

Somerville News

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WELCOME BACK AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



We would like to wish all of our children, families and staff best wishes for the new Year ahead. We remain hopeful that we will get a full school year this year, however we do need to be mindful of national staffing shortages and the impact this may have. We continue to work hard to ensure our school is as safe as it can possibly be for children and staff alike.

Cover lockdowns and isolations have had a significant impact on children's progress.

Now more than ever:

- ▶ **EVERY DAY IN SCHOOL COUNTS**
- ▶ **EVERY MINUTE IN SCHOOL COUNTS**
- ▶ **EVERY PIECE OF HOMEWORK COMPLETED COUNTS**
- ▶ **EVERY PAGE A CHILD READS FROM THEIR BOOK COUNTS**

If your child is not here, or they are late, don't read at home or complete their homework then they are unlikely to meet their age related expectations. If they are not here or late how can they catch up with lost learning?

Please support us in in the above to ensure your child has the best possible chance of being where they should be for their age academically.

NEW STARTERS FROM SEPTEMBER 2022

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018?

There are only days left to apply for a Wirral primary school place. The closing date is 15th January 2022.

Please click this link to apply:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/apply-primary-or-secondary-school-place>

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 2nd

February

Year 1 Chester Zoo visit

Friday 18th February

Year 3 trip to Chester Zoo

Monday 21st - Friday 25th February

Half term

Thursday 3rd March

World Book Day

Thursday 31st March

Year 4 trip to Chester

Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April

School closed for Easter holidays

Monday 25th April

School opens to pupils

Monday 2nd May

Bank holiday Monday - school closed

Monday 9th May - Friday 13th May

SATs week

Wednesday 18th May

WELCOME AND GOODBYE

We would like to offer a warm welcome Miss O'Neill and Miss Rimmer to our teaching team.

We are having to say goodbye next week to Miss Cooper and Miss Bell from our Midday Assistant team. We would like to thank them for all of their handwork over the years and wish them both well in their new directions.



SMART WATCHES

Children are NOT allowed to wear SMART watches for school. If they come in they will be asked to put them in the basket in the office that holds Year 6 mobile phones. Any technology left in school is at the owners own risk and school will accept **NO LIABILITY FOR LOST OR DAMAGED** phones or watches.

PE KITS

It is an expectation that children will wear the correct PE Kit on the correct day. Own clothes on PE day is no longer an option. We have specifically chosen a kit that is as low a cost as possible. We do have a range of spare kits in school so if children attend in their own clothes we will have a clean kit ready for them to change into so they do not stand out from the rest of the class.

Please see kit list below which was first circulated in April, to give families plenty of time to find and purchase at the cheapest possible price. All of our kit can be found in the supermarkets and children can wear the school sweatshirt over their white t shirt on colder days and in the classroom as we are keeping the classrooms well ventilated. A separate sweatshirt does not have to be purchased.



Apply for Free School Meals... it's quick and easy using the online form at:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-wirral/>

I am writing to request that you complete the online eligibility form **even if you are not currently eligible**. Paper copies of this form are also available from the school office. The information you provide will be used to check whether you are **or have ever been** entitled to Free School Meals. It will also mean if your circumstances change -even for just one day- it will automatically identify your eligibility.

If you are receiving certain benefits, a FREE tasty and nutritious school meal is available for your children at Somerville Federation BUT YOU MUST APPLY!

Look at the benefits:

- A free school meal for your child, which is good for their health and could help their learning.
- Savings for you, worth over £350 a year.
- Extra money for the school through Pupil Premium, worth approximately £1,320 a year. This could mean more than £9,000 in extra resources for your child whilst they are at Somerville.

Do you qualify?

Your child will be eligible for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
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If you don't want your child to have a free school meal they can continue as normal – as long as you qualify, and are registered, the school still gets the extra money.

Come and talk to us if you're not sure.