



Somerdale Educate Together
Primary School
'Learn Together to Live Together'
Newsletter (Term 5 Week 6)
Friday 24th May 2024

Value of the Month for

May

Empathy

Dear Families,

On behalf of the children and staff I would like to thank you for your support and '**Team**' effort this term. It is incredible what we can achieve working together. Highlights of this term included:

- World Cultural Diversity Day
- Outdoor Classroom Day
- Opening of our new sensory room
- Emergency First Aid Training for Reception to Year 6
- Year 4 Sports Festival at Ashton Gate

I would also like to thank and highlight groups, such as the Friends of Somerdale Educate Together, The Governing Board and the many volunteers that support educational visits and interventions. Also, the external providers such as Preludes who enable us to deliver such an enriched and varied curriculum. I would also like to thank the staff for their never ending energy and enthusiasm which drives the school forward. Finally, I would like to praise our wonderful Year 6 children who continue to impress and inspire those around them. Have a fantastic half term! We look forward to welcoming you back at the start of Term 6!

Carla

Today we said goodbye to our wonderful chef Carla who has 'fuelled' and 'inspired' the school with her creative menus. After nearly 5 years of working at Somerdale we calculated that she had cooked approximately:

- 133,000 School Meals
- 21,450 plates of fish of chips
- Served 128,000 chips



In assembly we reflected on the occasions where her food had played a central role. Christmas Dinner will never be the same again!

Caprice

We would like to thank Caprice for supporting Year 3 and organising events such as World Cultural Diversity Day. Caprice will be leading and supporting a number of inspirational projects both in Bristol and around the United Kingdom. We look forward to one day welcoming her back to Somerdale!

Pre-School Facebook Page

We have set up a Facebook page to promote our Pre-School and show everyone what we get up to! Please do like/follow our page and share posts with others! You can find the link to our page here: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559245420758>. We have places available for September for children who have turned 3!

The Ocean Room is open!

After much anticipation, our new Ocean Room is finally open! A huge thank you to FOSET for your generous donation which meant that we could completely redo the Ocean Room so that it is a purposeful, supportive environment to help meet a wide range of children's sensory needs.

Before the project started, there were a lot of pipes and work to the walls which needed doing. We are very grateful that the RED Construction Group, who are currently completing building work on the Chocolate Quarter, agreed to complete the work for us free of charge- thank you! Through the amazing work that the Friends of Somerdale Educate Together do, they were able to provide us with the complete amount to redo the Ocean Room. On Friday, we were able to finally open the environment and invited FOSET in to be amongst the first to see our new room. The Ocean room consists of the following items:

- Trampoline
- Yoga mat
- Yoga balls
- Sensory sequin panels
- Wobble cushions
- Sound exploration tubes
- Multicoloured bubble sensory mirrors
- Multicoloured soft mats
- Bean bags
- Weighted lap animals
- Massage set
- Light Tray and coloured
- Bubble tube and reflection mirrors
- Weighted blanket
- Body sock
- Northern lights projector
- Sensory exploration balls
- Musical instruments



Turtles (Pre-School)

We had an amazing dinosaur day this week! We broke them free from the ice, played dinosaur memory games, used the dinosaur feet to make patterns in the dough and enjoyed making lots of dinosaur pictures! The children absolutely loved this day and really got stuck in with all the activities – perhaps we have some future palaeontologists in our class!



Wildcats (Reception)

May 15th was [International Water Safety Day](#), so last week we explored this together. We first talked about important ways to stay safe around water. **Some** examples were always being with an adult, following pool side instructions, not to enter ponds/streams/lakes without adult permission, to use armbands and floats.... This then brought us onto discussing which things sink and which things float and why we use life jackets and armbands. We made predictions as a class after feeling different objects and their weight/size/material before testing them to see which things floated and which sank, and then children enjoyed investigating themselves with items they found around the classroom.



Hedgehogs (Year 1)

5 terms down, 1 to go and what a term it has been! In Hedgehog's we have been making the most of the warmer weather and our new outdoor learning equipment, spending as much time as possible outdoors! This has led to lots of really exciting learning based around our enquiry topic of 'Plants'. Today we finished the term by making grass caterpillars! Please keep these alive with lots of sunlight and water! Any photos of growing caterpillars, please send them in- the funkier the hairstyles the better!



Bumblebees (Year 2)

This term, we've been busy learning new things! This week, since it's been getting warmer, we made ice lollies! We made sure they were healthy by using different types of fruit. In our enquiry lessons, we've been learning about the Great Fire of London. To see how it worked, we went outside and made a human water bucket chain. We had a race to see which group could pass the bucket of water the fastest!



Puffins (Year 3)

Goodbye from Caprice! I have had the best couple of terms with your children, it's been great being back with them, the last time I properly taught them, they were in Reception! We've had lots of fun and last week they loved showing and sharing the new outdoor area with me! It's a goodbye for now and hopefully see you all in the park!



Elephants (Year 4)

This week Elephants have been getting sporty with Bristol Sport! We were lucky enough to go to Ashton Gate for Bristol Sports' Celebration of Sport where we tried out six different sports including dodgeball, gymnastics and rugby. It was a fabulous afternoon in the sun – have a look at the pictures!



Leopards (Year 6)

This term's enquiry question has been 'How is the world by impacted by earthquakes and tsunamis?' As part of this learning, the children investigated earthquake-proof buildings around the world. In Design Technology, they designed, created, tested and evaluated their earthquake-proof buildings. They use simple materials such as art straws, paper. Card and lollypop sticks to create their buildings using triangular internal struts. Finally they tested their buildings on a home-made earthquake simulator made by Jess's dad! It has controls to reach 8 on the Richter Scale. Fortunately the children's designed survived the quake thanks to the special features they applied! Well done year 6!



Avon Fire and Rescue Service: Fire and water safety workshop

To help prepare the year 6s for their transition to secondary school and independence, we had a session from Avon Fire and Rescue. The five sessions focussed on smoke alarms, hazards in the home, escape plans, 999 calls, float and flounder and open water hazards. The children had an excellent attitude to all the learning and it could help them save someone's life one day.



Emergency First Aid Training for all at Somerdale

This week we were lucky to have the Wiltshire Air Ambulance in school to give all children emergency first aid training. Andrew, our trainer, spent time in Reception to year 6 focussing on age appropriate first aid that could help your children save a life one day. In year 6 children learned about the phone numbers that can be used and for what purpose: 999, 111 and 112. The App 'What Three Words' is helpful to report location to emergency services if you are in trouble. Children learned how to detect a casualty's breathing and then how to safely put them in the recovery position. If the casualty is not breathing, then the children were able to practise chest compressions on the special mannequins. Then children used a model defibrillator on the mannequin, and we discussed how to safely use them. Finally, children practised back slaps and abdominal thrusts to save someone from choking.



Outdoor Classroom Day

Rain? What rain?! Outdoor Classroom Day was a HUGE success, even with the weather, and the children and staff had a fantastic time outdoors. The activities really developed the resilience of the children and built their growth mindset as they attempted their dens, fire-building, weaving and many other activities – including attempting to collect the Somerdale frog in their net!

Later in the afternoon, we were joined by various VIPs from the local community as well as the Deputy Lord-Lieutenant who attended on His Royal Highness King Charles III's behalf. It was great to see the joy the day provided, and our wonderful staff team are already talking about the possibility of turning it into an annual event.

It was great to see some parents coming around with their children at the end of the day to explore our improved play and learning opportunities outdoors. A massive thank you again to everyone who has made these improvements and the Outdoor Classroom Day possible.



Messages

Attendance

A new page has been added to the school website to support attendance at school.

<https://www.somerdaleet.org.uk/school-information/attendance/>

Reading Records

To ensure that we can monitor and support children's reading, it is essential that reading records and books are brought to school every day.



Head Lice

Please be vigilant regarding head lice and nits. The school nurse recommended reading the following article if you require advice: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>. You can also book an appointment with the school nurse via the school office.

Term 6 – Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
03-07.06.24	Year 6 swimming
11-12.06.24	Tender Drama Workshop Year 6: Healthy Relationships
3.06.24 - 14.06.24	Year 4 Multiplication Check Window
10.06.24 - 14.06.24	Year 1 & 2 Phonics Screening Check Week
15.06.24	FOSET Summer Fair
17.06.24	Year 6 Camp Week
05.07.24	Sport Week – EYFS & KS1 Sports Day
05.07.24	Sport Week – KS2 Sports Day
21.06.24	SEND Coffee Morning
09.07.24	KS2 Production (PM)
10.07.24	KS2 Production (PM) / KS2 Production Evening Performance
12.07.24	School Reports Sent Home.
17.07.24	Year 6 Leaver's Assembly
19.07.24	Last Day of Term

Friends of Somerdale Educate Together

FOSET are very excited to announce the date of their summer fair.

We would like to make this years one to remember so if you have any ideas or would like to get involved in organising please let your class rep, a member of FOSET or email friendsofsomerdale@hotmail.com

We are looking for lots of stallholders so if you would like a stall please message us on the email above.

As always we will needs lots of volunteers to help this run smoothly so don't be shy and if you've not volunteered before maybe this could be the event for you!



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Beyond the Mix Families


Join our Monthly Meet-up for Mixed Heritage Families in Bristol for connection, support and community

Join our community

Are you part of a mixed heritage family in Bristol, eager to celebrate the richness of your diverse backgrounds? Look no further! We warmly invite you to our monthly gathering, where like-minded families come together to connect, share, make friends, and explore the beauty of identity in a fun-filled atmosphere.

To find out more join us on our socials
Instagram: @_beyond_the_mix_families
or drop us an email at caprice@beyondthemix.org

We can't wait to meet you!



Beyond the Mix Families



SEND COFFEE MORNINGS

26.09.2023

14.11.2023

17.01.2024

06.03.2024

17.05.2024

21.06.2024

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



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.