

Friday 9th September 2022

# Somerville News

Website: [www.somerville.wirral.sch.uk](http://www.somerville.wirral.sch.uk)

E-mail: [schooloffice@somerville.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@somerville.wirral.sch.uk)

Phone: 0151 638 5074

**AIMING HIGH TOGETHER**



## WELCOME BACK

It has been lovely welcoming the children back to school this week. They look so smart in their new uniforms. The teachers have been busy planning the term ahead with lots of quality learning experiences and trips planned to take place. School clubs have been organised and our OTIS before and after school club is up and running. There is a lovely buzz around the school!

We have welcomed Mr Dickson and Miss Hannah to our school family. Miss Hannah is a class teacher in Year 4. We are thrilled to have Miss Hannah as part of team. Mr Dickson is our new Executive Headteacher and we are all very excited about the direction his leadership will take the school over the course of the next few years.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Good attendance is crucial for a successful year. If the children are not here, they can not learn and will fall behind their peers who are in school.

Please remember to book dentist and doctors appointments outside of school hours. If your child does have an appointment we will need to see evidence of the appointment **BEFORE** we code as an authorised absence.

Staff have been active this week conducting home visits if children have been off school.

Holidays should not be taken in term time and will not be authorised unless in the most exceptional circumstances which **must be evidenced**. **Fixed Penalty Notices** will be issued if holidays are taken.

Please remember...

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

**We are here to do the best for every child every day.**



### Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 14th  
September**

Year 2 Ness Gardens  
trip

**Wednesday 21st  
September**

Individual Photo Day

**Thursday 29th  
September**

Year 6 trip Museum of  
Liverpool and Maritime  
Museum trip

**Thursday 6th October**

Year 3 Martin Mere trip -  
half of year group

**Thursday 7th October**

Year 3 Martin Mere trip -  
half of year group

**Wednesday 19th  
October**

Parents evening

**Thursday 20th October**

Parents evening

**Friday 21st October**

Last day of term

**Monday 31st October**

School opens to pupils

## DOGS

Please remember we have a **NO DOG** policy at Somerville. This means dogs should **NOT** be brought into the school grounds either on a lead, in a bag or being carried. Some children are very anxious around dogs so please be mindful of this if you have a dog outside of the school gates.



## CONTACT DETAILS

Please contact the school office if you have changed address or phone number. Also please ensure that your second and third contacts details are up to date. It is considered a safeguarding issue if we do not have the most recent, usable contact details.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

We gave out free school uniform to every child over the summer term. Unfortunately, we do not have access currently to another grant that offers this so we only have a few spares left available in school. If your child's uniform does not fit please e-mail the school office with the the size you require. If we have a spare in your child's size we will contact you. Unfortunately, once the spares have gone we are unable to purchase more.

If you have spares or are not using what we have provided, could you please send these in with your child and we will redistribute them to ensure they get good use. Alternatively, if you have spare uniform from last academic year that your child has out grown and it is still in very good condition please send this in and we will include this in school stock.

## 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.**

**You do not need to do this if you have already applied.**

