



Somerles Junior School

Achieving Excellence Together



May Monthly Newsletter

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Head Teacher's Comment

Summer term is always a busy time at school as we begin to make the most of the warmer weather and run a number of activities for the end of the year. The calendar of events on the final page has been updated so please do look through this to see new events that have been added as well as changes to dates for some events.

Parent Survey

It was encouraging to read the feedback from parents and carers in the annual survey, which we held earlier this year. As well as positive feedback on what the school does well, we received useful information on how to improve the school further. You can find some details of the survey, and our planned actions, on page 3.

Sports Events

In this newsletter, there are four pages of sports events, with reports from some of the children. Although it is not possible for all children to attend such an event each year, we do try to involve as many children as we can. After two terms, over half of them have been on an event - and this would be higher if some events had not been cancelled by the organisers. We are proud of how well the children have represented the school at these events.

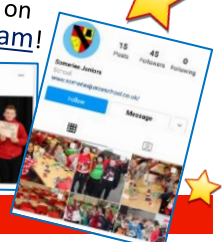
As we were not in school long enough in the month to produce an April newsletter, this issue includes details from both March and April. Please do have a look through to see what the children have been up to!

Mr Hunt



Get the news faster on
[Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#)!

Inside: Four pages (!) of sports Science Week World Book Day Faith Leaders
Zones of Regulation House Forum 3 Awards Updated calendar ...



School briefing for parents and carers

Events this half term

Please see updated calendar at the end of this newsletter

Coming up in May (events for parents and carers in blue)

- Fri 5 May **New details** Coronation party for pupils with cupcake and crown competitions
- Mon 8 May Bank holiday - King's coronation
- w/c 8 May SATS week - no appointments or leave of absence for Year 6
- w/c 15 May Walk to school week
- Tue 16 May **New event** 5P - Breadmaking at QES (arrive at school at **8:25am**)
- Wed 17 May 3 Draco class assembly - parents and carers invited (9:00am)
- Thurs 18 May Year 4 Ufton Court trip (£25.00)
- Fri 19 May Coffee morning for parents and carers with Mr Finch and Claire from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) (9:00am)
- Mon 22 May International Week dance day - all pupils to wear PE kit
- Tues 23 May Year 6 International week event with parents and carers (9:00-10:30)
- Wed 24 May **New date** Year 3 International week event with parents and carers (9:00-10:30)
- Thu 25 May Year 4 International week event with parents and carers (9:00-10:30)
- Fri 26 May Year 5 International week event with parents and carers (9:00-10:30)

Someris Juniors Golden Jubilee

We have been planning and Publicising our Golden Fete of 1st July. We hope as many of you who can will join us from **2pm to 4pm** on that Saturday to help us celebrate the occasion of our 50th anniversary

The event will be opened by Rachel Hopkins and includes:

- performances from current and former pupils.
- Stalls, bouncy castles and activities on the field
- an exhibition in the hall of school archive photos

We have sent invitations to past members of staff and would like former pupils to come too. If you know anyone who came to Someris Juniors in the past, do please invite them along. They can find out more on our special [webpage](#)



Co-op Partner support

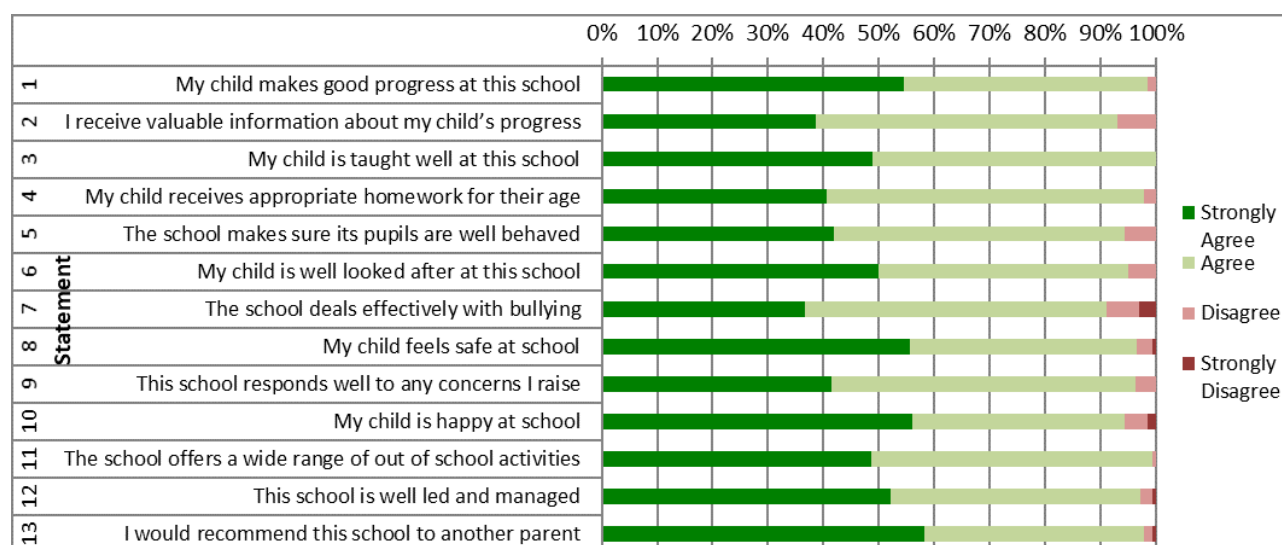
We're part of the Co-op Local Community Fund and we are raising funds to help our children learn about conservation. Our project involves rewilding an area of our field to promote biodiversity by planting trees and wildflowers to provide a home for wildlife.

As a Co-op member, you can make a difference by raising funds for our project every time you choose Co-op. Select us as your local cause today. Visit coop.co.uk/membership



Stakeholder Feedback – Parent and Carer Survey March 2023

In March, parents and carers provided us with feedback in their survey. With the school governors encouraging parents to complete the survey at the parents evening event, we received a record 144 responses. We were pleased to see that the majority of feedback and comments were very positive. Parents and carers also provided useful feedback on how we can improve. Schools leaders and governors will be acting on this.



Some examples of positive feedback:

"I feel it is well rounded and offers great support" "We like how the school has a real community feel."

"So grateful that all my kids had a chance to come to Someries!! Keep it up and thank you."

"The staff in the office are polite and try to help with any queries where possible."

"The teachers are very approachable. I have a feeling that I can talk to them and be heard. The teachers and staff all know well my child." "Listens and responds to my concerns and suggestions"

"Keeps parents well informed about school activities." "I do feel my child is known by most staff and head which is a lovely feeling as a parent to know he is a person and not a number."

"Children come to school with pleasure, they are happy to meet their teachers."

"Well organised, managed school." "Extra provisions for children that need additional help"

"Caring about everyone and treating people with respect and care." "Speaking about neurodiversity"

"Allows children to explore topics such as environmental issues and inclusion."

"There is lots of opportunity to try sports and engage in local competitions."

"I love that you record performances for those of us unable to attend due to work commitments."

"The events for parents to join in with their children are great"

Areas where the school could do better – and actions that the school is taking

- Communicate about events sooner:** we aim to communicate with parents about events well in advance through the school calendar which is updated in each newsletter and [available on our website](#). Texts closer to the event are usually reminders rather than new information. However, we will be looking at how we can send letters with details of each event several weeks ahead of the event to provide plenty of notice.
- Communicate about academic progress:** we no longer produce interim reports for pupils during the year - this was to reduce staff workload (spending just 10 minutes per pupil on a report would create an additional 5 hours of work for a class teacher) and to bring the parents evenings forward to earlier in the year. We will now develop a way of providing key information in writing at the parents evening.
- Deal effectively with behaviour/bullying:** whilst some thought the school did this very well, some others had concerns. We have now tightened our recording of incidents and put in place stronger sanctions for pupils who do not follow our school charter.
- Reduce the dangerous parking by parents outside of school:** sadly, a number of parents risk the safety of the children by parking on the double lines or dropping off on the zig-zag lines outside the school. Mr Hunt requested parking enforcement officers to patrol outside our school which they did on 24th & 26th April.

Highlights from March

March Snow

On 8th March, snow returned to Luton and the children enjoyed making snowmen at break time.



Faith Leaders Assembly

Local representatives of six faiths - Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Bahai and Hinduism - visited us for a special assembly on 8th March. They spoke to the children about their faith and what it means to them. The children asked them a range of questions and the visitors were impressed by the pupils' thoughtfulness.



Mother's Day Sale

Mrs Dudley and her team wrapped up all the items that children had donated for the Mother's Day so that children could choose from a range attractive gifts. School councillors helped with running the stalls at the sale and they raised £642.



World Book Day

On 2nd March we joined children up and down the country in celebrating World Book Day.

Dressing Up

It was great to see the staff and children dressed as some of their favourite book characters



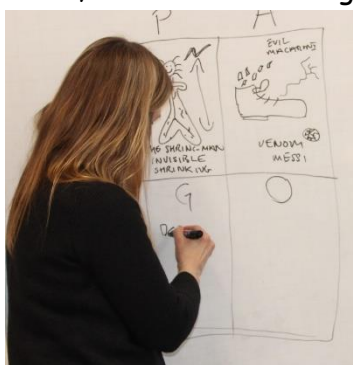
Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party

Mrs Quintana and her team decorated the hall and set up a Wimpy Kid party for each class to enjoy.



Author Visits

Each year group enjoyed an author visit. Here, Year 3 are learning from local author Angela Freya.



Science Week - 13th to 17th March

Mad Science

We had an explosive start to Science Week with a visit from Atomic Annie. She opened the week with a 'Glow Show' - showing how different energies can be converted to light energy.



Parent Workshops

For each year group, there was a morning for parents and carers to come and help the children create aeroplanes from simple materials. Each class then had a competition to test their aircraft.

Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



Aeroplane testing

After the science workshops, each class took their aeroplanes outside to see which flew the furthest.



Home Science





As part of Science Week, children completed some special homework projects and sent photos in.



Zones of Regulation

In an assembly, Mrs Ball and volunteers from 4 Orion taught us about 'Zones of Regulation' - a way of helping children recognise and manage their emotions. These children had found the Zones helpful and they explained them to the other classes. Year 3 children are studying them in more detail in their Values and Wellbeing lessons.

The ZONES of Regulation

			
Blue Zone	Green Zone	Yellow Zone	Red Zone
Sad Bored Tired Sick	Happy Focused Calm Proud	Worried Frustrated Silly Excited	overjoyed/Elated Panicked Angry Terrified

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House Forum 3 - 28th March - Decades

As part of our Golden Jubilee celebrations, the children learned some history in their house forums from the years that the school has been open. Each house took a decade - 70's, 80's, 90's or 00's -with one forum studying an aspect of local history and the other forum studying an aspect of national history.

	Saturn House - 70s	Venus House - 80s	Mars House - 90s	Jupiter House - 00s
Lower	Fashion in the Seventies	Music of the Eighties (2 Tone & Live Aid)	Vauxhall Swansong (Cavalier & Vectra)	Children's Laureate and other writers
Upper	Package holidays & Luton Airport	Hatters' Glory Years	Amazing Tech	The rapid growth of Luton



Saturn House



1970s



Venus House



1980s



Mars House



1990s

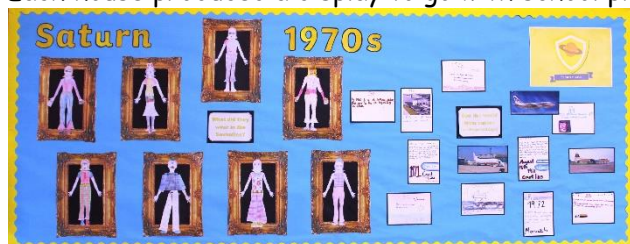


Jupiter House



2000s

Each house produced a display to go with school photos from each decade as part of our Golden Fete exhibition.



Highlights from April

New Dance Stage

In summer months, children often dance at the edge of the playground. We wanted to encourage this physical exercise, so we had an all-weather dance area, including a 5-metre stage, installed there. Now the children should be able to bust their moves all year round!

The stage was opened by the head pupils and school councillors with a pupil DJ providing the tunes.



Back on the field

School always seems a happier place when we can enjoy the use of our large school field and in the first week of this term, the improved weather meant that the children could make full use of this big green space!



St George's Day

To mark St George's Day (Sunday 23rd April) the children were invited to come to school on Friday 21st April in the outfits from their uniformed organisations. We enjoyed seeing children in school dressed in their outfits from Cubs, Brownies and Boys Brigade.



Food tasting – choosing a new school caterer

We are in the process of selecting a new caterer for our school dinners. The firms that were interested in providing our dinners came to school on 20th April to present their service. This involved demonstrating some of their school menus. Some of our school councillors were involved in the process, tasting the food and then providing their feedback to the selection panel.



Bread making at QES

On 25th April, 5 Hercules class set out early in the morning to walk to Queen Elizabeth School for a bread-making lesson. There, they used the high school food technology rooms to bake some delicious golden bread.



Sport I

Girls Rugby - 3rd March

Our team of Year 3 and 4 girls were ready for a rugby festival but it was cancelled. Their day was saved when coach Steve from Luton Rugby Club kindly came to give our team their own coaching sessions. The girls really enjoyed it and, with Steve's help, developed their skills very quickly.



Girls Football

Match v Putteridge Primary - 3rd March

Our girls team played a friendly fixture at Putteridge and it turned out to be a tough game.



Somerises Girls Football Team went up to Putteridge Primary School to play football. When we got there some of the girls were a little nervous because some of the others were really tall. To be honest, we didn't do our best as we lost 10-0 which was upsetting. We did terribly but we still went and tried. Even though we lost, we all played well and kept on trying. We were quite good up front as we nearly scored twice. Brooke

Town competition group stage 2 - 7th March

On Tuesday 7th March, we went to QES to play the rest of the tournament. We played 3 games. We drew against Beech Hill 0-0 and Brooke had some great shots. Then we played against Warden Hill and lost 1-0. Sameeha had some great saves. The final match was against Ferrars and we won 1-0 and Maja scored and it started to snow. We played really well even though it was snowing. Lily



Town competition knockout stage 2 - 7th March

Our girls team had finished in the top four of their qualifying group (having won 3, drawn 1 and lost 3) and so went into the knockout stages. They played well in their quarter final but were defeated on penalties.



Sport II

Sportability - Inspire 22nd March

A team of Year 6 children represented the school at this event where they tested their ability in a range of new games.



Eisa, Onyx, Ghavan and Callum got chosen for all of their hard work and good sportsmanship. This event happened at Inspire where there was a set of 4 sports: table tennis, potball, bowls and volleyball. There was also archery.

When we arrived at Inspire, all of us went to the Sports Hall where we sat and ate some of our snacks and waited for instructions. Then we headed to our first event, table tennis. Onyx, Ghavan, Eisa and Callum did doubles. Eisa and I vs Callum and Ghavan. We swapped and had lots of fun. Potball was hitting the ball against the wall and to the other person. Next, we had to use a bow and arrow to score points, the points were 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. It was hard to aim. Thirdly, we have to bowl the ball in bowling. We had two types - both great. Lastly, volleyball. We did two vs one. Onyx and Ghavan vs Callum. All of this lasted about 2 hours. *Onyx*

Boccia - Inspire 19th April

We sent two teams to represent us at a Boccia tournament. For the children this was a new sport.



Year 4 and 5 went on a school trip to Inspire and were there for 4 hours. They travelled on a minibus to Inspire. They went in this massive hall. It was split in half. On one side was another game called curling. We started by playing curling but then one of the coaches told Miss Awan that we were supposed to be playing on the other side of the hall. We waited a little while until we had to split into two teams of four - red and blue. Year 5 were a team while Year 4 were a separate team. They did two rounds against each team. On the first round against Denbigh we won, but on the second round we lost. The second people that we played against were Wenlock. Year 5 won both rounds in the second match. After, they played against Whitefield and they were really good but for the first round we won. The second match was very close and it was a draw. Then Year 4 and 5 had lunch. Year 5 got into the Cup Final - which is the highest thing that you could qualify for. Year 4 qualified for the lower one. The first games that Year 4 did to qualify were: on the first game they won both rounds; on the second game they did it was a draw. Year 5 played two more games and in both games, they won 3-1 and they were really happy. Year 5 played one more and won 3-0. Since they kept on winning, they went again and the first round the score was 2-0 and on the second round they won again 4-2. **Overall results:** Year 4: Second, Year 5: First, First Place Trophy: Quinn Evah & Quinn

Sport III

Boys Football

Match v St Matthews Primary - 13th March



Captain's report: On 20th March, Someries hosted St Matthews to a league football match. The game kicked off with a great start for Someries for the first 10 minutes. We made loads of chances but just couldn't score! A St Matthews corner deflected off Alisters into the goal... 1-0 to St Matthews. We came back strong with Spencer winning a penalty just before half time. He scored it! At the end of the half it finished 1-1. We kicked the second half off to a great start and also hit the crossbar four times in a row. It could have been 3-1 if we scored those goals. Near the end of the half, St Matthews Bagged two late goals to end the game 3-1. Men of the match were Alisters and Rashid. Joe

Match v Bushmead Primary - 23rd March

Life in the top division has been challenging and the boys played another tough game at Bushmead.



Second team trials

Mr Prue offered more boys in Year 6 a chance to represent the school and 21 attended trials.



Second team match v Putteridge 27th March

The second team played against very strong opponents and demonstrated excellent determination.



Sport IV

This Girl Can - Inspire 8th March

A team of girls from Years 5 and 6 took part in this event to develop their sports prowess.



Cross Country - Stockwood Park 21st March

Boys and girls teams from Years 5 and 6 competed in the Luton competitive cross country relays. Each runner ran a leg of 3/4 of a mile around a wet and muddy circuit at Stockwood Park. We were proud of all our runners and delighted to see our Year 5 girls team pick up bronze medals.



Swimming Gala - Inspire 30th March



In the final week of spring term, a team of boys and girls from all years took part in the town gala. They encouraged each other well as a team and won a number of medals in relays and solo events. The performances from every team member contributed to our team coming second overall out of eight schools.

Performances

3 Lyra Class Assembly

Miss Xygaki's class presented a class assembly with a pirate theme. They told us facts about life as a pirate and about some famous characters. They impressed the audience with their singing and dancing!



Year 4 Play

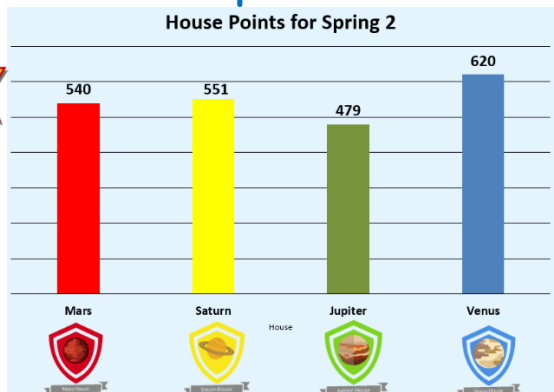
Year 4 put on a wonderful performance of *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*. The whole cast acted with joy and enthusiasm, speaking clearly and remembering their lines, and there were excellent solo performances.



House Point Competition

Venus house were the winners for Spring 2

House Points for Spring 2



March & April Awards

Values Role Models

Value	6 March	21 March	25 April
Aspiration		Jaxon B 5P, Louie E-M 5H Brooke S-M 6A	Leo & Zachary 4A Louie 5H Holly 6A
Kindness	Yousaf B 5P Alessia D 3L	Emily A 3L, Caleb O 3D Cerys S 4A	Riley B, Emily 3L, Ben N 3D, Henry 6A Cerys 4A, James 4O
Respect		Keegan W 3D	Bryan 4A
Responsibility		Amarachi U 6A	Anna, Albie 3L, Kaleem 3D, Chris, Dhriti 4A Aiden 5H, Xhonson 6P

Golden Table Winners



Athletes of the half term

Year 3

Kevin - Kevin has found creative ways to adapt our lesson activities in order to challenge himself further. He has worked well with others and has a positive attitude when learning new skills.

Daniel - Always showing a positive attitude and enthusiasm towards PE.

Year 4

Michael - Great knowledge of basketball and always tries his best.

Dzifa - For showing great improvement in her overall basketball skills during this half term.



Year 5

Zain - Zain shows an excellent attitude in PE lessons. He is a great team player and encourages others. He also shows excellent sportsmanship and a mature attitude towards others.

Scarlett - Scarlett has showed perseverance and improvement in basketball this half term.

Year 6

Alisters - Alisters has shown great independence and is able to set up warm-ups and activities without guidance. He adapts to different activities, finding creative ways to be successful. He has also made some excellent saves in football.

Vinnie - Vinnie displays a fantastic attitude during PE lessons. He listens well, responds positively to feedback and can work cooperatively with a range of partners. He has also been a key player in the boys' school football team.

Somerles Junior School Calendar of Events 2022-23



Please look out for updates to this list of events which will be published in the monthly newsletter.

Events which parents and carers may attend are in blue.

May	
Fri 5 May <i>*New details*</i>	Coronation party for pupils with cupcake and crown competitions
Mon 8 May	Bank holiday – King's coronation
w/c 8 May	SATS week – no appointments or leave of absence for Year 6
w/c 15 May	Walk to school week
Tue 16 May <i>*New event*</i>	5P – Breadmaking at QES (pupils to arrive at school at 8:25am for early departure)
Wed 17 May	3 Draco class assembly – parents and carers invited (9:00am)
Thurs 18 May	Year 4 Ufton Court trip (£25.00)
Friday 19 May	Coffee morning for parents and carers with Mr Finch and Claire from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) (9:00am)
Mon 22 May <i>*New event*</i>	International Week dance day – all pupils to wear PE kit
Tues 23 May	International Week event with parents and carers for Year 6 (9:00am-10:30am)
Wed 24 May <i>*New date*</i>	International Week event with parents and carers for Year 3 (9:00am-10:30am)
Thu 25 May	International Week event with parents and carers for Year 4 (9:00am-10:30am)
Fri 26 May	International Week event with parents and carers for Year 5 (9:00am-10:30am)
w/c 29 May	Half Term (school restarts on Monday 5 June)
June	
Mon 5 June	Year 3 trip to St Albans Cathedral (£17.00)
Wed 7 June	Class photographs – full uniform required (PE kit in a named bag where appropriate)
Thu 8 June <i>*New event*</i>	Year 5 trip to Hendon (cost to be confirmed)
Fri 9 June <i>*New event*</i>	Year 4 trip to the Gurdwara (no cost)
Fri 9 June	Non-uniform day in exchange for donation of gifts suitable for adult male
Wed 14 June <i>*New date*</i>	4 Orion class assembly – parents & carers invited (9:00am)
Wed 14 June	Year 4 Viking Day "A Day in the Dark Ages"
Thu 15 June	Sale of wrapped gifts suitable for Fathers' Day - £2 (in named envelope)
Fri 16 June	Coffee morning for parents & carers with Mr Finch & Claire from CAMHS 9:00am
Mon 19 June	New Year 3 intake information meeting after school
Mon 19 June (from 2pm)	Uniform supplier on site to sell uniform
Wed 21 June	4 Aquila class assembly - parents & carers invited (9:00am)
Thu 22 June	Year 6 trip to KidZania (£25.00)
Fri 23 June	Golden Day
Fri 23 June	Years 3-6 reports go home
Thu 29 June <i>*New event*</i>	Year 5 trip to Barton Springs (cost to be confirmed)
July	
Sat 1 July	Golden Jubilee Fair for the school community, past and present (2:00-4:00pm)
Mon 3 July	Parent book looks (a chance to see your child's work) – 3:30pm-4:00pm
Wed 5 July	Year 6 leavers performance (Children arrive 6.00pm for a 6:30pm performance)
Thu 6 July	Move up morning (Infants to Y3; Y3, Y4, Y5 to their new classes; Y6 to high school)
Fri 7 July	Year 5 guitar afternoon music performance (time to be confirmed)
w/c Mon 10 July	Year 6 SATS results go home (date to be confirmed)
w/c Mon 10 July	Sports week including daily mile
Weds 12 July	Year 3 afternoon music performance (time to be confirmed)
Thu 13 July	Year 4 ukulele afternoon music performance (time to be confirmed)
Thu 13 July	Disco: 5:00 - 6:15pm Year 3-5 disco & 7:00-8:30pm Year 6 disco
Fri 14 July	Coffee morning for parents & carers with Mr Finch & Claire from CAMHS 9:00am
Fri 14 July	Sports day - parents and carers invited. Provisional timing: 1:00pm-3:00pm
Fri 14 July	Family Rounders after school
Mon 17 July <i>*New event*</i>	Years 3 and 4 end of year trip (costs and details to be confirmed)
Tue 18 July <i>*New event*</i>	Year 5 end of year trip (costs and details to be confirmed)
Tues 18 July	Year 6 drumming afternoon music performance (time to be confirmed)
Wed 19 July <i>*New event*</i>	Year 6 end of year trip (costs and details to be confirmed)
Fri 21 July	School closes at 1:30pm