

12th June 2026



Our Weekly Update



Headteacher update

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

It has been great to celebrate Healthy Week this week in school. The children have engaged a wide range of activities to expand their understanding of what it means to be healthy and why this is important. Children have been active, particularly in today's Sports Day. Thank you for your support of this, especially in the less-than-pleasant weather, and for being there to cheer on your children. We will let children know the overall winner in assembly on Monday! They have also learnt more about a healthy diet, thanks to a presentation from Caterlink, our school meals provider, with children in Reception and Key Stage One then applying this knowledge to making their own fruit kebabs and fruit salads. Children have also considered how to keep a healthy mind, with the school participating in a pebble painting activity to 'do something different'.

Unfortunately, the Water Safety assembly mentioned in last week's newsletter was unable to take place due to the presenter being ill. This has, however, been rescheduled for July 6th.

It's certainly been a busy week! Away from Healthy Week, there have been lots of other things going on as well. On Wednesday, a Local Authority moderator came into Somersham to look at writing in Year 6. This type of visit happens every few years to check on the accuracy of teachers' assessment. I'm pleased that the moderators agreed with the judgements of the teachers and were very complimentary about the quality of writing they read. Well done to the children and the staff team.

A reminder that school is closed next Friday for an INSET day.

Teachers will be working with colleagues from schools across Meridian trust to look at planning for next academic year. We hope children enjoy the extra day!

With best wishes for a lovely weekend,

Jonathan Clarke and the SPS Team



Key Dates – updates in blue



Thursday 18 th June	Class photos
Thursday 18 th June @ 16:00	PFA Make a Difference Evening
Friday 19 th June	INSET day – school closed to children
Tuesday 23 rd (Barn Owl and Osprey) and Wednesday 24 th (Red Kite) June	Year 5/6 trip to Ferry Meadows
Thursday 25 th and Friday 26 th June	Abbey College transition
Week beginning Monday 29 th June	PSHE Life Bus visiting Somersham
Wednesday 1 st July	KS1 trip to Hunstanton
Thursday 2 nd July	Meridian Trust Arts Showcase (Choir, French Choir and Irish Dance Club)
Wednesday 1 st , Tuesday 7 th and Thursday 9 th July	Cromwell Community College transition
Monday 6 th July	Water Safety Assembly
Thursday 9 th and Friday 10 th July	St Ivo School transition
Friday 10 th July	PFA Colour Run
Tuesday 14 th and Wednesday 15 th July (14:00)	Year 5/6 production to parents/carers
Wednesday 15 th July	Robin class trip to Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve
Thursday 16 th July	Wren class trip to Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve



Reception	Healthy	As this was our theme for the week, we learned that being healthy means eating well, staying active, getting enough rest, and doing things that help our bodies grow strong and our minds feel happy. We also explored the different ways we can keep ourselves healthy. Can your child remember any of these? What does your family do to stay healthy? We would love to hear about the healthy habits you practise at home!
Year 1/2	Healthy	During Healthy Week we have discussed what healthy means (both physically and mentally). Can your child think of different ways that we can be healthy? What activities can we do that are healthy?
Year 3/4	Tourist	In Geography, we have started our new topic learning about Spain. We will be exploring the question: Why is Spain a popular tourist destination? Can you tell someone at home what a tourist is? Have you ever been a tourist?
Year 5/6	Meander	This week in geography, we have been learning about features of rivers and how they create meanders along their course.
	French	Years 3&4: Listen and sing along to this song about sports: J'adore les sports Years 5&6: Listen to this Haitian story: I want to ride the tap tap!



SOMERSHAM PFA INVITES YOU TO OUR

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY!

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE OUR SCHOOL
AN EVEN BETTER PLACE TO LEARN AND GROW!



DATE:

THURSDAY
18TH JUNE



TIME:

4PM



LOCATION:

Somersham
Primary School

OUR TO-DO LIST WILL INCLUDE TASKS SUCH AS:

- DEEP CLEANING
- GARDENING AND OUTDOOR TIDYING
- GENERAL REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

ANY TOOLS & GARDENING EQUIPMENT YOU
CAN BRING WOULD REALLY HELP

LET'S COME TOGETHER
AND SHOW THE POWER
OF
COMMUNITY SPIRIT!

SMALL
ACTIONS.
BIG IMPACT.

EVERY HELPING HAND MAKES A DIFFERENCE - THANK YOU!

PFA COLOUR RUN

FRIDAY 10TH JULY -
WATCH THIS SPACE



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorfy and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like Polyline and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Patison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



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