

Somerville News

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WELCOME BACK – HAPPY NEW YEAR

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a happy new year and we wish you all the best for 2024. We hope that you have all had a nice break and

some well earned family time. After an extremely busy Autumn Term in school staff have been busy planning this next Spring Term. Our curriculum has been set and trips booked.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Our last newsletter celebrated the achievements of rising attendance and punctuality levels. This a drive we are continuing with through the appointment of our new ATTENDANCE OFFICER - Mrs Dowd.

Please remember to phone into school BEFORE 9.30am if your child is going to be absent.

Schools can accept the following as medical evidence: to authorise an absence

- GP certificate
- Letter from health professional
- Appointment card / letter (dated)
- Prescription / Medication in the name of the child
- Text message from GP or NHS confirming an appointment
- Care of the chemist - date stamped slip to show medical advice has been sought

Please be reminded that in the vast majority of cases those children who attend school every day and are punctual do better at the end of Key Stage 2 and then in high school than those who don't attend well. Poor attendance now can directly impact on a child's future life choices.

Children are able to attend school with coughs and colds and if you feel they need it we can also administer liquid paracetamol to make them comfortable and able to take part in the day.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 16th February
School closes for half term at 3.20 - 3.25pm

Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February
School closed for half term

Thursday 28th March
Last day of school for spring term

Friday 29th March
Good Friday - School closed

Monday 1st - Friday 12th April
School closed for Easter and Spring break

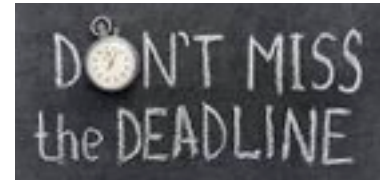
Monday 15th April
School opens to pupils

ORACY FAMILY DISCUSSION POINT OF THE WEEK

Each new year we set ourselves new goals and resolutions What are your new years resolutions and why have you chosen them?

SCHOOL PLACES REMINDER - THE CLOCK IS TICKING

If you have a child who is in an F1 nursery setting and they require a place at primary school from next SEPTEMBER then the deadline to apply for this place is next MONDAY 15th JANUARY. If you would like your child to attend Somerville Primary School and they are currently at our nursery school or have a sibling here, you will still need to apply via Wirral Councils online portal to ensure that you do get a place as school does not do any of the allocating. We always look forward to welcoming our new starters and the familiarisation sessions during the summer term.



SCHOOL CLUBS

Our school offers a wide range of clubs that are **free** for our children, as school covers the cost. In many schools, clubs are charged or limited in number. WE would **LOVE** every club to be full. Please be advised club information will be sent out to all over the next week. You must be able to commit to the club over the full term and not dip in and out of them



NSPCC - SPEAK OUT AND STAY SAFE PROGRAMME

We are pleased to inform you that we are participating in the NSPCC's Speak out Stay safe Programme this term. Speak out Stay safe is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme, used by schools around the United Kingdom, is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom based activities which we have reviewed. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. If you would like to know more about the Speak out. Stay safe. programme visit www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout. Just for your information the videos in Key Stage One introduce the term 'privates' and how they should remain 'private' and in Key Stage Two they introduce the different types of abuse including sexual abuse.



FURTHER ADVICE

Please see the information below for further advice and guidance on keeping children safe.

Parent/Carer support

Take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers.

www.nspcc.org.uk/parents

Activities to extend learning at home

Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe.

www.nspcc.org.uk/activities

Online Safety Hub

For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more.

www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

Childline - under 12's

Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content.

www.childline.org.uk/buddy (5-7)

www.childline.org.uk/kids (7-11)

Talk PANTS with your children

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages. Download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.