

Dear Parents/Carers

I think we are all looking forward to a bit of a break after what has seemed like the longest term ever. Hopefully we will all have some much needed sunshine and rest.

The students have been fantastic as always and have continued to focus and work hard in lessons and be excellent ambassadors around the school.

We have had a number of visitors over the last few weeks and they have all commented on how polite and friendly and welcoming the students are.

At the beginning of the term we were successful in appointing a Deputy Headteacher to support me in leading the school. This is a new role and has arisen due to the growing size of the school. Mr Herron will be joining us from Term 6 and is currently Federation Director of English based at Norton Hill. We are really looking forward to welcoming him as part of the team at Somervale School.

A few weeks ago the Trust carried out a full review of the school and I was delighted to hear how much the students expressed their loyalty to the school and how they feel cared for, seen and most importantly supported and challenged in their education.

Things slowly seem to be going back to normal and we are now fast approaching the exam season for Yr11. The students have shown fantastic resilience and attitude to learning over the last few months and I am looking forward to spending some time with the whole year group tomorrow over cups of tea and doughnuts discussing their revision plans for the holidays.

Over the term we have had a number of trips and visits along with Duke of Edinburgh and Ten Tors activities. I am always very proud of the wide range of enrichment activities that are available to our students and very thankful to our staff for the time they give up to run these.

Today the students have received their prizes for the Easter egg hunt around the school reviewing their targets and current performance grades and this was followed up by a very windy staff football match at lunchtime. There was lots of coaching going on from the side-lines by the students and it was a fabulous way to mark the nearly end of term.

Continued...

Term Dates

Term 5

Monday 25th April - Friday 27th
May

Term 6

Monday 6th June - Thursday
21st July

Week returning on: Week B



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Midsomer Norton
Schools Partnership

...Continued...

We have a large group of students departing for Iceland next week and I have no doubt they will have an amazing time and I am very much looking forward to hearing all about it next term when we return.

I would like to wish you and your families a restful break over the next few weeks and as always would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support.

Best wishes

Joanna Postlethwaite

Ms
Headteacher

J

Postlethwaite



Local Easter Events

 **EASTER BONNET PARADE**

MIDSOMER NORTON TOWN PARK

15TH APRIL 2022

11am - 1pm

There will be an Easter Bonnet Parade and competition at the Easter Event in the Town Park on Good Friday at 12.30pm.

Three age categories - under 5's, 6 – 11's, and 12's and over. Make a bonnet and bring it along for a chance to win an Easter Egg!

Winners will be announced on the day and prizes awarded by the Mayor after the parade.

Make a bonnet and get creative!

www.midsomernortontowncouncil.co.uk

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 **MIDSOMER NORTON TOWN COUNCIL**

EASTER EGG HUNT

FRI 15 APRIL • 11AM - 1PM

• EASTER BONNET COMPETITION • GAMES •
MUSIC • FOOD • FUN

TOWN PARK FREE ENTRY

WWW.MIDSOMERNORTONTOWNCOUNCIL.CO.UK

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Reminders

Activities Week

A reminder to please ensure that payments are made on time for activities week, this will help us to ensure we can meet our deadlines with the organisers.

For daily activities off site, please make payment by **Friday 6th May**.

For Swanage camp, please make payments as outlined below:

Friday 18th March - £70 (non-refundable deposit)

Friday 29th April - £50.00

Friday 27th May - £30.00

Friday 30th June - £50.00

You can make payments via [ParentPay](#).

School Portal

A reminder that you can use the Portal to view your details (and request changes), check attendance, food purchases and access school reports.

If you do not have access to the Portal, please email enquiries@somervaleschool.com so that we can arrange for you to have a login.

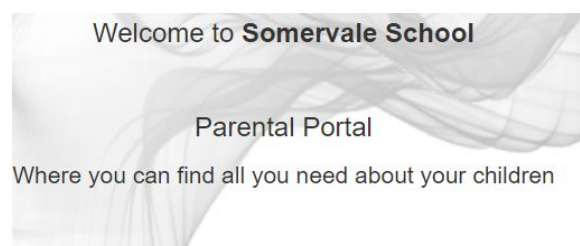
You can access the Portal by clicking [here](#).

Trampolining Club

We have a fantastic Trampolining club held on a Monday or Tuesday, run by an external professional coach. If your child is interesting in signing up, please click [here](#). The cost is £4 per session (£20 for Term 5).

ParentPay & Dinner Money

Please be reminded that we are not permitted to allow students to go into debt on their dinner money accounts. Please ensure that sufficient funds are available on their accounts, if money is not available they may be asked to contact home to top up before they can be served.



Reminders

Year 11 Summer Examination Timetable

Summer 2022 Exam Timetable

Date	Exam
Tuesday 10/05/22	Travel and Tourism
Friday 13/05/22	Enterprise
Monday 16/05/22	Religious Studies B
Tuesday 17/05/22	Biology 1
Wednesday 18/05/22	English Language 1
Thursday 19/05/22	History 1
Friday 20/05/22	Maths 1
Monday 23/05/22	Geography B 1
Tuesday 24/05/22	French 1
Wednesday 25/05/22	English Literature 1
Thursday 26/05/22	Religious Studies B
Friday 27/05/22	Chemistry 1
Tuesday 31/05/22	Art/ Graphics/Photo
Monday 06/06/22	Child Development
Tuesday 07/06/22	Maths 2
Tuesday 07/06/22	Geography B 2
Wednesday 08/06/22	English Literature
Thursday 09/06/22	Physics 1
Friday 10/06/2022	English Language 2
Monday 13/06/22	Maths 3
Monday 13/06/22	iMedia
Tuesday 14/06/22	Geography B 3
Wednesday 15/06/22	Biology 2
Thursday 16/06/22	History 2
Thursday 16/06/22	French 2
Monday 20/06/22	Chemistry 2
Tuesday 21/06/22	History 3
Tuesday 21/06/22	Hospitality
Wednesday 22/06/22	Music
Thursday 23/06/22	Physics 2

News & Notices

Recent Donations

We have recently made donations to some brilliant charities and wanted to share these with you.

NHS Big Tea - Total raised £150

Macmillan - Total raised £132.47

Off the Record - Total raised £361

We were also able to raise an incredible amount of physical donations for Ukraine.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us to support these charities.



Somervale
School,
you're amazing

Thank you for your gift of £132.47

With your support, you are helping to make sure no one has to face cancer alone.

Thank you.
Your donation of £361.00
has been received!

Somervale News

DofE @ Somervale

This term we were proud to accept our DofE Licenced Organisation Plaque from Till Barker (Duke of Edinburgh's Award). This plaque will be placed up in our School Reception and shows just how much the school has grown.

Over the years we have had the pleasure to be supported with our DofE awards by Norton Hill School. However over the years both schools have grown and this year we have been lucky enough to now be our own licenced organisation and offer the award ourselves. The DofE award strives to offer all students a chance to shine, and we feel this is just what Somervale School is all about, so over the coming years you will see more about all the DofE awards offered at Somervale School.

"There's something very special about DofE Award holders – their capacity to help others. It's an amazing attribute that I hope you carry forward to the rest of your lives. Whilst the DofE is great to have on your CV to help you get a job, I think the most important thing is how much you've grown as people. The hard work and dedication that you've put in counts for so much and sets you up for a very successful future." – DAVID WALLIAMS

Thank you



Mrs Day

Somervale News

Staff Charity Football Match

Our amazing year 9 student Jamie planned & organised a staff football match for Thursday 7th April - Somervale staff teamed up with local charity, Mentoring Plus, to play a match...wearing pyjamas! Lots of students came to support and paid a pound to enter the Astro and watch staff show off their skills!

"It raised over £275 - a fantastic amount & all because a young person felt passionate about giving something back. What a champion he is!" Mentoring Plus B&NES



Somervale News

Eco Council

On Thursday 31 March Somervale Eco Council represented the school at the annual Climate Change Conference. Our ten Eco Council members were a credit to the school!

The Conference was an exciting opportunity to network with lots of schools across Somerset, Bath and Chippenham. This year the conference was held virtually. We heard some fantastic keynote speeches from Paula Malone at Energy Sparks, the 'radical geographer' Paul Turner at the Ministry of Eco and Camilla Born, Climate advisor to the UK Cabinet Office. We were given lots of facts about how to improve advocacy, curriculum and the campus, so we can make progress towards a zero carbon future. We were also inspired by the actions of other schools. The Eco Council also benefited from a workshop on eco-anxiety and how to manage their concerns about the environment.

A special thank you to Ben Thomas, who delivered a presentation on behalf of Somervale, to all the other schools at the conference. He was so professional!

We hope to use our ideas to make small but significant steps towards making Somervale a more eco-friendly environment to study and work at.

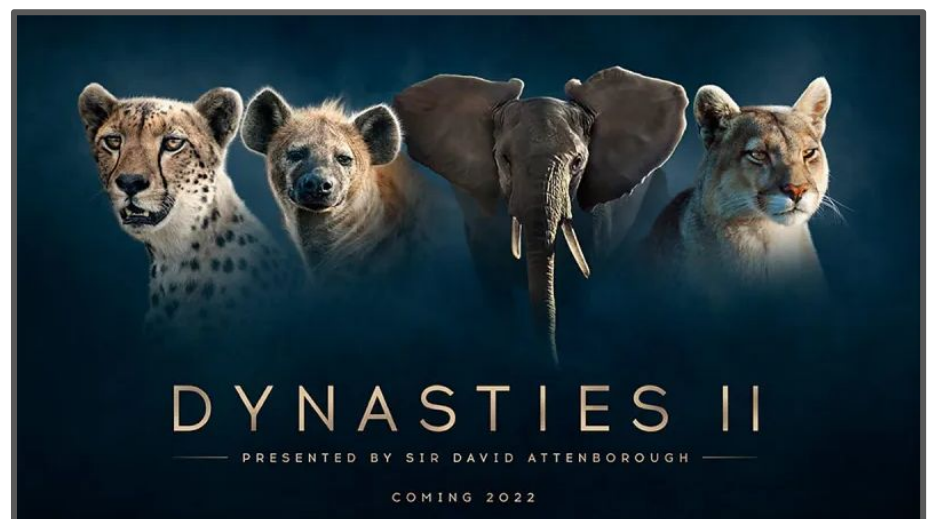
Watch this space!

Attenborough Club

Watching the new series 'Dynasties II'.

"Dynasties II will be a gripping look at the lives of four remarkable wild animals as they struggle to build a family against the odds. With characters you fall in love with, and genuine life-and-death stakes, this will be a series every bit as thrilling as the greatest drama."

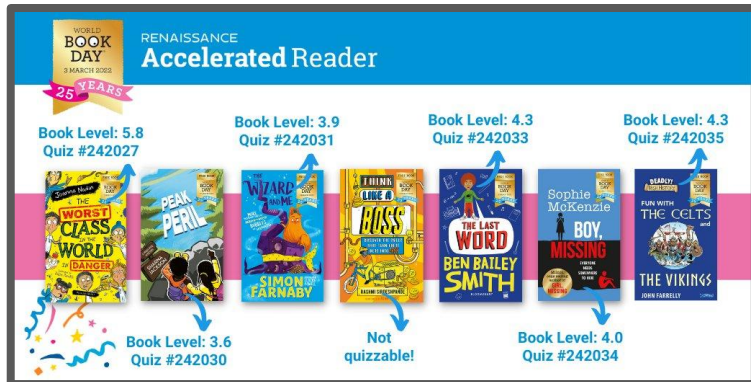
For more information on Attenborough Club, please see Miss Stowell.



Library News

March 2022 - World Book Week Activities

Students enjoyed a week long celebration for World Book Week during the first week of March. All our KS3 students received their £1 World Book Day Book Token, along with a free £1 Book. These books are published especially for World Book Day and this year there was a great selection to choose from.



We had local author, **Chris Vick** visit a group of year 9 students, working with them to highlight their creative writing skills, plus we hosted our usual staff v student scrabble and chess competitions during the lunchtimes.

Staff also participated by displaying their current or favourite reading book on their classroom doors

We also launched our sponsored **Readathon** for the charity Read for Good. Students are encouraged to read as much as they can, asking family and friends to sponsor them to raise vital funds for the charity to support storytellers and books for children in hospital. Everyone who took part was entered into a raffle prize draw, with student Caitlin winning our Easter Chocolate Hamper!



Library News



National Carnegie Book Awards 2022

We are pleased that a team has now been selected to represent Somervale School for the National Carnegie Book Award 2022.

Briefly, this UK award is given to the author of a favourite children's/teen novel selected from a shortlist which has been chosen by a panel of independent UK judges.

More information on this year's shortlisted titles can be found here:

<https://carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/yoto-carnegie-medal-shortlist-2022/>

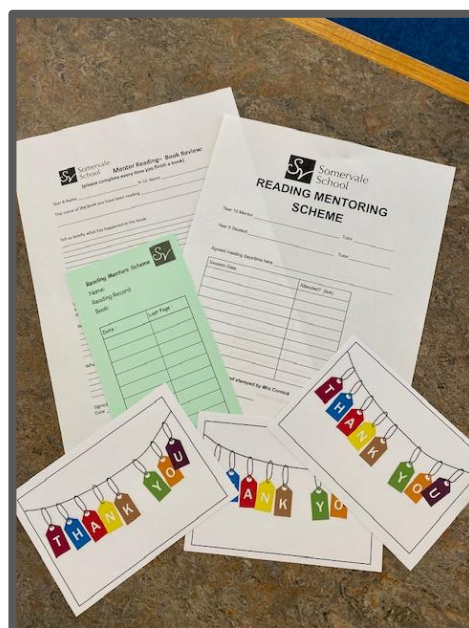
20 Students from years 8 and 9 will read the books during Term 5 and score their book on categories such as plot, believability of characters, consistency, readability etc. This is a good opportunity for students to read books that they might otherwise not have chosen.

The winning ceremony will be streamed live from London on 16th June.

Student Reading Mentoring Programme

During the past two terms, a group of year 10 reading mentor volunteers have been working with some of our year 8 students, mentoring them with their reading. Pairs have been meeting twice weekly during a tutor session to read and quiz together. The aim has been to improve reading confidence for the year 8 students, and to encourage those students on their reading journey at Somervale.

The Year 10 volunteers have enjoyed working with the younger students and have found the mentoring engaging and helpful to learn as a life skill themselves.



Music

We would like to introduce you to our fantastic Music department and inform you of the great range of instrumental lessons that we have on offer.

We are able to offer individual and group lessons with experienced peripatetic tutors, weekly and on site. All lessons take place during the school day and are timetabled on a rotation where possible to ensure as little disruption as possible to your child's usual lessons.

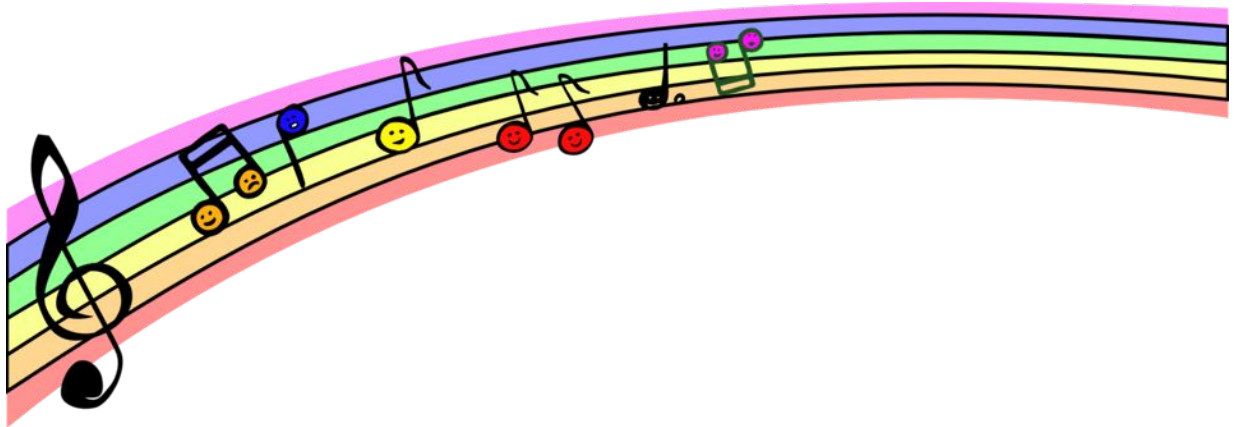
To see what instrumental lessons we have on offer and to book lessons, please click on the below link:

<https://forms.gle/aXuiPqGk5T73GMoVA>

Please note that BANES instrumental lessons are to be booked and paid for directly with the BANES music team, please click on the link provided on the booking form.

If you are interested in instrumental lessons but have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me by emailing, ckehoe@somervaleschool.com

If you are entitled to Pupil Premium funding, please contact lself@somervaleschool.com to discuss what funding contributions are available to you.



Bath Rugby Foundation PSHE Programme

The Bath Rugby Foundation have been working with our Year 10's to deliver a PSHE programme. We have had a workshop regarding drugs; Year 10 discussed the mental and physical health implications of using drugs. The students had an opportunity to think about how to help their friends or people in the community.

We are very fortunate to have been offered a 5 week programme from the Bath Rugby Foundation, we look forward to more workshops on topics such as living well, nutrition and facing fears.

Miss Stowell and Ms Merriman



English

Year 7 Poetry

This term, Year 7 have been studying Nature poetry. They have really enjoyed exploring an anthology of poetry and learning about how language and rhythm works. Here are some examples of their beautiful flower poems inspired by William Wordsworth.

The Aster

In the sun the flowers stand,
Big and bold and tall and grand.
Vibrant colours, ocean blue,
Bright purple and violet too.

When you walk past the flowers, there's a smell you can't miss,
A very sweet smell deep in the mist.
Sat in the field, swaying in the breeze,
You'll be picking the flowers, down on your knees.

I walked into the field and the sight of the flowers,
Made me feel I could sit there for hours.
I sat on the grass and my worries lifted,
I just knew my whole life had shifted.

Daisy D (Year 7)

As Beautiful as an Aster

It's like a never ending rainbow,
That exploded in a field,
The sun started shining
And the darkness was killed.

A feeling that was unknown,
A feeling that was hard to chase,
Sadness was thrown,
And a smile came onto my face.

It was like love,
Only something more,
If you don't live for feeling,
Then what are you living for?

It was like they were staring,
And reaching for the sky,
With their genuine beauty
I was wondering why?

Ian's I (Year 7)

Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey

On 14th March, a group of eight students from Years 9 and 10 represented Somervale School at the Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey. The Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey is the largest annual inter-faith celebration of the Commonwealth in the UK.

The event took place in the presence of senior members of the Royal Family: Charles, the Prince of Wales, Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, William and Catherine, who attended in representation of Her Majesty The Queen, Head of the Commonwealth.

Political leaders from the UK such as Boris Johnson, Priti Patel, Jacob Rees-Mogg, Liz Truss and Keir Starmer were also in attendance as well as diplomatic representatives from the Commonwealth and the rest of the world. Our students were very fortunate to enjoy live music and performances from Emeli Sande, Micah Paris and Imtiaz Dharker among others. They

As well as enjoying the lovely walk by Buckingham Palace and St James' Park, our students saw the service at Westminster Abbey as an excellent opportunity to experience the huge multicultural diversity that the Commonwealth has to offer and in which the UK is a key player.

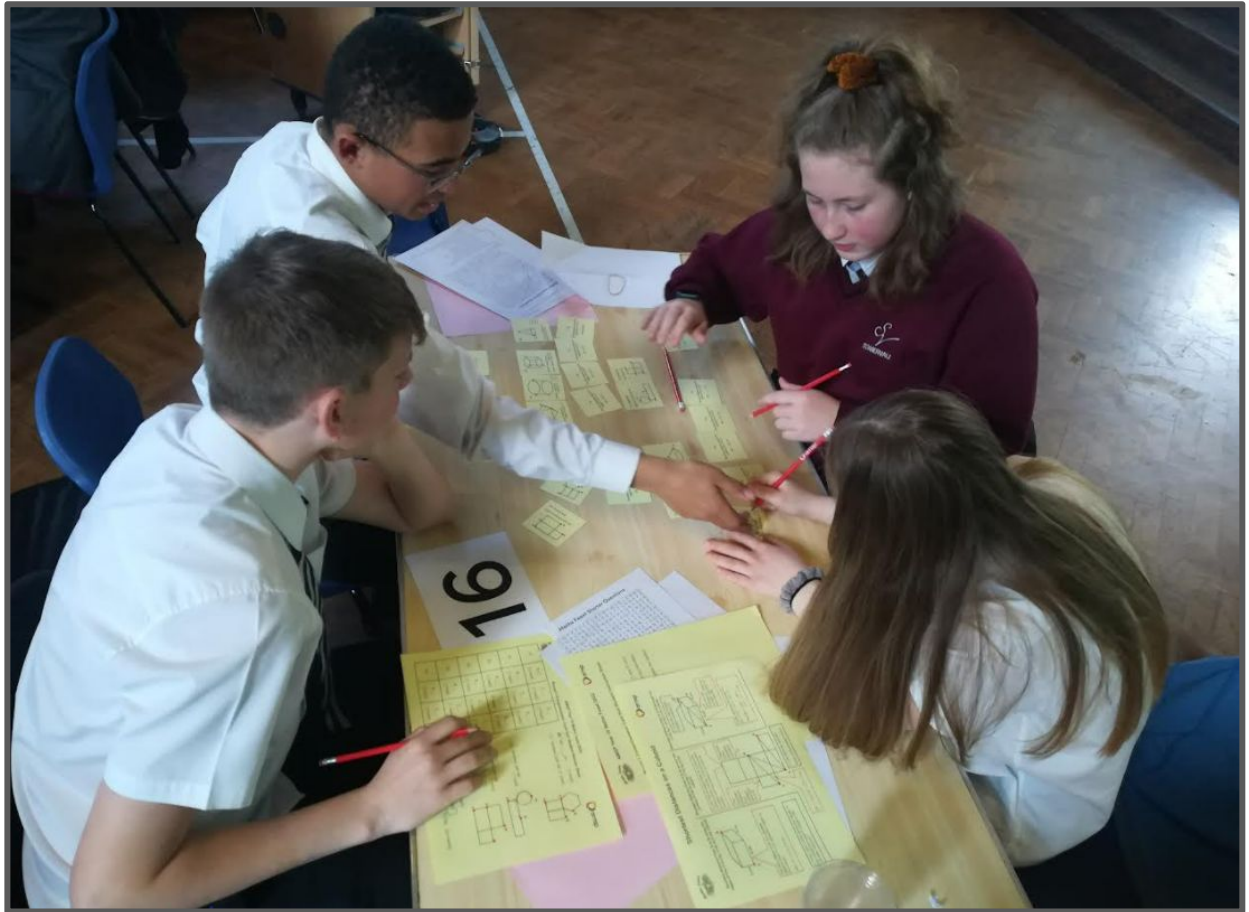
We are already looking forward to the next event!



Maths

AMSP Maths Feast

Four Year 10 students recently took part in the AMSP Maths Feast at St Mark's School. They competed against schools from within the Federation and across the region, working as a team to complete problem solving tasks. All students showed great teamwork and thoroughly enjoyed the day!



English Schools' Cross-Country Championships

Congratulations to Oliver Aldred, who represented the school this month at the English Schools' Cross Country Championships for the first time. Oliver's training has really paid off this year, resulting in him being selected to run for BANES at the County Championships, where he then qualified to represent Avon at the national finals in Kent. He finished in 196th, which placed him around the middle of that race, and hopes to use this as a springboard to further running success in the track season this summer.




GCSE

It has been a busy term for the GCSE PE students in Year 10, who have completed a significant unit of work on Physical Training as well as completing the vast majority of their written coursework. In addition, we now have just a handful of students still needing video evidence of their performances in competition. Please support your child if they still need to complete this element. We look forward to offering opportunities in rock climbing, trampolining and athletics in the summer term.

A Level PE

A Level students enjoyed travelling to Prior Park School this term to work with Ross Howitt, the chief examiner for AQA PE, in preparation for their summer exams. Their practical assessment is due to take place when we return from Easter so we wish them the best of luck!

Term 5 Extra-Curricular

<div>  <div> PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLUBS Term 5 </div>   </div>					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCHTIME Astroturf (must have correct footwear)	Astroturf open for all ages				
AFTER SCHOOL (3.30-4.30)	Trampolining Year 7 GCSE/NCFE Catch up	Trampolining Years 8-11	Rounders 7-11 (BDU)	Tennis 7-11 (BDU) Cricket 7-11 (IKE)	Staff Recreational Sport

Extra-Curricular Success

It has been wonderful to run a full programme of football fixtures this term for the first time in 3 years! Boys and girls from every year group have represented the school with distinction, and we are particularly proud of our students' exemplary conduct whenever they play for the school. Particular mention goes to the year 7 boys who came within one goal of an unbeaten season. Also thanks to Leo in Year 11 and Matty in Year 9 for helping out with the coaching of younger year groups.



Sport Leaders

Our sports leaders have been brilliant this term and have been getting involved in a mixture of events. The sports leaders helped with the local primary schools' cross country event where the leaders helped set up the course, guided the runners where to go and handed out medals to the primary school students. Special mention to Finlay, Fletcher and Charlie who were brilliant hares at this event and have been excellent sports leaders. These 3 students have refereed a variety of football games both primary and secondary schools and all schools have spoken very highly about these individuals. The leaders will not partake in sports leaders training in some of their PE lessons next term which will prepare them for a Multi-Skills Festival for local primary schools where the leaders will run their own stations. Good luck sports leaders!



Term Dates 2022-23

Academic Year 2022/2023

Term 1

Thursday 1st September 2022
Friday 21st October 2022

Term 2

Monday 31st October 2022
Friday 16th December 2022

Term 3

Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Friday 10th February 2023

Term 4

Monday 20th February 2023
Friday 31st March 2023

Term 5

Monday 17th April 2023
Friday 26th May 2023

Term 6

Monday 5th June 2023
Friday 21st July 2023

INSET DAYS

Inset day 1

Thursday 1st September 2022

Inset day 2

Friday 2nd September 2022

Inset day 3

Friday 21st October 2022

Inset day 4

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Inset day 5

Monday 17th April 2023

National Bank Holidays:

Monday 26th December 2022
Tuesday 27th December 2022
Monday 2nd January 2023
Friday 7th April 2023
Monday 10th April 2023
Monday 1st May 2023
Monday 29th May 2023
Monday 28th August 2023

Wishing you and your families a very....



Somervale
School