



SOMERVILLE FEDERATION

Somerville Nursery and Somerville Primary Schools
"Aiming high together"



SOMERVILLE FEDERATION

NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS 9th September 2016

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

-) *Year 5 children continue swimming till next Friday 16th September.*
-) **Wednesday 14th September:** *Year 6 parents meeting at 2.45pm in school hall.*
-) **Thursday 15th September:** *Year 1 visit to Legoland.*
-) **Friday 16th September:** *Dress up day. Dress up as your favourite book character Years 1 to 6.*
-) **Tuesday 20th September:** *Year 2 visit to Ness gardens.*

[See the Calendar on our School Website](#)

Roald Dahl week

The children have been celebrating the 100th birthday of Roald Dahl this week by reading some of his books and learning about the imaginative characters and places Dahl wrote about during his lifetime.

Each class has chosen a book to focus their work on and on Friday 16th September 2016 children in Years 1 to 6 will be allowed to dress up as a character from a Roald Dahl book or any other favourite book.

It has been planned that children in Foundation 2 will be able to dress up later in the term once they have settled in. We feel it is too early for some of the Foundation 2 children to be dressing up when they are still learning the routines of the school day and getting used to their new surroundings and friends.

Dinner money

Please ensure that your child's dinner money is sent in on a Monday for the week ahead. A school dinner costs £2.30 per day and £11.50 for the full week. New menus are now on the school website.

Welcome back!

We trust that everyone has had a restful and enjoyable summer break. The children have settled back into routine quickly and we have been so pleased to welcome our new nursery school and foundation 2 children on Wednesday.

Thank you to parents and carers who have been very supportive of the school's proposed new uniform guidelines and managed to get their child ready for their first day back in the correct school uniform. The children look extremely smart and are a credit to both yourselves and the school. We look forward to working in partnership with parents and carers over the coming academic year and we intend to Aim high together as per our new Vision statement for both schools.

With this in mind we wish to share our main focus this school year will be to **improve reading and improve attendance and punctuality**. We hope that you will be able to continue to support the school in both these areas.

Reading is such an important aspect of learning and we hope that you will be able to encourage your child at home to support the work taking place in school. This could be by hearing them read, ensuring older children are reading regularly and talking to them about their books. Those children who read regularly at home do better in their school work. How well do you want your child to do in school? Help us to make your child the best they can be!

Attendance and punctuality plays an important part in learning and getting children ready for their next steps in life and routine for a good working life. Children should arrive in school ready to line up before the school bell rings at 8.55am. Latecomers will need to enter the school building with an adult via the main school office. Parents or carers will need to sign the child in late. Please ensure your child arrives in school on time, this means lessons can start promptly and their class mates are not disturbed in their lessons mid flow. Every now and then things happen which make people late, however persistent lateness is unacceptable.



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Federation of schools website

Our new federation website is now online and has been updated over the summer holiday with important dates. Some of the dates are yet to be confirmed by staff but this will hopefully help you plan ahead and see what is coming up, well in advance.

You can also download the website APP onto your phone if you have a smartphone or iPhone. You will be able to see important dates, news and gallery photos. The best part of this APP feature is that we will be able to send messages to parents and carers who have downloaded the APP onto their smartphone. You can do this by searching for 'school spider' on the app store either iTunes or google play. You will then be asked for the school name-Somerville. The app will then load up our school website onto your smart phone.

Parent and student logins will be given out for website use when we feel this is relevant. At present everything is available for you to view on the school website without having to login.



Healthy Snacks ONLY please

Somerville is a health conscious school and we encourage all snack to be a healthy option. Crisps, chocolate and other snacks which may be considered full of added sugars and fats are not allowed in school for break time.

Timings of the school day.

The school day at Somerville Primary School has always started at 8.55am and to ensure children get into a healthy routine of arriving on time for school and to improve safeguarding at the school we have been lining the children up on the playground to start the school day.

When children arrive on the school playground in the morning it becomes the school's responsibility to safeguard them. With this in mind the school gates will be opened from 8.40am (Some children arrive earlier than 8.40am and staff are unable to supervise before this time). From **8.45am** members of staff will be available on the playground and gates to supervise children arriving onto the main playground. All teachers will then be present on the playground to line their children up from **8.50am**. At **8.55am** the school bell will sound to signal the start of the school day and the lines of children will enter the school building. **When children are lining up please can all adults leave** to allow children to make a class line of children. Some children may find it intimidating to have other adults in the line who they do not know.

Children should therefore arrive for school just after 8.45am when staff are visible on the playground. Parents and carers may leave their child in the school playground ready to line up from 8.45am. All children should **be in line for 5 to 9 (8.55am)**.

School gates will be closed at 9.00am, latecomers must enter the school building via the school office on Northbrook Road.

If it is raining children will be allowed into class from 8.45am.

Reminder: School finishes for F2 and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) children at 3.15pm and Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) children at 3.20pm.

Further information to improve safeguarding our children on the playground at the start of the school day will follow in the next week.