

Somerville News

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AIMING HIGH TOGETHER



CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE DAY - OCTOBER 2024

Last Friday, our Year 3/4 students had an unforgettable experience as they immersed themselves in the rich traditions of Chinese culture, thanks to a visit from the Liverpool Confucian Society. The day was packed with exciting activities that brought the vibrancy of China right into our school! Students tried their hand at intricate paper cutting, creating beautiful designs that showcased their artistic talents. They also learned the graceful movements of traditional Chinese dance, adding a rhythmic flair to the day. Calligraphy sessions allowed them to practice writing elegant Chinese characters, while basic greetings helped them connect with the language in a fun and interactive way. This cultural day was a fantastic opportunity for our students to broaden their horizons and embrace the beauty of Chinese heritage.

This event is part of our programme to familiarise and educate our children about a wide range of cultures to promote understanding and friendship.



MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL SEND - MRS SPEIGHT

It has been lovely meeting with so many of you already. Just to let everyone know, once pathway paperwork is given to school, we send it off to the 0-19 team at the NHS. We, as a school, can not diagnose any condition.



It is the NHS that makes decisions and referrals to paediatricians and other specialists. We understand the frustrations this can cause but it is out of our hands once we have submitted paperwork. At this point the NHS 0-19 team should communicate directly with yourselves. If at any time you would like to chase where you are up to in the system and on the waiting lists you can do this directly with them, their number is 0151 604 7501. The last information school received, there was at least a 90 week waiting list, this is almost two years. As a school we are as frustrated by this situation as you are.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY UPDATE



The attendance of every child has been reviewed. Letters and requests for Stage 1 panel meetings have gone out. The next round of EPN holiday data has been submitted to the local authority and the first set of fines as a result of this have already been issued. The culture around attendance has changed nationally now with schools being told by the Department of Education what processes they need to follow to ensure every child attends school. We have also compared attendance data with the same period last academic year. Our trend is getting better and our attendance is improving. The next audit will be around punctuality, children coming to school on time ready for the day and at school until the end of the day, even on a Friday!

CHANGES TO PAYMENTS FOR OTIS AND BREAKFAST CLUB

We are introducing a new payment scheme for Otis Breakfast and After School Club. Starting from 4th November 2024, all places will need to be booked and paid for in advance via our new iPAL booking system. The system will allow you to book places for the coming week until 6pm on the Sunday evening. We will send further information closer to the time to help you sign up for this new system.

As you may know, we have not increased the cost of our clubs for many years, and we are committed to continuing to offer wrap-around care at an affordable rate. The new system will ensure that all places are prepaid, which will help us keep the club's costs as low as possible.

The daily register will be taken through this new booking system, so a place will only be available for your child if it has been booked via iPAL.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to speak with Mrs. Maguire, Otis Club Manager, or contact the school office.



YEAR 6 PARENTS MEETING ABOUT RESIDENTIAL

On Thursday 17th October there will be a meeting for all parents who have children going to the residential in November. The meeting will be held in Cherry class at 3.00pm. Please come in via the school office as we can not open playground gates early.

NON UNIFORM DAY – SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

A reminder that next Friday 18th October children are invited to wear something red to show our support for 'Show Racism the Red Card.' No donations are required.





PARKING

The parking situation started to show improvements during the summer term however sadly the situation has deteriorated since starting back in September. We have less children in school but more seem to be coming in the car. A lot of the parking shows complete disregard for the safety of our children and anyone else using the pavements. This week we have had two situations in which dangerous manoeuvres and shocking parking have caused two near misses to hitting children with cars. We urge to leave your cars behind if it is not absolutely necessary. Walking is so good for the children as is cycling and scooting. Please, as members of our school community the health and safety of our children is all of our responsibilities. Parking on the zigzags, on the pavements, and doing manoeuvres in the middle of the road without full visibility is selfish.

Poor and inconsiderate parking around schools can place children at risk of harm. Most accidents that happen to children outside schools, happen because their vision was obscured by parked cars meaning the child has been unable to cross the road safely.



SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD – DIVERSITY WEEK

As part of the diversity week our school cook is putting on two special menus celebrating other cultures. The menus can be found above.

Whole school dates for the diary

Monday 16th September Clubs start and will finish the last week in November. **No clubs will run in December**

Friday 18th October

Give Racism the Red Card - Wear something red day

Wednesday 23rd October

Monster Mash

Reception and KS1 @ 3.00-4.00 KS2 4.30 - 5.30

Friday 25th October

INSET DAY - School closed to ALL pupils.

Friday 27th September

European Languages Day

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November

Half Term - School closed

Friday 15th November - Children in Need

non uniform day - £1 donation in the bucket at the gate

Thursday 12th December Christmas Jumper Day or own clothes

Wednesday 18th December

Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Movie Night - Christmas jumpers or own clothes

Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January

School closed for Christmas holidays

Tuesday 7th January First day of term for pupils

Reception dates for the diary

Year 1 dates for the diary

Friday 13th December

Trip to Greenacres Animal Farm

Year 2 dates for the diary

Year 3 dates for the diary

Thursday 17th October Trip to Martin Mere

Friday 18th October Trip to Martin Mere

Thursday 26th November Year 3 trip to Eureka

Year 4 dates for the diary

Year 5 dates for the diary

Tuesday 1st October

Year 5 trip to the Maritime Museum

Year 6 dates for the diary

Thursday 3rd October

Year 6 trip to the Maritime Museum

Tuesday 12th November

Residential to the Conway Centre

Thursday 17th October Parents meeting for residential in Cherry class.

Monday 12th May - Thursday 15th May
SATs week