



Dear Parents and Carers,

We've settled back into school routines this week and it's as if we'd never been away! Classes are working really productively as the children have got to know their teachers. A few start of term reminders this week...

Attendance

It's so important that every child is in school every day. There is a direct correlation between attendance and achievement; it's very difficult for a child to catch up work missed when they are off! It is for this reason that term time holidays and absences will not be authorised and should they be taken, may lead to a penalty notice being served by Worcestershire Local Authority.

Our attendance target for this year is 97%.

Parking

We know how difficult it can be to find a parking space around our school, but please can we request that you park safely and with consideration for our school neighbours. For the safety of the children in our school, please don't park on yellow lines, zig zags or in front of people's driveways.



Great concentration in Reception at both schools

Coming up at Somers Park:

Monday 24th September:

6-7pm Early Years Parent Information Sessions

Coming up at Malvern Vale:

Monday 24th September:

6-7pm Reception Parent Information Session

Tanzania- your donations count



Box of Pencils Appeal

In October Mrs Russell and I will be visiting our partnership school, Chumbageni School in Tanzania. If you read my blog last year, you may recall my comments about children sharing pencils patiently to complete their work. Parents have since suggested, that we take over pencils to support the provision of education. What a good idea!

We would like to give you the opportunity to donate 'a box of twelve pencils'. If you would like to do so, please pop £1 in an envelope and drop it to the school office, labelled with your name and 'Box of Pencils Appeal' - we'll keep you posted on how many boxes we manage to raise!



White school shirts

The school uniform in all public schools in Tanga is blue shorts and white school shirts. Another observation I made during my visit was that many of the children attended school in threadbare shirts, some with holes in the shoulders where they had been passed down many times. My thoughts at the time jumped straight to my own house, where I had four white shirts, in perfectly good condition, which my son had grown out of the previous school year; I wished I had taken them with me! Having spoken to Halifa, the Headteacher, he would gratefully receive donations of second hand white school shirts for the Chumbageni pupils. If you have any which your child has grown out of and would like to donate, please drop them to the school office. I will stretch my baggage allowance as far as I can to get them over there!



Join our team

Mercian Educational Trust (MET)

We have the following vacancy within our estates team.

Caretaker/ Handyperson

Grade 3*, 30 hours per week full year (£14335 - £15139)

(*Grade 4 will be considered for an exceptional candidate)

To work closely with our Estates Manager across the 3 school sites within the MET. The successful candidate will need excellent DIY/Handyman skills and have the ability to be flexible.

For further information, please visit <http://metacademies.co.uk/Vacancies-within-MET>

Closing date: Wednesday 26th September 2018, 9am.

Friends of Somers Park (FOSP)

Welcome to another exciting year with Friends of Somers Park (FOSP) and an extended welcome to Malvern Vale Parents, who it would be great to meet!

Dates for your diary:

- **Saturday 22nd Sept**

Adults 80s/90s Disco

7:30-11:30pm

The New Inn, Lower Howell Road.

£5.

Forms and payment due this Friday.

- **AGM Thursday 4th Oct**

6:30-7:30pm at Somers Park School. This is your AGM please come and support. Everyone is welcome.

Trust Director Vacancy

Mercian Educational Trust are seeking two non-executive directors with particular skills to enhance the Board. We are looking to fill one of the posts with somebody with experience within the field of Human Resources.

Please pass this information onto any person you feel may be interested.

For further information, please visit <http://metacademies.co.uk/Vacancies-within-MET>

A polite notice: Smoking

Although not on school property, we have noticed that there are sometimes adults choosing to smoke or vape on the pavement next to the school gates. We have a responsibility to keep our pupils safe and set a positive example, so we are asking that if you need to smoke during this short period at the beginning or the end of the day, you do it away from the school grounds. Thank you for your support.

Starting school- September 2019

If you live in Worcestershire and your child was born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015, you need to apply for a school place by 15th January 2019. For more information and to apply, visit: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Please note, Malvern Vale and Somers Park are separate application options so if you don't mind which school you go to, please ensure you fill them out as preference 1 and 2. If you would like to visit Malvern Vale, please contact the school office at Malvern Vale- it's already proving popular, with 6 parent tours booked this week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Chris Hansen

Executive Headteacher



Somers Park Primary School

This Term's Dates



Autumn Term 2018



Date	Event
Monday 17 th September	Clubs start
Monday 24 th September	6-7pm Parent information evening- Reception classes
Tuesday 2 nd October	Year 3 Girls Hockey fixture @ The Downs
Tuesday 2 nd October	6-7pm Parent information evening-
Wednesday 3 rd -Friday 5 th October	Year 4 residential visit to West Malvern
Thursday 4 th October	National Poetry Day
Monday 8 th October	Year 4 visit to Cheltenham Lit Fest
Wednesday 10 th October	Year 6 visit to Cheltenham Lit Fest
Thursday 11 th October	Year 2 visit to Cheltenham Lit Fest
Friday 12 th October	Cross country fixture @ Malvern Common
Monday 15 th October	Year 5 visit to Beeline Festival
Tuesday 16 th October	Year 3 visit to Beeline Festival
Tuesday 16 th October	Parents' Evening 5pm-8pm
Wednesday 17 th October	Parents' Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm
Tuesday 23 rd October	4-5pm Year 3 and 4 hockey fixture v Great Malvern @ Somers Park
Thursday 25 th October	4-5pm Netball/Football fixture v The Wyche @ Somers Park
Friday 26 th October	Year 4 RE educational visit to Synagogue
Friday 26th October	Break for Half Term
	Half Term
Monday 5th November	Children return to school
Wednesday 7 th November	Year 5 RE educational visit to Hindu Temple
Friday 9 th November	Year 6 Young Shakespeare experience
Monday 12 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 13 th November	Individual school photographs
Friday 23rd November	INSET Day- School closed to children
Friday 30 th November	Early Years Christmas Craft day- parents invited
Thursday 6 th December	10am and 2pm Reception Nativity Performance
Friday 7 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 14 th December	Castle Point winners non- uniform day reward
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 21st December	Last day of term- break up for Christmas
Monday 7th January	Term starts today- Children return

Sometimes we will add dates throughout the term, or on occasions some of the times and dates may need to be changed. Please ensure you read the weekly newsletter to keep up to date! You may also like to follow us on Twitter @SomersPark1