



# January Monthly Newsletter

**Date:** January 2022

**Issue:** 256

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## Head Teacher's Comment

### Looking forward

Despite the cold weather and Covid situation, the start to 2022 at Someries has been a smooth and positive one. There is still much uncertainty around, but children and staff alike continue to demonstrate great resilience and make the most of school life. We continue to plan events and trips for the year and hope that these will go ahead.

# 2022

### Looking back

This newsletter contains many highlights from December – Christmas events, trips, sports tournaments, productions... - and it is good to look back and see the many activities that were packed into the children's Festive Fortnight. I hope you enjoy looking through the photos of these events in this newsletter.

Mr Hunt



### Inside this newsletter:

Fundraising update   Christmas at Someries   Reading reward trip   Needlecraft club  
Sports Hall Athletics   Gravity Trampolining   Awards   Updated calendar

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## School briefing for parents and carers

**Coming up this half term** (A full calendar is on the last page of this newsletter)

- Friday 14 Jan: **Year 6 bridge building architecture workshop**
- Week of 17 Jan: **Maths week** including Maths workshops with the Puzzle Company
- Monday 17 Jan: **Flu immunisations (afternoon)**
- Monday 17 Jan: **6 Pegasus cooking lesson at Putteridge High School (morning)**
- Tuesday 18 Jan: **6 Andromeda cooking lesson at Putteridge High School (morning)**
- Tuesday 25 Jan: **The Young'Uns working with Year 4** as part of 'When Luton Sings' project
- Tuesday 8 Feb **Safer internet day**
- + 5 Perseus and 5 Hercules class assembly videos (recorded for parents & carers)

Advance notice

- Thursday 3 March **World Book Day** (dress as a book character)

### Fundraising

In November and December, the children engaged in fundraising activities for these charities:

Charity	Event	Amount
 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	Sale of poppies	£ 157
 Children in Need	Non uniform day	£ 265

Charity	Event	Amount
 Save the Children <b>CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY</b>	Christmas jumper day	£ 198
 GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL CHARITY	Festive Friday	£108

We would also like to thank families for their donations of food and gifts via our festive trolley. Mr Finch distributed these to families in need during the Christmas holidays.

### From our Eco Committee: Putting out-grown Christmas jumpers to good use

We would like to ask you to donate any Christmas jumpers/t-shirts that you or your family have grown out of. As part of our commitment to aim to *reduce, reuse and recycle*, we thought this would be a great way of not only raising funds for eco projects but also of reusing items that may get thrown away. We plan to raise funds in the autumn term of 2022 towards our school grounds eco project by having a sale of donated Christmas jumpers/t-shirts at the end of November 2022. If you have clean items to donate, please send them in with your child or place in the box in the foyer during January.



### Covid measures - what to do if your child is ill or someone at home tests positive

Despite the recent increase in Covid cases locally, we have managed to avoid cases spreading widely in school. We want to keep it this way to keep children safe, to maintain a good staffing level and avoid class closures.

A substantial recent survey showed that the top five symptoms of people with the Omicron variant are runny nose, headache, fatigue, sneezing and sore throat - much like many other seasonal illness. What can seem like a normal cold could be Covid. We ask, therefore, that you do not send your child into school with any such illness until they have first had a PCR test. If this test is negative and your child is well enough to attend school they can then come into school as usual. If a household member tests positive, please call the school office before sending your child into school. We have been very grateful for the cooperation of parents and carers with managing children who are ill or need to self-isolate, as this has kept our school much safer. Our thanks also go to parents and carers for their support for our measures including wearing a face covering on school site and leaving the site promptly.

Thank you to families who have been doing weekly lateral flow tests with their children as this has worked well in catching some Covid cases before children come on site. Please continue with this ☺





## Highlights from December

### Make £5 Grow enterprise project - craft sale

For their enterprise project, Year 6 children ran a Christmas fair at break time. In groups, they worked hard beforehand making Christmas decorations and baking cakes and sold these at a morning break. At the same time, other groups ran competition stalls with prizes. The sale was very popular and they soon sold out!



### Year 4 Design & Technology Hats Project - the Hatwalk

In local history in Year 4, children have been learning about Luton's hat industry. Linking with this, their Design and Technology project was to design and create a hat. They worked on their hats at home with their families and displayed their excellent headgear to Year 3 as they walked the 'Hatwalk' in the hall.





## Christmas at Someries

### Santa Dash

On Christmas dinner day, the children took part in a Santa Dash around the playground to boost their fitness. Classes took turns to see how many laps of the course they could run in their time slot. (They competed well despite the cold but sadly, icy rain prevented Year 6 from taking part.)



### Christmas Assembly

Pastor Dave Sunman from Ramridge Baptist visited us with his friend Brian the Sheep to tell us about the original Christmas story - and how the shepherds reacted when faced with angels!





## Festive Friday

On the final morning, children in all years came dressed ready to enjoy their class parties. They had fun together playing some party games and enjoying their party food - and raised £108!



## Christmas Productions

Although we were sad not to be able to host Christmas plays and class assemblies on site, we are proud of the work that the children and their staff put into their video Christmas productions.

### Year 3 Nativity Play

Children sang the songs of 'It's a party' with lots of energy and enjoyed acting out this fun nativity story.



### Year 5 Christmas Play

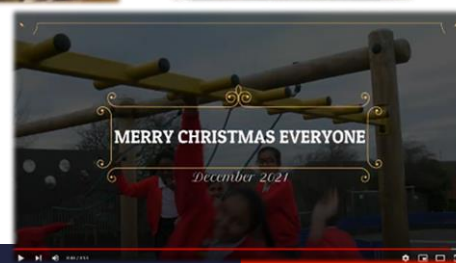
Year 5 performed a re-working of *A Christmas Carol*, where Mr Scrooge is a grumpy, mean head teacher! Following visits of the ghosts of Christmas, he changes his ways and makes school a better place to be.



### Year 6 Christmas Message

For their class assembly, Year 6 recorded a video message about what Christmas means to them. This was shown to the other classes and a link was sent to their families.

(Year 4 will perform their play at the end of this term,  
and Year 6 will perform theirs in July)





## Christmas Jumper Day

On 7<sup>th</sup> December, children enjoyed taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day with their own Christmas Dress-up Day. The Christmas outfits helped make a real festive atmosphere for our Christmas dinner!

### Year 3



### Year 4



### Year 5



### Year 6



Whilst enjoying themselves, the children helped to raise £198 for Save the Children.



## Sport

Since sporting events restarted this year, a large number of children have taken part in tournaments and other fixtures\*. December was no exception: as well as our Santa Dash, we had teams in two events.

### Sports Hall Athletics - 8<sup>th</sup> December

Earlier in the autumn term, we sent a team to the upper phase Sports Hall Athletics. Towards the end of term, Year 3 and 4 athletes took part in the lower phase event.



### Gravity Schools Event - 9<sup>th</sup> December

Gravity Luton hosted a schools trampolining event and a team of Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed taking part.



#### Trampolining Report

On our trampoline trip, we went to Gravity Trampoline Park. We played on different activities such as obstacle courses, trampolines, games and many more. Upstairs was a little cafe. We also had drinks there.

Our first activity was the Obstacle Course. In this activity, we had to climb, walk and slide on different things. We had some time on it and then we moved on to the next activity. We had to run on a trampoline and jump on a pillow-like air bag. There were also soft sticks that each pupil had and they had to hit each other's sticks hoping that the other opponent would fall. This was called Warrior Battle.

After that, we went on a smaller obstacle course. There were three climbing platforms from high to small. In this, we had to run to any of the platforms and had to jump and get on top of it then slide down on the slide. On the side of the obstacle course, there was a climbing wall and beside that, there was a mini game. There are two teams, red and green and there were several sticks with lights on them. The lights turned red and green and, whatever team you are on, you have to press the light that has that colour. The last thing we were on was the trampolines.

After the last activity, we went back to our school. We had so much fun in Gravity!

Aishani





## Boys football tournament

Back in November, boys from Someries took part in a tournament at Powerleague. Here is their report. ★

On Friday 26th November, 15 Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in the EFL Kids Cup. We were split into two teams, Someries Blue and Someries Red and there was eight players on the Reds and seven on the Blues. Jordi (me) was captain of the blues and Charlie Newton was captain of the reds.

The blue team was: Jordi, Bobby, Adam, Rashid, Reece, Ethan and Grayson.

The red team was: Charlie N, Charlie C, Madu, Arthur, Lennon, Joe, Spencer and Alisters.

At Powerleague, the two teams were in group stages of seven and played six games to determine who got into the knockout stages. The Blues won four of their six games, beating Beech Hill 4-2, Dowside Red 6-0, Whitefield Red 4-1 and William Austin 6-4 and losing 3-2 against Linden Red and 3-0 against St Josephs.

Meanwhile, the Reds beat Dowside Purple emphatically with a 5-1 victory. Then, even though their performances were brilliant they lost four games and drew against Ramridge 1-1.

After the games concluded, we had lunch and were told who would play in the cup quarter-finals and the plate quarter-finals. Someries Blue got to the cup quarter-finals but lost 3-1 and Someries Red lost 3-2 in the plate quarter-finals after a brilliant performance that sadly didn't earn the win.

With both teams knocked out, we had to wait until our coach took us back to the school so we did a Someries Blue v Someries Red in-house game.

It was a really enjoyable experience and was really fun! J Jordi



### \*Autumn term sports

These are the competitions that our athletes took part in last term

- Girls' rugby
- Football matches (x2)
- Boys' rugby
- Cross Country
- Multi sports
- Sportshall Athletics (x2)
- Sportability
- Football (EFL Kids Cup)
- Trampolining

## Reading Reward Trip – Orbital Trampoline Park

One reader who had excelled at their Accelerated Reader book reading during the term was selected from each class to take part in a reward trip to Orbital Trampoline Park on the last Monday of term. They had the place to themselves and enjoyed all the activities on offer.

This term's reward trip will be to Luton Town's football stadium for a tour.





# December Awards

## Attendance

22<sup>nd</sup> November – 9<sup>th</sup> December:

Class	Attendance
3D	96.3 %
4O	94.5 %
4A	93.5 %

## Values Role Models

December 7:

Value	Role Model
Aspiration	Angelique & Anmolpreet 6A
Responsibility	Jasmine 3L
Respect	Abbie 3L
Tolerance	Amillie 4O

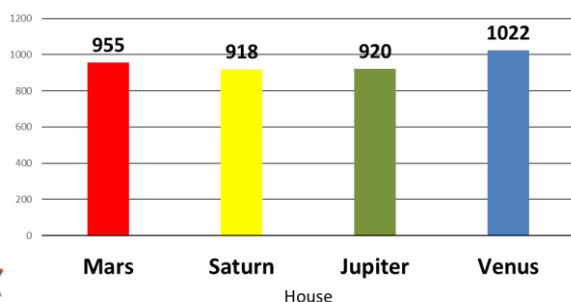
## House points

Points were counted at the end of term and these were the results.

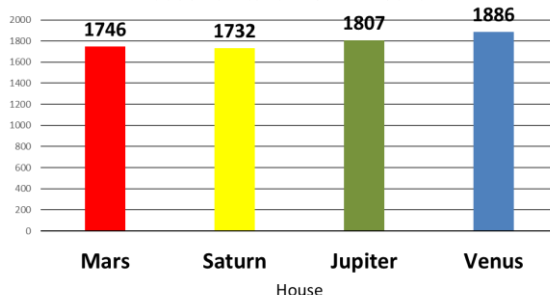
**This half term:** Venus are champions

**Overall:** for 2021-22 so far, Venus are in the lead

House Points for Autumn 2



House Points for 2021-22 so far



## Athletes of the half term

### Year 6

**Anika** - For consistently approaching PE lessons with a positive and mature attitude. She has epitomised the term 'role model' in Year 6.

**Ethan** - For always applying himself and being ready to take on new challenges. He also produced an amazing goalkeeping display in our recent tournament.

### Year 4

**Jude** - For showing great improvement in his hockey skills.

**Scarlett** - For always being a good team player and showing a positive attitude.

### Year 5

**Sunny** - For excellent teamwork and sportsmanship. Sunny is a role model for behaviour and ability in PE.

**Eisa** - Eisa always puts his all into PE lessons. He tries hard and is improving his teamwork.

### Year 3

**Aiden** - For cooperating well with his peers by showing patience and supporting them using his excellent listening skills.

**Leo** - For working hard to develop excellent technique when jumping and landing, and cooperating well with others in our PE lessons.

## Golden Award Winners

**3 Draco:** Jack & Leonn

**4 Aquila:** Matthew & Saif

**5 Hercules:** Rory & Alisters

**6 Andromeda:** Vishva & Bobby

**3 Lyra:** Shafana & Oliver

**4 Orion:** Taleigha & Leo

**5 Perseus:** Callum & Ava

**6 Pegasus:** Tara-Lilly & Aastha







## Someries Junior School Updated Calendar of Events 2021-22

**January** \*Updates since the last version are shown in red\* (w/c = week commencing)

Fri 14 Jan	Year 6 bridge building and architecture workshop (no charge to parents & carers)
w/c 17 Jan	Maths week
Mon 17 Jan	Flu immunisations
Mon 17 Jan <span style="color: red;">*New event*</span>	6 Pegasus visit to Putteridge High School for a cookery lesson
Tues 18 Jan <span style="color: red;">*New event*</span>	6 Andromeda visit to Putteridge High School for a cookery lesson
Wed 19 Jan	Maths workshops for all years with the Puzzle Company
Tues 25 Jan <span style="color: red;">*New date *</span>	The Young'Uns working with Year 4 as part of 'When Luton Sings' project
<del>Wed 26 Jan</del> <span style="color: red;">*Postponed *</span>	<del>Young Voices Concert – Birmingham (choir)</del> <span style="color: red;">(Postponed to spring/summer 2022)</span>
w/c 31 Jan	5 Perseus class video (recorded for parents & carers)

### February

w/c 7 Feb	Practice SATS for Year 6
w/c 7 Feb <span style="color: red;">*New date *</span>	5 Hercules class video (recorded for parents & carers)
Tue 8 Feb	Safer internet day
Mon 14 February	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 & Thu 24 March	Provisional date for parents consultation evening for Years 3 to 6
Thurs 24 March	Sale of wrapped gifts suitable for Mothers Day (which 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
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

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	Uniform supplier on site to sell uniform & New Year 3 intake information meeting after school
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