

Somerville News

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AIMING HIGH TOGETHER



HALLOWEEN DISCO



What a night we had at the Halloween Monster Mash! There was much dancing, eating and FUN. We would like to thank all of the staff who have up their own time, for free, to allow us to put on this fundraising event. Budgets are very tight currently and the event was put on to raise money for the school funds. After buying provisions we made a profit of £1300 to support school. Thank you to all who bought tickets to support.

These events do take a lot of planning and we have to work in advance of the dates. Deadlines are put into place for this reason and reminders are given. Sadly, the school office had to take lots of phone calls and visitors to the office from parents who had missed the deadline, some of these contacts were not respectful and staff were shouted out for something that was not their fault. Deadlines are there for organisational reasons and school staff should not be made to feel bad or be subject to abuse because deadlines have been missed. Moving forward we need to ensure that all parents and carers are aware of this and respect school staff when they are passing on the message that they have missed the deadline and nothing else can be done.

We have more fundraising events planned across the year. If you wish your child to attend you need to meet any deadlines or unfortunately it will be that they can not come. Please do not phone the school office if the deadline has been missed as there is nothing they can do at this point. Thank

EXCITING NEWS

Mrs Connolly, our science lead in school, has been working on the **Primary Science Quality Mark** for the last year. Our science teaching and offer in school has been fully audited and the assessors have awarded us the PQSM Gilt again. This demonstrates that the teaching of science at Somerville is of a very high standard. A big thank you to Mrs Connolly for working on this and putting together the work for our assessment.



HAPPY DIWALI 2024



This year Diwali fell on 31st October, in the school half term. It is celebrated by both the Hindu and Sikh communities around the world. Did you know that the word Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps' and it is known as the 'Festival of Lights'. We would like to wish our Hindu and Sikh families and those in our community a Happy Diwali. If you would like to know more about how these religions celebrate Diwali there is some fabulous information on the two websites below that you can share with your child.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/lets-celebrate-diwali>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zjpp92p://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/lets-celebrate-diwali>

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

It is anti bullying week next week, To mark the week and celebrate differences, on Tuesday 12th November we invite all children to wear a set of odd socks for the day. We are not collecting donations for this. Children will be learning about the different types of bullying and what to do if they see any bullying or feel they are a victim of bullying. They will learn the difference between what is and is not bullying. This years theme is CHOOSE RESPECT. This is perfect for us as one of our core v values at Somerville is RESPECT. WE teach children to respect themselves, each other and the environment around them.



SENDCO SPOTLIGHT



I would like to reassure parents that at Somerville, we know all of your children are different and learn at different rates. We follow an 'adaptive teaching' approach, which focuses on teaching the entire class, while still responding to the individual's needs. It involves teachers knowing your child's prior levels of attainment and providing targeted support within the lesson.

YEAR 3 TRIP TO MARTIN MERE

Last half term Year 3 went on a school trip to Martin Mere to learn about how the Iron Age people used to live. They had a great time learning to weave, thatch roofs, make charcoal and learnt how to defend themselves. We provide these enrichment experiences for our children to bring learning alive and make it relatable and memorable.



CHILDREN IN NEED DAY 2024 – FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

As a school we always support Children in Need day. This year we invite our children and staff to wear their own clothes for a donation of £1. Staff will have collection buckets at the gates for the donations.



WINTER COATS

Just a reminder that all children should be in their winter coats as they are outside at break times and lunchtimes. They can also be out in light drizzle for fresh air. They therefore need to be prepared for this weather. In school we do have a selection of good winter coats for children. If you feel that this would be helpful, let Mrs Parry or Miss Crampton know and they will try to find a good coat that fits your child and send it home with them.

CHRISTMAS AT SOMERVILLE

Preparations for Christmas this year are well and truly underway at Somerville. It is a time of year we love and take much joy from. We always try to get the message of Christmas across that it is peace and love to all mankind and that Christmas is much more than gifts. It is about spending time with the people you love most doing things that you enjoy together. That a homemade card and gift to their grown up is more meaningful to the grown up than an unaffordable gift. As children grow up your Christmas trees fill up with the homemade tree decorations, that you keep and pass on to them when they become adults, have a house of their own and a tree of their own. It's family traditions such as this that provide children with happy memories that last a lifetime. We also hope that coming to see your children in the performances adds to your memories also. We are just finalising dates for performances and we will hopefully be in a position to share those with you next week.



We are unable to run a Christmas fair in school as we can not do this safely from our school hall. This year we are planning some activities that would be done at a Christmas fair that we will run during December in the school day for the children. This will be similar to a raffle, name the elf etc and there will be prizes to be had. Watch this space for more...

BBC WRITING COMPETITION

So many of our children are excellent writers with amazing imaginations. You can see this by our excellent Year 6 writing results last summer. The BBC have an exciting '500 Words' competition for children of primary school age to enter.

If your child is interested in entering please google search 'BBC 500 words 2024'. We would love to read some of your entries!



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 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 26th November Year 3 trip to Eureka

Year 4 dates for the diary

Year 5 dates for the diary

Year 6 dates for the diary

Tuesday 12th November
Residential to the Conway Centre

Monday 12th May - Thursday 15th May
SATs week

