



December Monthly Newsletter

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Head Teacher's Comment

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

As we go into December, many Christmassy things are happening. We are sad that we cannot safely host our usual Christmas plays but we hope that Year 3 and Year 5 families will enjoy watching the plays that the children are busy rehearsing and recording to share on video. There are other events going on in school during our Festive Fortnight in the last two weeks of term.

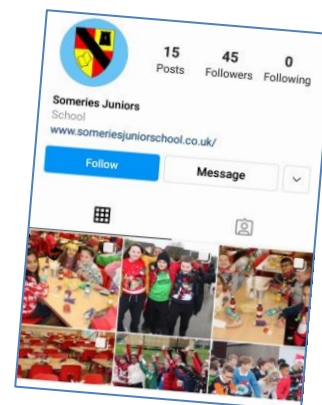
(Year 4 will perform a play at the end of next term and Year 6 will put on a leavers production)

We are now on Instagram

Many parents follow us on Facebook. That way, they get the latest news and pictures of what is going on in school. Our Facebook posts usually reach 150-200 followers but we realise that not all families use this platform. To share updates with more families, we have created an Instagram account so that if you use that platform you will not miss out. If you are an Instagram user, you can find us as @someriesjuniorschool.

I hope that you enjoy a good Christmas break as a family

Mr Hunt



Inside this newsletter:

Briefing for parents Football & futsal tournaments Cheerleader club Sportability
Children in Need Governor Visit Day Sports Hall Awards Calendar



Get the latest news
on our Facebook page
or Instagram account



School briefing for parents and carers



Coming up in December - Festive Fortnight

During the last two weeks of term - 6th to 17th December - we have a number of Christmas events.

- Year 3's video nativity play and Year 5's video Christmas performance
- Various video music performances
- Friday 17th December: Festive Friday - dress up in clothes for a class party (with optional donation in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital)
- Friday 17th December: term ends for all children at 1:10 or 1:15pm.

Please collect your child at the appointed time:

Class	End time	Collection point	Class	End time	Collection point
3L	1:10	Year 3 quad	5H	1:10	Ramp outside Y5 by hut
3D	1:15	Year 3 quad	5P	1:15	Car park between infants/juniors
4O	1:10	Playground above Y4 steps	6A	1:10	Outside study
4A	1:15	Playground above Y4 steps	6P	1:15	Steps by the library

- We have our festive trolley for donations of food or gifts for families in need.

Luton's Best Keyworker!

We were delighted that our very own Mrs Dudley was chosen as the "Keyworker of the Year" in this year's Luton's Best Awards. She received her award from Andrew Castle at the presentation evening.

Mrs Dudley has provided excellent service to children, families and staff for many years. She was nominated this year for her dedicated work during the pandemic where she did an excellent job of keeping children and staff safe and ensured that families in need received food vouchers and technology that they needed.



Price increase to school dinners



Due to the rising prices of ingredients and labour, our caterers have informed us that they are making a small increase in the price of school meals. (The price has not been raised since 2019!).

From the start of next term, the price will be £2.20 per meal. (The actual cost of the meals is £2.85 but we subsidise this so that families only pay £2.20)

We recommend that families take advantage of the warm, balanced and nutritious meals that our caterers offer. If any families are struggling and would like free school meals please click on this link to apply and we will then let you know if your child is eligible.

Link: [online application form](https://www.luton.gov.uk/apply-for-free-school-meals) (or enter bit.ly/SJSfree in your browser address bar)

Morning arrivals

There have been incidents recently of unsupervised children arriving early on site when building and delivery vehicles are still using car park. We would like to remind you that no pupils should be arriving without parents before 8:35am. Children should not arrive any earlier than 5 minutes before their start time below:

Class	Start time	Class	Start time	Class	Start time	Class	Start time
3L	8:40	4O	8:40	5H	8:40	6A	8:40
3D	8:45	4A	8:45	5P	8:45	6P	8:45

Sad news

Sadly, we have heard that a former member of staff, Esme Wallwork, has passed away after a short illness. Miss Wallwork worked at the school as a class teacher from 1982 to 2007 and will be remembered with fondness by many of our ex pupils and staff.

Highlights from November

Governor visit day

All through the pandemic, our governing body has continued to meet online to carry out its work. This term the governing body have begun meeting in school again and the children were delighted to meet the governors on their visit day on 26th November.

The governors joined both of the phase assemblies, where they were quizzed on their role by school councillors. The councillors asked them questions that had been written by the children that they represented. The governors met the children again as they toured classes to view learning in action and as they spent breaktime outside. They continued their work by reviewing the staff survey and school improvement plan with Mr Hunt and discussing our work to support disadvantaged children with Miss Sadaq.



Getting down to work

The new school councillors are getting training in their roles from Miss Perini and Mrs Whiting. They have already shown great maturity and responsibility when carrying out their roles.



Children in Need day

On 19th November, children enjoyed taking part in BBC's national Children in Need day. There were plenty of Pudsey outfits around. The school raised £265 towards this charity.

Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



Remembrance - Year 6 Class Assembly

Pegasus class devoted their assembly to remembrance. They explained the origin of Remembrance Day and why we use poppies to remember the fallen. They also led us in a respectful act of remembrance.



Remembrance - Stopsley Memorial

We were proud that one of our Year 5 children was chosen to carry the flag for Stopsley act of remembrance.



Sport 1

Boys football tournament

On the last Friday of November, two teams of Year 5 and 6 boys from Someries took part in a tournament at Power League in Stopsley. Both groups got through to the quarter finals.



Girls futsal tournament

On 12th November, the Year 5 and 6 girls team went to Inspire for this indoor football game event and came back with medals.



Sport 2

Multisports - 10 November

A large team of lower phase athletes took part in a Sports Hall Games event competing with other schools.



School Clubs

Cheerleading club

The members of this new club have developed skills quickly. They have also learned to trust each other as a team. They earned a Values Role Model Award for living our value of Co-operation. They cooperate well to achieve complex moves, trusting their teammates to support them safely.



Sport 3

Sportability Event - 24 November

Our Year 6 team took part in a tournament run by high school students involving experimental games.

Our sports report

Last Wednesday, we went to Inspire to take part in lots of indoor sporting activities. There were many different schools taking part in the event and we all got on well.

High school students from two different schools set it up for us and the first few activities were based on the competitive sport curling, followed by another group of activities based on the popular game table football which was our favourite!

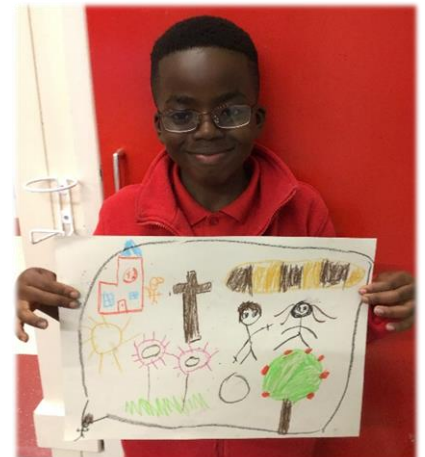
In the end, we got a medal that was a silver speech bubble medal with a yellow frame. We all enjoyed ourselves and loved going outside school to do the event!

Arsha, Callum and Daniel



Learning - RE Week

As part of their RE week learning, Year 3 children created a picture showing what they think prayer is like.





November Awards

Attendance

18th October - 4th November :

Class	Attendance
3D	99.4%
5H	96.9%
5P	95.9%

House points

8th - 18th November

Class	Attendance
6P	97.2 %
4A	96.6 %
5H	96.5 %

Values Role Models

November 2:

Value	Role Model
Aspiration	Dhriti 3D
Cooperation	Evelyn 4A
Kindness	Parker 3L
Responsibility	Lilac-Rose & Darby 4O, Ava 5P, Wassim 6A
Respect	Ghavan 5H, Vishva 6A
Tolerance	Bilal 3L

November 16:

Value	Role Model
Kindness	Jack 4A
Respect	Leo 3D
Responsibility	Shafana & Aischa 3L, Xhonson 5P

November 9:

Value	Role Model
Aspiration	Stanley 4O, Lillie-Rose & Amara 5P
Kindness	Jordi 6P
Respect	Darya 4A
Responsibility	Violet 5P
Tolerance	Muhammed Arfan 3L

November 30:

Value	Role Model
Aspiration	Lexi 6A
Cooperation	Emiliana 3L, Reilly 4A, Ethan 6P
Kindness	Jessica 4A, Grayson 6A
Responsibility	Aiden & Evah 4O
Tolerance	Scarlet 3D

Golden Award Winners

3 Draco: Dhriti & Sanatpreet, Leyla & Charlie

4 Aquila: Scarlett & Jaxon, Isla P & Courtney

5 Hercules: Sophie & Riley, Amarachi & Jason

6 Andromeda: Lexi & Emma, Aishani & Grayson

3 Lyra: Aischa & Muhammad Easa, Arfan & Cayci

4 Orion: Sehaj & Jude, Ella & Amaan

5 Perseus: Maora & Bella-Mae, Jack & Rylee

6 Pegasus: Mia P & Daniel, Oliver M & Kaya



Pupil Premium Funding - free school meals, free clubs & uniform, reduced trip costs

Learning support for your child and financial support for families

This grant provides support for families in the form of free school meals as well as free tuition and discounts on uniforms and trips. If you claim certain benefits then your child may be entitled to receive this help.

You can collect a form from the School Office or you can apply quickly online: [online application form](#), providing your contact details and National Insurance number. (We only use this information to complete the Pupil Premium eligibility check.

Our office manager, Mrs Dudley, will be happy to help.



Someries Junior School

Calendar of Events 2021-22

We aim to provide families with information as early as possible and we seek to avoid making changes to scheduled events. However, many events involve outside agencies and they may make changes to dates, times or costs. Additionally, we occasionally receive offers of additional activities or events that we believe would benefit our children, and so there may be times when events are arranged at short notice.

Please look out for updates to this list of events which will be published in the monthly newsletter. If you have any questions regarding an event then please contact our school office.

Updates since the last version have been highlighted (w/c = week commencing)

Thurs 16 Dec <i>*New date*</i>	Last day for Christmas cards for other classes, donations for trolley and party food.
Fri 17 Dec	Festive Friday non-uniform morning (optional donation to Great Ormond St Hospital). Term ends for pupils at 1:10pm for 3 Lyra, 4 Orion, 5 Hercules and 6 Andromeda and at 1:15pm 3 Draco, 4 Aquila, 5 Perseus and 6 Pegasus.
18 December – 4 January	School holidays

2022

January	
Tue 4 Jan	Training Day – <i>school closed to pupils</i>
Wed 5 Jan	<i>Term begins</i>
w/c 5 Jan	RE week
Fri 14 Jan	Year 6 bridge building (Architecture Workshops)
w/c 17 Jan	5 Hercules class video (recorded for parents & carers)
Mon 17 Jan <i>*New date*</i>	Proposed Flu immunisations
w/c 17 Jan	Maths week
Wed 19 Jan	Maths workshops with the Puzzle Company
Weds 26 Jan	Young Voices Concert – Birmingham (choir)
w/c 31 Jan	5 Perseus class video (recorded for parents & carers)
February	
w/c 7 Feb	Practice SATS for Year 6
Tue 8 Feb	Safer internet day
w/c 21 Feb	RE week
Half term holiday	
March	
Thurs 3 March	World Book Day (dress as a book character)
w/c 7 March	Science Week
w/c 14 March	Year 5 cycle training
Sun 13 – Weds 16 March	Year 6 Residential trip
Thurs 17 March	Year 6 day starts at 10:45am
Friday 18 March	Non-uniform day – in exchange for donation of gifts suitable for Mothers' Day sale.
w/c 21 March	Year 5 cycle training
w/c 21 March	3 Draco class video (recorded for parents & carers)
Weds 23 & Thurs 24 March	Provisional date for parents consultation evening for Years 3 to 6
Thurs 24 March	Sale of wrapped gifts suitable for Mothers' Day (Mothers' Day will be on 27 March)
w/c 28 March	Year 4 play (recorded for parents & carers)
April	
Mon 4 to Mon 18 April	Easter Holiday
Tues 19 April	Training day – school closed
w/c 18 April	RE week
Fri 22 April	St Georges Day – scouts/brownies/brigade etc. uniforms may be worn
May	
Mon 2 May	Bank holiday
w/c 2 May	3 Lyra class video (recorded for parents & carers)
w/c 9 May	SATS week – no appointments or leave of absence for Year 6
w/c 23 May	4 Orion class video (recorded for parents & carers)
w/c 23 May	International week

w/c 30 May	Half Term
June	
w/c 6 June	RE week
Wed 8 June	Class photographs – full uniform required (PE kit in a named bag)
Thur 9 June	Non-uniform day in exchange for donation of gifts suitable for adult male
Fri 10 or 24 June	After school: Singing Spectacular (for choir) [Date to be confirmed]
w/c 13 June	4 Aquila class video (recorded for parents & carers)
Thurs 16 June	Sale of wrapped gifts suitable for Fathers' Day (Fathers' Day is on 19 June)
Mon 20 June	New Year 3 intake information meeting after school
Mon 20 June	Uniform supplier on site to sell uniform
w/c 20 June	Sports week including daily mile
July	
Fri 1 July	Years 3-5 reports go home
Thur 7 July	Move up morning (Infants to Y3; Y3, Y4, Y5 to their new classes; Y6 to high school)
Fri 8 July	Year 5 guitar music performance (possibly live on site)
Mon 11 July	Sports day
w/c 11 July	Year 6 play (possibly live on site)
Fri 15 July	Year 6 reports go home
Tues 19 July	Year 6 drumming music performance (possibly live on site)
Wed 20 July	Year 3 music performance (possibly live on site)
Thur 21 July	Year 4 ukulele music performance (possibly live on site)
Fri 22 July	School closes at 1:15pm

This year: Term Dates for 2021-22

Autumn Term 2021 <i>Queen's Jubilee Holiday: Friday 3 Dec.</i> <i>End of Term: Friday 17 December*</i>	Spring Term 2022 <i>Start of Term: Wednesday 5 January</i> <i>Half Term Holiday: 14 to 18 February</i> <i>End of Term: Friday 1 April</i>	Summer Term 2022 <i>Start of Term: Wednesday 20 April</i> <i>May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 2 May</i> <i>Half Term Holiday: 30 May to 3 June</i> <i>End of Term: Friday 22 July*</i>
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*The final day of the autumn and summer terms will end at around 1:15pm

Next year: Term Dates for 2022-23

Autumn Term 2022 <i>Start of Term: Monday 5 September</i> <i>Half Term Holiday: 24 to 28 October</i> <i>End of Term: Friday 16 December*</i>	Spring Term 2023 <i>Start of Term: Wednesday 4 January</i> <i>Half Term Holiday: 13 to 17 February</i> <i>End of Term: Friday 31 March</i>	Summer Term 2023 <i>Start of Term: Tuesday 18 April</i> <i>May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 1 May</i> <i>Half Term Holiday: 29 May to 2 June</i> <i>End of Term: Friday 21 July*</i>
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*The final day of the autumn and summer terms will end at around 1:15pm

Start and end times (Children should arrive no more than 5 minutes before their start time)

Class	Start time	End	Class	Start time	End	Class	Start time	End	Class	Start time	End
3L	8:40	3:15	4O	8:40	3:15	5H	8:40	3:15	6A	8:40	3:15
3D	8:45	3:20	4A	8:45	3:20	5P	8:45	3:20	6P	8:45	3:20

Winter weather clothing



If there is fresh snow that is suitable for playing in, we are happy for children to play in it at school – but only if they are wearing boots or wellies. (They can bring their normal school shoes in a named bag.)

On snowy days, it is also preferable for children to have snow/ski gloves because woollen gloves get wet and cold very quickly after playing in the snow!

