



# Somers Park

## Primary School

Newsletter: Autumn 7

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Dear families,

Thank you for your positive engagement this week. Parents' evenings are always a highlight, providing teachers with the opportunity to talk with you about your children's progress and achievements.

We were also delighted to hold our very first OPAL Play Afternoon. With more than 200 parents attending across our sites, the school grounds were filled with energy, laughter and creativity. Children and families enjoyed a wide range of activities including den building, sandcastle making, music and dancing, dressing up, and much more. It was wonderful to see so many parents joining in and helping to create such a positive, active and happy atmosphere. We loved it!

### Attendance Matters!

**MOMENTS  
MATTER.  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

Keep working hard with your attendance!

Whole school attendance this week:

**96.5%**

Superstar classes with attendance of over 97% this week are:

9<sup>th</sup> October- 15<sup>th</sup> October 2026



| Class                             | Attendance |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 4LE, Mrs Luckman and Mrs Evans    | 100%       |
| 2-BEECH, Miss Hartwright          | 98.9%      |
| 2RD Mr Dudley                     | 98.9%      |
| 3KC, Miss Cecil                   | 98.7%      |
| 2EB, Miss Brookes                 | 98.5%      |
| 1-ELM, Mrs Willis                 | 98.4%      |
| 4SB, Mr Bowtell                   | 97.7%      |
| 5RM, Mrs Russell and Mrs Marshall | 97.4%      |
| 3-PINE, Mrs Del-Monte             | 97.3%      |
| 4-CEDAR, Mrs Beasley              | 97.3%      |
| 0-RAG Miss Godwin                 | 97.3%      |
| 0-RAW, Miss Ward                  | 97.3%      |

### Introducing Our New Values

At Somers Park, we are committed to helping every child grow not only academically, but also as kind and responsible members of our community.

You may remember that last academic year we invited our families to work together to share ideas about the values that are important to them and what being part of the Somers Park community means.

Using your feedback, alongside discussions with pupils and staff, we are delighted to introduce our new school values, captured in the acronym...



### B - Believe

**We believe in ourselves and each other.  
We are confident, resilient and ready to learn.**

### E - Excel

**We try our best. We learn, practise and achieve our goals.**

### S - Show Kindness

**We are kind, helpful and caring. We look after each other.**

### T - Thrive

**We grow, belong and flourish together.  
We are healthy, happy and ready for the future.**

Over the past few weeks, children have been introduced to these values through whole-school assemblies and discussions in class. We have used a range of stories and real-life examples to help pupils understand what each value looks like in action and how they can demonstrate them every day, both in school and beyond.

**THINK • KNOW • EXPLAIN • DO**

Somers Park site Tel: 01684 572949  
Malvern Vale site Tel: 01684 574497



We are already seeing many examples of children living out our values, whether that is showing kindness to a friend, persevering with a challenge, believing in their abilities, or helping others feel that they belong.

Launching today, to celebrate these positive behaviours, we have also introduced a new weekly **BEST Values Champion Award**. Each week, members of the Senior Leadership Team will choose children who have demonstrated one or more of our values in a particularly impressive way. This could be through their attitude to learning, acts of kindness, resilience, teamwork, leadership, or any other action that reflects our school values.

Our BEST Values Champions will be recognised in assembly and awarded a special badge and certificate to celebrate their achievement.



We look forward to working together with families to embed these values across our school community and encourage all of our children to be the **BEST** they can be every day!

### Toys & Personal Items in School

A reminder to families that toys and other personal items should not be brought into school unless there is a specific reason and this has been agreed with a member of staff beforehand.

Despite previous reminders, we are still seeing a number of children bringing toys into school. Unfortunately, we have recently had another item go missing, and similar incidents have occurred in the past.

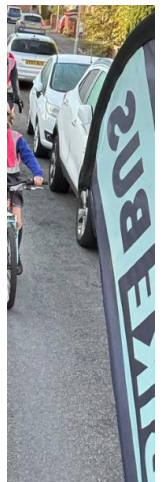
While staff will always do their best to help resolve any issues, toys and personal belongings brought into school are done so at the owner's risk. The school cannot accept responsibility for items that are lost, damaged or misplaced.

To help avoid upset and disruption during the school day, we would greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that toys and personal items remain at home unless prior arrangements have been made with staff. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation

### Malvern Bike Bus



Last week we had a Bike Bus running from Victoria Park to Somers Park, celebrating the national Cycle to School Week. The Bike Bus will continue to run every Friday, and we're keen to set up more routes and welcome families to join us for a fun and safe cycle to school, both to Malvern Vale and Somers Park. We are very grateful to our local volunteers and county councillors, who ride with us and provide support at junctions. Please contact Clare on 07932 2353753 if you would like to learn more.



### From the classroom...

#### Let's hear from Year 2

**2EB** have been working really hard this term and have particularly enjoyed learning about The Great Fire of London.

During our History lessons, we have been exploring how and why the fire spread so quickly. The children were given different pictures and were tasked with finding out why the fire had spread and burnt a large part of London.



We discovered that many of the houses were made from wood and were built very close together, allowing the flames to move rapidly from building to building.

We also learned that strong winds helped the fire spread across the city and that there were very few effective ways to stop it at the time.

The children have enjoyed investigating the causes of the fire, sharing their ideas, and comparing how firefighters tackle fires today with how people responded in 1666.

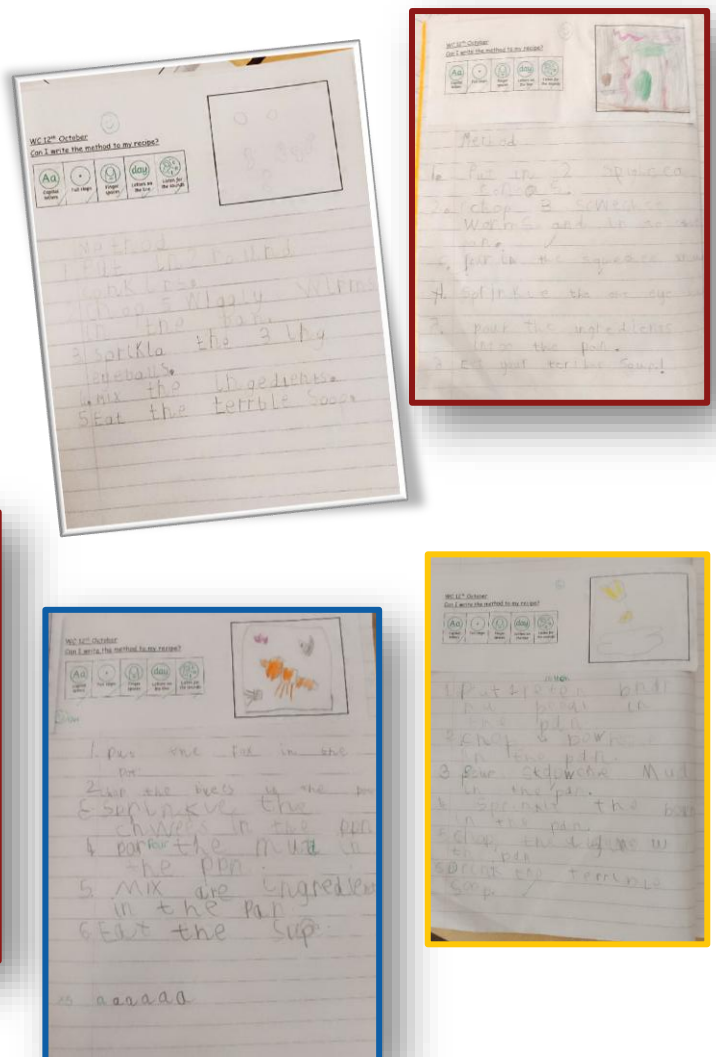
**Beech Class** have also been enjoying lots of exciting learning so far this term! In History, we have been finding out all about the Great Fire of London, travelling back in time to London in 1666! while in science we have been learning about Animals Including Humans and, more recently, healthy eating habits and the important foods to have on our plate!

One of our favourite topics has been Art! We have been exploring how the outdoors can inspire our drawings, looking closely at shapes, patterns and textures in the world around us. The children have loved getting outside, experimenting with different ideas and creating some wonderfully imaginative artwork.

**2RD** have had a great start to the year this year. We have explored the Great Fire of London, which has really captured their curiosity and their questions are amazing. We've also had great fun exploring making different sounds and beats in music with a focus around animal noises. The class have managed to build simple rhythms using body percussion and keeping time with music.

## Fantastic learning in Year 1

In English our text is Billy and the Beast. Over the last 2 weeks the children have been writing a recipe for their own terrible soup. They have produced some fantastic work, and we are really proud of the progress they are making with their writing. Have a look at some of their fantastic recipes.



*Forest school has also been a hit this term! They have enjoyed whittling and decorating sticks, popping popcorn and toasting marshmallows on a fire, drilling holes in conkers to make necklaces and chalk painting!*



### INSET Day

Next week is the final week of term, and **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October is an INSET Day**, when school is closed to children.

**For our pupils the last day of term is next Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October**, when we break up for Half Term.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

*Chris*

Chris Hansen

# Celebrating Success: This week's Stars of the Week

## Stars of the Week

| Class                   | Child           | Star of the Week                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nursery Stars</b>    | Austin H        | For settling well into Stars!                                                                                             |
| <b>Nursery Rainbows</b> | Oliver G        | For joining in with all of our carpet sessions with a big smile on his face 😊                                             |
|                         | Dylan           | For building confidence to approach the adults and chat about his interests. We have lots of lovely discussions together! |
| <b>RAW</b>              | Erza AB         | For trying hard to listen to the adults.                                                                                  |
|                         | Jacob TB        | For believing in himself when doing his work!                                                                             |
| <b>RAG</b>              | Alex K          | For his amazing Fred Talk when writing in English.                                                                        |
|                         | Amara D         | For trying really hard to focus during carpet sessions.                                                                   |
| <b>MV Oak</b>           | Ethan P         | For being a good friend.                                                                                                  |
|                         | Poppy S         | For trying so hard in phonics.                                                                                            |
| <b>1HW</b>              | Ronald RG       | For being such a kind friend and always helping others                                                                    |
|                         | Orla D          | For her fabulous ideas in RE!                                                                                             |
| <b>MV Elm</b>           | Arthur B        | For writing an amazing, terrible soup recipe in English!                                                                  |
|                         | Marta K         | For fantastic focus when completing addition and subtraction number sentences.                                            |
| <b>2RD</b>              | George TS       | For working hard on his handwriting and presentation.                                                                     |
|                         | Mia D           | For always being ready to learn and following the Somers Park Way                                                         |
| <b>2EB</b>              | Taya HA         | For super research when finding and writing facts about Australia.                                                        |
|                         | Harley J        | For a great effort with the presentation of his work this week.                                                           |
| <b>MV Beech</b>         | Emily W         | For being a super mathematician.                                                                                          |
|                         | Amelia-Mae D-H  | For such fantastic presentation of work.                                                                                  |
| <b>3SS</b>              | Imogen C        | For working hard to improve her handwriting and focus in English. Keep it up!                                             |
|                         | Edward P        | For excellent understanding of column addition in Maths this week.                                                        |
| <b>3KC</b>              | Max H           | For showing determination when delivering his Pupil Parliament speech, despite feeling nervous.                           |
|                         | Marleigh-Rose J | For showing fantastic independence when writing a newspaper report in Extended Writing this week!                         |

Continued on the next page...

| Class                       | Child                 | Star of the Week                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MV Pine</b>              | Nancy H               | Amazing maths work whilst learning column add                                                                   |
|                             | Rory S                | Cracking his cursive writing                                                                                    |
| <b>4SB</b>                  | Oscar W               | For an excellent attitude to learning and being a positive role model in class.                                 |
|                             | Molly P               | For being a delightful, kind and funny member of 4SB.                                                           |
| <b>4LE</b>                  | Riley S               | For working hard on his addition and subtractions strategies in maths.                                          |
|                             | Arlo E                | For producing an excellent biography about Nelson Mandela.                                                      |
| <b>MV Cedar</b>             | Felicity B            | For her excellent effort in everything!                                                                         |
|                             | Jenson M              | For his perseverance and determination to do well.                                                              |
| <b>5RM</b>                  | Lottie P B            | For using her impressive reading skills to work out the meaning of some very difficult words in guided reading. |
|                             | Olivia C              | For identifying her emotions and using her Zones of Regulation toolkit to help.                                 |
| <b>5VD</b>                  | Evie C                | For a truly impressive and persuasive speech for why she should be chosen for pupil Parliament.                 |
|                             | Lyra H                | For always showing resilience and a positive attitude towards all parts of school life.                         |
| <b>MV Maple</b>             | Freddie               | Great contributions in lessons                                                                                  |
|                             | Matilda               | For demonstrating great historical enquiry skills throughout our Vikings topic.                                 |
| <b>6GL</b>                  | Mia P                 | For persevering all week to show that she is ready to learn.                                                    |
|                             | Jack DM               | For being ready to learn in every lesson – brilliant!                                                           |
| <b>6MM</b>                  | Leo M                 | For always pushing yourself to tackle challenging Maths problems.                                               |
|                             | Zara C                | For consistently taking pride in your work and your beautiful handwriting.                                      |
| <b>MV Willow</b>            | Violet B              | For her fabulous focus and understanding during our English work this week.                                     |
|                             | Lucas M               | For always being enthusiastic about his learning and trying his best.                                           |
| <b>Special mentions</b>     |                       |                                                                                                                 |
| <b>School Office (site)</b> | Rupert Reilly-Jones   | For being friendly and helpful to everyone he comes across.                                                     |
| <b>Lunchtime (site)</b>     | Kallie-Rae Berrow 2EB | A delight to have in the lunch hall, always smiling, polite and kind to others.                                 |



*News from Mercian Educational Trust*

### **What is the difference between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2?**

*Primary school is divided into different stages.*

**Reception** is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

*After Reception:*

**Key Stage 1 (KS1)** is Years 1 and 2, when children are usually aged 5 to 7.

**Key Stage 2 (KS2)** is Years 3 to 6, when children are usually aged 7 to 11.

*Children continue to study many of the same subjects as they move through primary school, but the learning develops as they grow.*

*In Key Stage 1, there is a strong focus on building important foundations in areas such as reading, phonics, writing and maths.*

*In Key Stage 2, children build on these foundations. They become more independent and begin to use their knowledge and skills in increasingly challenging ways.*

*There are also some differences in the curriculum. For example, learning a foreign language becomes part of the National Curriculum in Key Stage 2.*

*Although we use different names for the stages, children's learning is designed as one continuous journey, with each year building on the one before.*

## **Community Links**



**NEW FREE TERM TIME  
WEEKLY  
YOUTH CLUB**

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE in Yr6-13

**@ Malvern Vale  
Community Centre**

TASTER SESSION –  
parents/carers welcome

**Mon 19 Oct 4-5.30pm**

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT:



FREE SNACKS, ACTIVITIES & TAKE WHAT YOU NEED CLOTHES STALL!



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Cath Skyrme

Script by  
Tom Whalley

Musical Director  
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## CHILDREN'S EVENTS

24TH OCTOBER - 1ST NOVEMBER

The Hive  
Children's Events**Lego Club:**

Every Saturday, 10:00 - 11:30am (free &amp; drop-in, ages 4+)

**Rat-a-tat Tales:**

Every Saturday &amp; Sunday, 11am &amp; 3pm (free &amp; drop-in, ages 1 - 5 years old)

**Scrap booking with the Sandys:**

Monday 26th October, 10am - 12pm (free &amp; drop-in, for families and children of all ages.)

**West African Story Time:**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 11am-1:30pm (free & drop-in, ages 2 - 8 years old)**Bounce & Rhyme:**

Every Tuesday, 10am &amp; 2pm (free &amp; drop-in, ages under 5 years old)

Every Friday, 11am (free &amp; drop-in, ages under 5 years old)

**Gruffalo Granny Story Time & Craft :**

Tuesday 27th October, 11am and 3pm (free &amp; drop-in, all ages welcome)

**Papermaking Workshop:**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>, 11am-12:30pm, & 2pm-3:30pm (free & bookable, ages 6 - 11 years old)**Wacky Wednesday**

Every Wednesday, 1:30 - 3:00pm (free &amp; drop-in, ages 0 - 5 years)

**Illustrated Letters Workshop:**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 10:30-11:30am and 2-3pm (Tickets are £1.50, bookable, ages 7 - 12 years old)**Family Film:**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 10-12pm (free & drop-in, all ages welcome)**Baby Bounce & Rhyme:**

Every Friday, 1pm (free &amp; drop-in, ages 0 - 1 years old)

**Stay & Play Dad's Group:**

Last Saturday of every month, 10:30am - 12pm (free &amp; drop-in, all ages)

**The Illustrated Book Group:**

Sunday 1st November, 2 - 3pm (free &amp; drop-in, ages 8 - 12 years old)

The Hive

SOMERS PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



## World Mental Health Day

10<sup>th</sup> October

♥ Your mind matters! ♥



World Mental Health Day is a day to think about our feelings, thoughts and wellbeing.

Just like we look after our bodies by eating, sleeping and exercising, we can also look after our minds.

Sometimes we might feel happy, worried, cross, sad, tired, excited...  
All feelings are okay. Feelings come and go, and we don't have to deal with them on our own.

♥ Little things that can help ♥



## HOT CHOCOLATE BREATHING

- 1 IMAGINE A WARM MUG  
Hold it gently in your hands.
- 2 SMELL THE CHOCOLATE  
Breathe in slowly through your nose.
- 3 COOL THE CHOCOLATE  
Breathe out slowly through your mouth.

Repeat a few times, gently and slowly.

## A-Z CHALLENGE

- 1 PICK A CATEGORY  
Try animals, food or things at school.
- 2 START AT A  
Apple, banana, carrot...
- 3 KEEP GOING  
Think of one for each letter.

Stuck? Skip a letter or ask someone to join in!

5, 4, 3, 2, 1

TAKE 5 BIG BREATHS &amp; NAME...

- 5 THINGS YOU CAN SEE
- 4 THINGS YOU CAN FEEL
- 3 THINGS YOU CAN HEAR
- 2 THINGS YOU CAN SMELL
- 1 THINGS YOU CAN TASTE

DID YOU KNOW?  
Trees don't just look lovely - spending time around nature can help us feel calmer!

What's your favourite place outdoors?



To find out more about WEST, scan the code.

## BRIDGES OF LIGHT.

Presented by Severn Arts  
Part of the Local Voices Creative Choices programme

## Worcester city centre

Free to attend

Save the date  
**28 and 29**  
**October 2026**  
**6pm-9pm**

Bridges of Light is a two-day light festival with a focus on communities, creativity and collaboration.

Severn Arts

Image by Rachel Jones: Cygnet Song by Illuminos, Bridges of Light 2025

