



20 March 2024

Parent update

Dear Parents and Carers

Although this is the shortest half term of the year, it has been busy with many special events. I am writing with an update of news and events for the remaining part of this term.

House Basketball

Over the final days of term, we will be running a house basketball competition. Children will compete during their afternoon PE lessons, with the house members in each class having a mini tournament in their lesson. The scores from each class will count towards an overall winner.

Each year group will do it on a different afternoon,

- Year 3 - Thursday afternoon this week – 21st March
- Year 4 - Friday afternoon this week – 22nd March
- Year 6 - Tuesday afternoon next week – 26th March

Year 5 have a music concert next Wednesday, so they will play their house basketball games in morning PE lessons:

- 5 Hercules – Monday morning next week – 25th March
- 5 Perseus – Thursday morning next week – 28th March

On these days the children will wear their usual PE kit but **may bring a t-shirt, jumper or hoodie to match their house colour.** (If children do not have a top in their house colour, or if they prefer to wear their normal PE shirt, we have coloured bibs that they can wear for the competition.)

Change to School Dinners price

To reflect the rise in costs in preparing school dinners, the price of school dinners will rise in April from £2.40 to £2.60 per day. School meals are prepared on our site according to strict nutritional guidelines to provide healthy food for children. The cost of these meals is subsidised by the school to reduce the costs to families.

Our caterers, Aspens have just introduced a new three-week rolling menu which can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

You can access more information about school dinners and how they are designed to support children's health and development [here](#).

(If your household income is below £16,200 per year, or if you access certain benefits, you can apply for free school dinners. If you are successful, you will also receive 'Pupil Premium' funding for your child which provides free school uniform and food vouchers for the school holidays. If you wish to check if your child qualifies for free school dinners you can fill out an online form [here](#).)

Events for the final week of term

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|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Wed 27 March | 3 Draco class assembly 9:00am – 3D parents and carers invited |
| • Wed 27 March | Year 5 music performance – parents and carers invited (2:40pm) |
| • Thu 28 March | Year 3 music performance – parents and carers invited (2:40pm) |
| • Thu 28 March | Term finishes 3:20pm |

On Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 March, we will have 12 trees planted at the back of our site to go in our re-wilded area to attract and nurture wildlife. These trees were chosen by our Eco Committee and funded through support from Co-op, the Greener Future Fund and our Golden Jubilee fundraising. Our Eco Committee will also be sowing wildflower seeds and some other children will be planting out more saplings.

New communications system for next term (ParentMail)

Following requests in recent parent and carer surveys, we will be changing our communications system from our current provider to a combined ParentMail app. Many of you will be familiar with this if your children attended Someries Infant School.

We will use this system from April for communications and forms. Our payment system will remain with Scopay until the end of the summer term.

The link to register will be sent to you on or around 8 April from the email address: info@parentmail.co.uk. Further information with instructions to register and download the App will be sent out in the final week of term for you to register once you receive the link.

Recent events

The children enjoyed a colourful World Book Day with many great costumes. We were pleased to see so many of you join us for the Science Week workshops where the children enjoyed your support in creating their marble runs.

You can see Mr Finch's photos of these events here: <https://www.facebook.com/someriesjunior>

Start of next term and events for next term

Please note that term starts at the normal time of 8:45am on **Monday 15th April**.

I have pasted below the calendar for the remainder of the school year.

With kind regards,
Mr Hunt

School calendar follows...

Somerles Junior School Calendar of Events 2023-24

w/c = week commencing **Changes are highlighted in red**

Wed 27 March	3 Draco class assembly 9:00am – 3D parents and carers invited
Wed 27 March	Year 5 music performance – parents and carers invited (2:40pm)
Thu 28 Mar <i>*New date*</i>	Year 3 music performance – parents and carers invited (2:40pm)
Thur 28 March	Term finishes 3:20pm
29 March – 12 April	Easter holiday
April	
Mon 15 April	<i>Term begins</i>
w/c 15 April	RE week
Tue 23 April	St Georges Day – scouts/brownies/brigade etc. uniforms may be worn
May	
Wed 1 May	3 Lyra class assembly 9:00am – 3L parents and carers invited
Mon 6 May	Bank holiday – school closed
w/c 13 May	SATS week – no appointments or leave of absence for Year 6
13 May	Year 3 fruit workshop (morning) - children to bring a named plastic container
Tue 14 May	Year 3 Fairtrade day
Fri 17 May	Parent coffee morning (9:00am) - parents and carers invited
Wed 22 & Thu 23 May	Year 4 <i>Raiders and Traders</i> days
Thu 23 May	Year 5 RAF Hendon trip (cost to be advised) <i>[Provisional date]</i>
27 – 31 May	Half term (school restarts on Tuesday 4 June)
June	
3 June	Training Day – school closed to pupils
Tue 4 June	<i>Term begins</i>
w/c 4 June	RE week
w/c 4 June	Online sale of second-hand uniform - order form will be sent to order online (subject to availability)
Thur 6 June	Non-uniform day in exchange for donation of gifts suitable for adult male
Tue 11 June <i>*New Date*</i>	Year 5 rivers trip (£5.00) <i>Rescheduled from 26 March due to weather conditions</i>
Thur 13 June	Sale of wrapped gifts suitable for Fathers' Day - £2 (in named envelope)
Wed 19 June	Uniform supplier on site to sell uniform (2:00-3:20pm)
Wed 19 June	New Year 3 intake information meeting after school
Fri 21 June	Year 3 trip to St Albans
Wed 26 Jun	Year 3 field work
Fri 28 June	Years 3-6 reports go home
Fri 28 June	Parent coffee morning (9:00am)
Fri 28 June <i>*New Date*</i>	Choir taking part in Singing Spectacular at Stopsley Baptist Church (children from 2:00pm; family & friends invited to the concert at 6:00pm)
July	
Mon 1 July	Parent book looks (a chance to see your child's work) – 3:30pm-4:00pm - parents and carers invited
Wed 3 July	Year 6 leavers performance (Children arrive 6.00pm for a 6:30pm performance) - parents and carers invited
Thu 4 July	Move up morning (Infants to Y3; Y3, Y4, Y5 to their new classes; Y6 to high school)
Fri 5 July	Year 4 afternoon music performance – parents and carers invited (2:40pm)
	Year 6 SATS results go home (date to be confirmed)
w/c Mon 8 July	Sports week including daily mile
Thu 11 July	Year 3 music performance (2:40pm) - parents and carers invited
Thu 11 July	Disco: 5:00 - 6:15pm Year 3-5 disco & 7:00-8:30pm Year 6 disco
Fri 12 July	Sports day – parents and carers invited. Provisional timing: 1:00pm-3:00pm
Fri 12 July	Family Rounders after school - parents and carers invited

(Mon 15 July)	(Reserve sports day)
w/c 15 July	End of year park trips (costs and details to be confirmed)
Tues 16 July	Year 6 music performance (2:40pm) - parents and carers invited
Weds 17 July	Year 5 music performance (2:40pm) - parents and carers invited
Fri 19 July	School closes at 1:30pm

Next year: Term Dates for 2024-25

Autumn Term 2024	Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
Start of Term: Wednesday 4 September	Start of Term: Tuesday 7 January	Start of Term: Wednesday 23 April
Half Term Holiday: 28 October – 1 November	Half Term Holiday: 17 to 21 February	May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 5 May
End of Term: Friday 20 December*	End of Term: Friday 4 April*	Half Term Holiday: 26 to 30 May
		Training day school closed: Mon 2 June
		End of Term: Tuesday 22 July

*Term ends on this date at 1:30pm