

2nd October 2026

Weekly Update



Headteacher update

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

It has been fantastic to see some really great learning taking place in school this week. Our Year 5/6 children are showing excellent engagement across the curriculum. This week, the Year 5 children demonstrated super resilience when they were tackling some tricky number challenges. Children were exploring problems in open-ended, non-routine formats, and it was difficult for all, including the teachers! They did really well, and there were some whoops of delight when they realised they had solved a puzzle!

Our Reception children have continued to settle so well into school. They have been engaging brilliantly in their Phonics lessons, and are proudly sharing the sounds that they are learning. It is amazing to see how quickly they are acquiring the phonemes and learning to read!

Children in Year 1 and 2 have been perfecting accurate sentences based on Paddington Bear. I was really impressed by the care they took in ensuring they were remembering capital letters and full stops and using their phonics knowledge to spell words

accurately.

Finally, children in Years 3 and 4 have really engaged well with their maths learning this week. They have been collaborating with peers to really hone their place value skills, and teachers have been impressed with their positive attitude to learning.

A big thank you to everyone who supported last week's MacMillan Coffee Afternoon. It was lovely to see so many people supporting this charity event. We raised a fantastic £565 - a brilliant amount.

With only three weeks to go until October half term, a reminder that we finish on Thursday October 22nd and school is closed to children on Friday October 23rd.

Have a lovely weekend. See you bright and early on Monday morning!

Jonathan Clarke and the SPS Team



Key Dates – updates in blue



Wednesday 14th – Friday 16th October	Year 6 Hilltop visit
Tuesday 20 th and Wednesday 21 st October 15:30 – 18:30	Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings
Thursday 22 nd October 17:00 – 20:00	Cromwell Community College Open Evening
Friday 23 rd October – Monday 3 rd November	Half Term
Wednesday 11 th November	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 13 th November	Children in Need
Friday 13 th November	PFA Glow Disco
Week beginning Monday 16 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 17 th November	Individual photos
Monday 23 rd November	EYFS and Y6 Measures Programme
Friday 4 th December	PFA Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 8 th (09:20), Wednesday 9 th (14:00) and Thursday 10 th (09:20) December	Key Stage One Christmas Production
Thursday 10 th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14 th December	Reception and KS1 Walk to Church
Thursday 17 th December	KS2 Walk to Church



Reception	Skill	Skill means something we learn to do well through practice. In Reception, we have skill cards around our classroom to help us develop new skills in areas such as creativity, maths and playdough. The cards change regularly, helping us to practise, build on what we already know and gradually develop our skills. To extend this learning at home, you could talk about a skill your child has been practising and ask, "What would you like to get better at?"
Year 1/2	Scotland	We learned about Scotland in Geography this week. Can your child remember the capital city or describe what the flag looks like?
Year 3/4	Report	This week, we have been looking at news reports in English. Can you look at Newsround and discuss a recent news event that has happened?
Year 5/6	Urban and rural	In History this week, Y5/6 learnt about evacuation. We found out that it was not just children who were evacuated from urban areas to rural areas, but also some adults such as teachers, some people with disabilities and mothers with newborn babies.
	French	Years 3&4: Read along to this French story: <u>Bonjour petit pingouin</u> Years 5&6: Practise making sentences: <u>Likes and dislikes school subjects</u>

Christmas Fayre

POSTER

Competition



We need a special poster to advertise our Christmas Fayre and it could be YOUR design!

Your poster should include:

- ☒ The words 'Christmas Fayre'
- ☒ The date & time (4th December 5pm-7pm)
- ☒ A fun, eye-catching design
- ☒ Bright colours and a festive theme!

Open to all
children of
Somersham
Primary School



Hand in your design by:

Thursday 22nd October



Give it to:

Your class teacher



£1 per entry

The Christmas Fayre Poster Competition entry form shall be distributed from school. Prizes available for winner, 2nd & 3rd place designs.

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

TOP OF THE ROCKS



MERIDIAN AUTUMN

DATE:

05.10.2026 - 09.10.2026

TIME:

07:00 - 19:00

*** ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE *
PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE * THE WINNING CLASS
WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT
ANSWERS PER PUPIL * ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR
FULL DETAILS AND RULES ***



SAVE

the

DATE

GLOW DISCO



Friday 13th November

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW





Cambridgeshire
County Council



Launching soon: Best Start Family Hub **Huntingdon**



From Monday 28 September, Cambridgeshire County Council is launching five new Best Start Family Hubs, which will build on the current Child and Family Centre offer.

We would like to invite you to be part of the launch! Come along to the opening of the new Best Start Family Hub in Huntingdon.

No booking required. Drop in to meet the team, learn about all the support available and enjoy fun activities with your children. You'll find refreshments, information stands and free resources.

Also, we'd love to hear from you about our services and the support you need.

Everyone welcome.

We look forward to seeing you soon at a new Family Hub!



Where and when

- ★ Thursday 1 October
- ★ 10.00am - 2.00pm
- ★ Huntingdon Family Hub, Sallowbush Road, Huntingdon, PE29 7AF



Taster activities

- ★ Sensory babies
- ★ More to explore
- ★ Bookstart corner
- ★ Tiny tooth
- ★ Introducing family foods
- ★ Sensory ribbon rings
- ★ Parachute play and singing with Julie
- ★ Playdough making



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DISCORD

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(with a 17+ app rating on app stores)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A CHANNEL FOR EVERYTHING

While Discord is strongly associated with video games, it also hosts communities for almost anything you can imagine, such as books, music, influencers, cooking and sport. Some large servers focus on popular games like Minecraft or Fortnite, but many are private, invite-only spaces where friends or communities with shared interests can chat across phones, computers, and gaming consoles.

REAL-LIFE DISTRACTION

Like many social platforms, Discord can become a real time-sink. Although it does not rely on endless scrolling in the same way as some apps, constant messages, group chats, and voice channels can keep young people engaged for long periods, especially in larger servers. As Discord is closely linked to gaming, it may also increase the time they spend playing games.

STRANGER DANGER

Users can choose to stay within private servers with only people they know, but joining public servers will most likely bring them into contact with strangers. Many users are just friendly enthusiasts, yet others could have harmful intentions, including grooming, extortion, or radicalisation. In these types of environments, anyone can claim to be another teenager, which can make it harder for young people to judge who is safe to talk to.

A HARASSMENT RISK

There is also a risk from people a young person already knows in the real world. Bullying in the real world can continue online, and Discord servers can make this feel more intimidating, especially if someone uses anonymous or multiple accounts to carry out threatening behaviours. Because Discord works across computers, phones, and gaming consoles, unwanted contact can follow young people into online spaces that should feel safe and private.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

This huge amount of choice can help young people "find their tribe", especially when they have niche interests. However, because users can create servers around almost any topic, younger users may still encounter unsuitable or distressing content. Even in spaces linked to child-friendly games, Discord cannot directly control every conversation, image, or video shared by other users.

A MONEY DRAIN

Discord is free to use, but users can still spend real-world money on it. This may include Discord 'Nitro', a monthly subscription that unlocks customisation features and larger media uploads, or purchases through the 'Shop' for profile cosmetics and game-related items. Small purchases can add up quickly, especially if spending controls are not in place.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE FAMILY CENTRE

Parents and carers should make use of Discord's 'Family Centre', which gives an overview of a younger user's activity while respecting their privacy. Messages are not shared, but adults can view an activity feed and receive weekly email summaries. Discord says this is designed to support conversations about online behaviour, rather than be about constant monitoring.

CHECK, TALK, REPORT

Review Discord's privacy settings together, including who can send them friend requests or private messages. Use this as a chance to talk to them about strangers, privacy, and personal information, making sure young people know to question suspicious behaviour, such as requests to keep conversations secret. Show them how to block and report these kinds of users and reassure them that asking for help will not get them into trouble.

MANAGE TIME ONLINE

Agree clear expectations around when and how Discord can be used, especially during homework, bedtime, and family time. Encourage young people to turn off unnecessary notifications and leave servers that feel overwhelming. If Discord is mainly used alongside gaming, discuss healthy limits for both activities so that schoolwork, sleep, and offline friendships are not affected.

REVIEW SPENDING CONTROLS

Talk openly about paid features such as Discord Nitro, profile cosmetics, and in-game purchases. Make sure the young people in your care understand that digital items still cost real money. Check payment settings on the device they use, avoid storing card details where possible, and consider adding approval requirements for purchases, particularly for younger or more impulsive users.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, and The New Statesman.



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SOMERSHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

PFA SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE



PRE LOVED UNIFORM SALES

Good quality uniform, great prices!

SHOP ONLINE:

<https://uniformerly.co.uk/search-listings/?q=&c=4450>



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Keep up to date with events, fundraising and everything PFA:



FACEBOOK

Somersham Primary School
Parent & Friends Association



INSTAGRAM

@somershamprimaryschool_pfa



**REMINDER
OUR AGM IS**



WANT TO USE A QR CODE?

Save this poster to your phone, open it from your camera roll, then press and hold the QR code you want to use.

Physical activity

for children and young people (5-18 Years)



***Builds
Confidence &
Social Skills***



***Strengthens
Muscles & Bones***



***Maintains
Healthy
Weight***



***Develops
Co-ordination***



***Improves
Health & Fitness***



***Improves
Sleep***



***Improves
Concentration
& Learning***



***Makes
You Feel
Good***

Be physically active

60 minutes

Aim for an average of at least

per day across the week

**Spread activity
throughout the day**



Play



Walk / Run



Swim



Skate



Skip



Climb

**Activities to
develop
movement
skills, and
muscle and
bone strength**

**All activities should make you
breathe faster & feel warmer**



Bike



Active Travel



Sport



PE



Workout



Dance

**Reduce
inactivity**



**Increase
activity**

**Find ways to help all children and young people accumulate an average
of at least 60 minutes physical activity per day across the week**

UK Chief Medical Officers' Physical Activity Guidelines, 2026