

Somerville News

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AIMING HIGH TOGETHER



SENDCO SPOTLIGHT

Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill in the SEND questionnaire. I have closed this now and hopefully start to make the changes you have asked for.



In terms of keeping the communication clear, I did share a letter stating the changes from the 0-19 team for ADHD referrals which are now to take place for children **over the age of 6**. This does not affect anyone who has already made referrals - this is for NEW referrals only.

Currently, once paperwork has been submitted, there is a 115 week waiting list with NHS, and parents are being advised to contact **'Choose and Book' on 0151 604 7501** to see where your child is on the list.

Whilst we know this waiting time is extremely frustrating as you are waiting for a referral which may/may not lead to a diagnosis, we use a range of strategies in the classroom to help children including: fidget toys (provided by school only) and bands for the bottom of chairs are offered to those who would benefit; sensory breaks; visual timetables are in every classroom. We also adapt our teaching to meet the needs of all pupils through using adaptations such as word banks, sheets with less information on them, practical maths equipment, pre teaching, working wall access, extra modelling opportunities , amongst a few. We hope this reassures you that class teachers are doing everything that is possible to support your child, whilst you wait.

YOUNG VOICES



Wow, what a day our school choir had on Monday! They went to the Manchester Co-op arena and had the time of their lives; singing as part of the largest children's choir in the world. The children have been attending our after school choir club every week learning a wide range of songs to perform. Thank you to Mrs Taylor and Miss Gough who have been leading the weekly choir practices. The children have shown dedication and commitment turning up every single week and fundraising towards the cost of the coach to take them to the main event.

On the day the children rehearse in the afternoon and then the remaining half of the arena opens up to the children's families. Young Voices uses the countries best light and sound technicians to make the venue like a pop / rock concert.

Being involved in something that takes a lot of personal practice and culminates in such an amazing experience gives our children a HUGE sense of personal achievement and empowers the children to find their voice and build their confidence. Attending such a breathtaking concert gives the child and their family lifelong memories.

Our school staff who attended the day (Mrs Taylor, Miss Gough, Mrs Parry, Mr Shennan and Mrs Dellius) all love taking the children and making those memories with them. They have all said how amazing our children were on the day and were so, so proud of them all. Thank you to those staff who attended who did not get home until 11.30pm that night. We are all looking forward to Young Voices 2026!



YEAR 4 TRIP TO CONWAY

On Tuesday Year 4 went to Conway for the day. In the morning they explored the 700 year old castle. They were **VERY** brave climbing the towers to the very top to see the magnificent views over the Conway valley, mountains and rivers. They also walked the high walls around the castle.

Whilst at the the castle children sketched the viewpoints to the north, south, east and west. During the afternoon they continued with their geographical fieldwork. They walked through the old town, down to the harbour where they spotted the smallest house in Great Britain and then looked at land use. They then walked back up the main street and conducted a traffic survey. The children behaved impeccably during the day and were a credit to the school.



SENSORY / AUTISM AND ADHD SUPPORT IN CLASSES

As part of our drive to be as inclusive as possible in a mainstream school each class has been provided with a basket of resources for those children who need a bit of support to either regulate or concentrate. Good classroom fidgets are ones which are quiet, discreet and have an interesting texture that allow for lots of finger and hand movements. We have hand rollers (provide continuous movement of the hands without making a noise), sensory stones (provide sensory feedback through the fingers through texture input) ring turners (provide sensory input and movement) and chair elastics (for those who need to move their legs).

From Monday children will not be able to bring their own sensory toys to school, if they are needed we will provide them for the child. Many of the fidgets brought to school are really toys that are played with and are not supporting sensory needs or movement. They can be brightly coloured, noisy and actually become a negative distraction for the child and those around them at best and at worst aid further distraction and give a sensory overload then progressing onto the child becoming dysregulated and stressed.

Over the course of the next school year we will be adding to our classroom resources further by adding wiggle cushions, weighted lap pads and squeeze balls. Some children have these already as part of their identified, specialist provision however we aim to have them more widely available for classroom use.

INTERNATIONAL SCOUSE DAY/ PANCAKE DAY

Celebrating Merseyside's favourite local dish –
the hearty scouse and everyone's favourite
food related holiday



TRADITIONAL SCOUSE WITH CRISPY BREAD
SERVED WITH PICKLED CABBAGE OR BEETROOT
VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE



OR

BAKED POTATO

SERVED WITH EITHER BAKED BEANS, CHEESE OR TUNA MAYO

OR

DELICIOUS WILL BE
AVAILABLE

HOMEMADE PANCAKES – VARIOUS FILLINGS WILL BE

AVAILABLE ON THE DAY.

FRESH FRUIT/CHEESE & CRACKERS ALSO AVAILABLE

WATER, MILK, APPLE/ORANGE
JUICE ALSO AVAILABLE

**WEDNESDAY 5TH
MARCH 2025**



2025 - 2026

Please note that INSET days are subject to change.

Autumn Term 2025	
Open	Monday 1 st Sept – Friday 24 th Oct
Half Term	Monday 27 th Oct – Friday 31 st Oct
Open	Monday 3 rd Nov – Friday 19 th Dec
Christmas Holidays	Monday 22 nd Dec – Friday 2 nd Jan

Spring Term 2026	
Open	Monday 5 th Jan – Friday 13 th Feb
Half Term	Monday 16 th Feb – Friday 20 th Feb
Open	Monday 23 rd Feb – Friday 27 th March
Spring Break	Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April

Summer Term 2026	
Open	Monday 13 th April – Friday 22 nd May
May Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May
Open	Monday 1 st June – Monday 20 th July

190 Pupil days and 5 INSET Days 2025 – 2026

1. Monday 1st Sept 2025
2. Monday 5th Jan 2026
3. Monday 13th April 2026
4. Monday 1st June 2026
5. Monday 20th July 2026

Please note that INSET days are subject to change.

Whole school dates for the diary

Thursday 6th March - World Book Day -
Optional dress up as character from book

21st March Last week of clubs

Friday 4th April - Last day of term - Spring Term
Report Card out to parents / carers

Reception dates for the diary

Year 1 dates for the diary

Year 2 dates for the diary

Year 3 dates for the diary

Year 4 dates for the diary

5th June Residential - Cheshire

Year 5 dates for the diary

Year 6 dates for the diary

Monday 12th May - Thursday 15th May -
SATs week