her journey.

**Parent/Carer Survey Results**

A huge thank you to all parents and carers who took the time to complete our annual school survey. This is the fourth year we have conducted the survey, and it is incredibly encouraging to see consistently high engagement and valuable feedback. We are delighted with some extremely positive results, including 96% of respondents agreeing that the school has a happy and positive atmosphere, 90% saying their child enjoys school, 93% recognising that we encourage children to care for each other and develop a sense of responsibility, and 92%

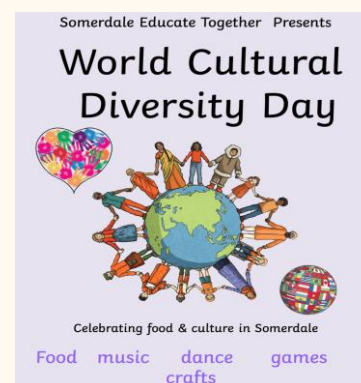
acknowledging good behaviour around the school. We truly value feedback from our community and will continue to reflect on ways to improve. Some of the key actions we are taking in response to your feedback are highlighted in the summary document, which can be found on the [Family and Community Voice](#) section of the school website.

### **Parent/Carer Forum**

The notes and presentation slides from our recent Parent Carer Forum are now available on the school website. We encourage all parents and carers to review these resources, which include key discussion points, important updates, and valuable insights shared during the session. This is a great opportunity to stay informed and engaged with school initiatives. To access the materials, please click on the [Term 4 Parent and Carer webpage](#). The next forum will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 2:30pm in the school hall.

### **World Cultural Diversity Day Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

We are excited to be celebrating **World Cultural Diversity Day!** Last year's event was a huge success, the children (and adults!) absolutely loved experiencing the different foods, music, clothing, and traditions shared by our wonderful families. We would love **to invite parents and carers** to get involved again by setting up a small stand to share something from their culture. This could be traditional food, crafts, clothing, artefacts, music, or anything else you'd like to showcase. Please email [info@somerdaleet.org.uk](mailto:info@somerdaleet.org.uk) if you would like to join us.



### **Careers Fayre – Inspiring the Next Generation**

We are excited to announce our plans to host a Careers Fayre at school next year! It is so important for children to be inspired by different career paths from an early age, helping them to explore the wide range of opportunities available to them. Hearing first-hand from professionals about their journeys into various roles can be incredibly motivating and give our pupils a real insight into the world of work.

To make this event a success, we would love to hear from parents, carers, or members of the community who would be interested in supporting the school by sharing their career experiences. We are particularly keen to hear from those working in industries or professions that are underrepresented, as we strive to showcase a diverse range of career paths. If you would like to get involved, please register your interest via our [online form](#). Your participation could make a huge difference in inspiring our young learners!

### **Travel Plan and Road Safety**

This year, the Listening Team is supporting two important initiatives to enhance safety and sustainability within our school community. The first is working towards achieving a nationally recognised standard for a school travel plan through the Modeshift Stars Education Scheme. A school travel plan is vital as it promotes safer, healthier, and more environmentally friendly travel options for students, reducing congestion and improving air quality around the school.

The second initiative focuses on improving road safety in and around the school site. The Listening Team will be conducting a survey to identify key areas of concern and will apply for a police grant to fund improved signage and road safety measures, including parking buddies. In addition, they will invite representatives from B&NES council to discuss potential traffic calming solutions, such as a designated road crossing, to help ensure the safety of our pupils and families.

If any parents or carers in the community would like to support this scheme or similar initiatives, such as Bikeability, please contact the school—we would greatly appreciate your involvement!

### **No-Nuts School**

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/>

### **Spring Concert at The Chocolate Quarter**

On Thursday afternoon, Hedgehogs, Bumblebees and Puffins went across to The Chocolate Quarter to sing a variety of songs to the residents including The Climb, Yellow Submarine, and of course, the firm favourite of the school, Spring Chicken!

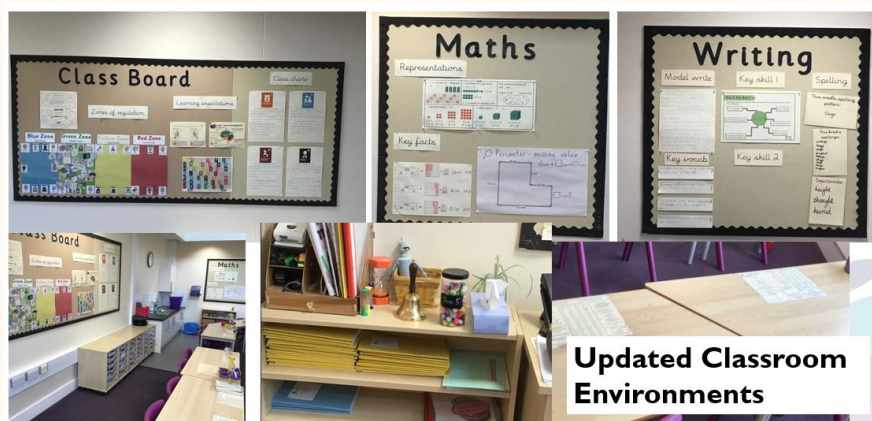
### **Easter Disco**

Thank you to FoSET for organising such an egg-cellent Easter Disco. Fun was had by all and there was even an appearance by a very odd looking Easter Bird!



### **Learning Environment Drive Group**

We set-up a learning environment drive group at the start of the academic year. The aim of the working party was to further enhance the learning environments in Key Stage 1 & 2. By the end of the project classrooms will have updated layouts and resources to support differentiated learning zones. There was a particular focus on classroom design/physical setup; availability of learning resources; positive/inclusive school culture and ensuring safe and structured environment. The working party considered views of the children reflecting on areas such as cognitive overload. As part of the project the school undertook a successful environmental survey by the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) project, which was highlighted as best practice at a recent conference.



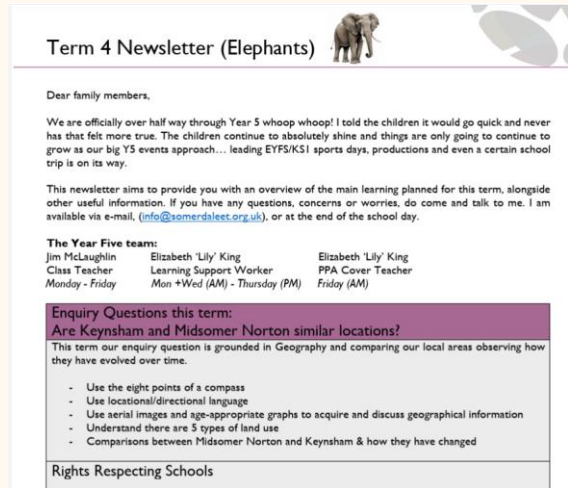
## School Website

We aim to showcase the resources available to parents/carers in this section of the newsletter. We understand that you are all very busy so you might not have time to explore all of the available content yourselves.

### Did you know you can access the following via the class webpage:

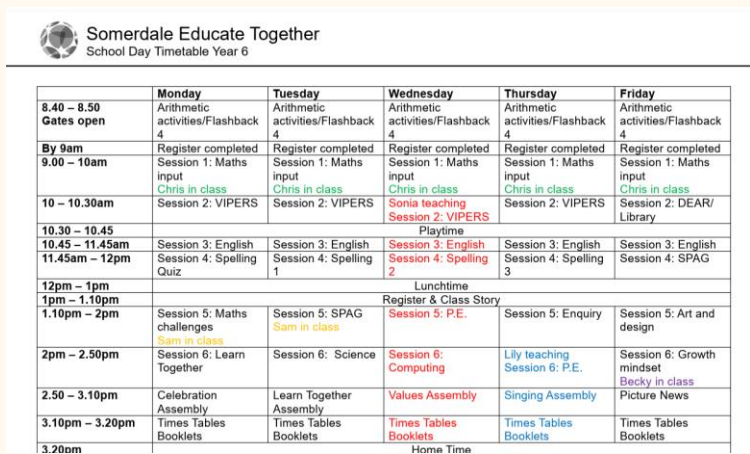
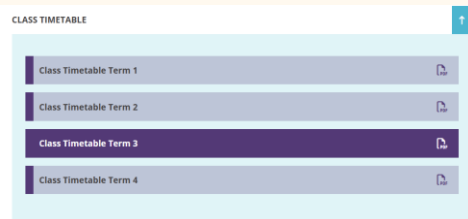
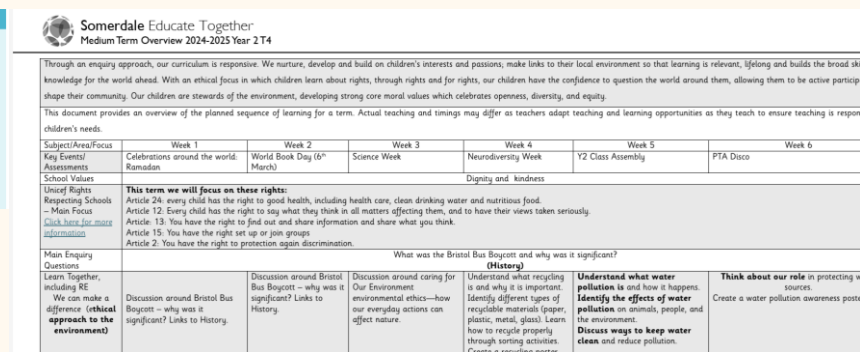
#### Class Newsletter:

In the newsletter section you will find messages from the class teacher(s), key dates, curriculum overviews and resources to support learning.



#### Curriculum Overviews and Class Timetables:

The curriculum overviews map out the learning week by week. These are particular useful for parents/carers to support discussions about the school day.





## News from around the school

### Preschool - Turtles

This term the Turtles have been thinking about growing, we have planted sunflowers, peas and even have a ceiling high magic beanstalk in the classroom. The children have been fascinated to see the tadpoles continue to develop, they are now all a dappled colour with distinctive eyes but no legs yet. We plan to release them back into the pond before the holiday and the Turtles will be sorry to see them go. The children have done a great job in taking care of their sunflowers, as a result of their diligent watering we now have some very substantial plants. Hopefully, they will survive being planted out and we will be able to continue watching them develop as the summer progresses.



### Reception - Otters

Over this term Otters' have been looking at life cycles and growth. We have been looking at a life-cycle of a frog, habitats and how things grow and change. The last few weeks we have focused on plants, vegetables and flower growth. Comparing size, environment, life cycles and observing changes. Children have enjoyed labelling parts of a flower and doing some planting of their own. We will be monitoring the growth of our newly planted sunflower over the next few weeks with our sunflower diary, before children can bring them home and continue to grow them as tall as they can.



### Year 1 - Wildcats

Wildcats have loved exploring the watercolour paints this term! We have found out about an artist called Emma Burleigh who works with watercolour and lives in Bristol. We have followed her videos to learn new watercolour skills and then used them to create our own Spring pictures. We also used the pastels to then add in details to our pictures, creating multi-media artwork. The children thought really carefully about the colours and shapes that they made and the end results have been beautiful!

### Year 2 - Hedgehogs

This term in Hedgehogs, we've been learning all about how to look after ourselves and our planet! We've explored the serious issue of water pollution by writing our own reports, packed with facts and ideas on how to help protect our oceans and rivers. In Science, we've been busy carrying out experiments to understand the effects of pollution and how we can help reduce it.



### **Year 3 - Bumblebees**

This term, our Learn Together focus has been on how to make school a better place. The Bumblebees decided a litter picking station would be best and that it would also ensure a safe environment for children (Article 24) as well as supporting nature. We researched litter picking stations and went out as a class and decided on the best place for this to go. As part of the project, the children also asked Chris to visit during a lesson so they could speak to him about their ideas and to ask permission. Bumblebees will be installing and introducing the litter picking station early next term.

### **Year 4 - Puffin**

Puffin Class have had a fantastic term, and we are so proud of their hard work and progress. They have loved reading Danny the Champion of the world and writing their own chapters, as well as instructions for how to successfully poach pheasants. In maths, they have shown a lot of determination as we tackle fractions. As geographers, Puffins have learned all about the course of a river, as scientists they have been exploring states of matter and as designers, they have made their own pencil cases (sewing with 30 children is no small feat and they have been amazingly patient and focused). Alongside this, Puffins have been designing projects to tackle our school's carbon footprint, focusing on food as that was our highest area of carbon emissions. Stay tuned for more information from the children next term.

### **Year 5 - Elephants**

In Year 5, we have been busy looking closely at our local area Keynsham and comparing it to Midsomer Norton to recognise the unique features between the two. Whilst we have covered a wide variety of important orientation, map reading and OS survey skills, it is our art topic which has really been the star of the show this week.

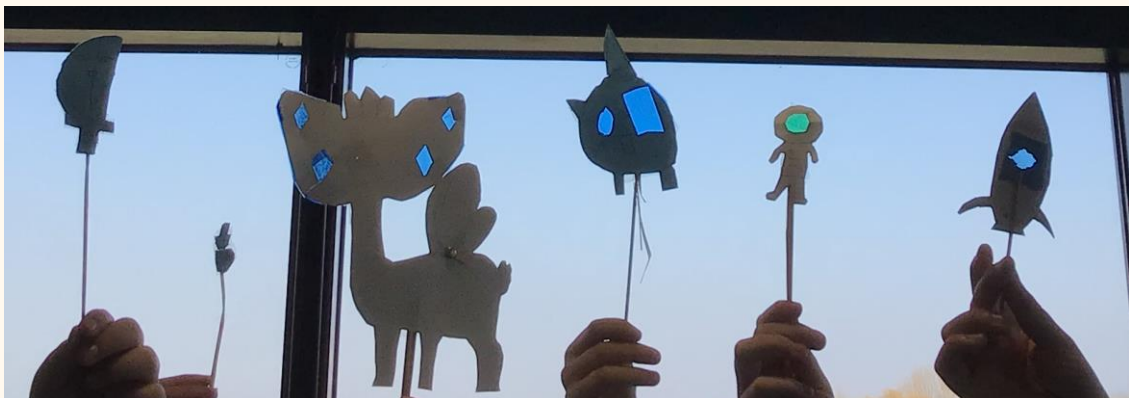
Inspired by Ed Fairburn, we have painstakingly copied by hand an exact map of Keynsham, traced the image onto card and then transferred a silhouette of a family member to create an amazing personal portrait. You can see us hard at work below.





### **Year 6 – Tigers**

In Year 6 during term 4, we have been creating shadow puppets in art linked to our science topic on Light. In groups, children have designed and made puppets on a theme of their choice, writing a short sketch to share with the class. See some examples below:







Friends of  
Somerdale  
Educate Together

# Save the date 2025



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

@reallygreatsite







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](mailto:FriendsofSomerdale@hotmail.com)

## FUNDRAISING WITH NAME LABELS

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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 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.

# 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)





# 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.

# Family River Safety Adventure



**16 April**  
10:30am to 12



**Join us, and the Avon Fire & Rescue Service to master essential water survival skills (whilst staying firmly on land). Explore hidden dangers and learn how to stay safe by the river.**

It's an exciting opportunity to engage in family friendly activities and challenges, all set against the beautiful backdrop of the river.



To reserve a spot through Eventbrite scan the QR code or visit the link [bit.ly/RiverSafetyAdventure](https://bit.ly/RiverSafetyAdventure)

**Meet at Kelson's Field** (what3words ///human.line.former)

**This event is led by**  
The Bath River Line Team and Avon Fire & Rescue Service







# LET'S WALK

Join England Cricketer & Vitality Ambassador **Heather Knight** at Somerdale Pavilion parkrun on 5 April 2025

  
parkwalk