

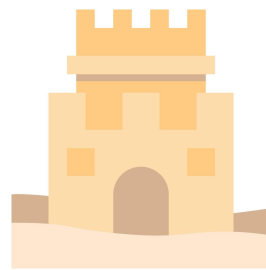


# SOMERVALE SCHOOL

## Newsletter: Term 6



**MN** **SP** Midsomer Norton  
Schools Partnership



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# Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

What a fantastic week to finish off a brilliant and jam packed year. As I write this I am currently hiding in my office to rest after spending lunchtime in the hall 'throwing shapes' (yes I am that old...) to Just Dance. Students have had the opportunity to go bowling, swimming, play sports, carry out treasure hunts, go to the beach, create amazing stage makeup and much much more. There are loads of photos later on in the newsletter showcasing our fab week. It has been another fabulous year at Somervale School. It hardly seem like a nearly a year ago when we welcomed 150 Year 7 students through the gates. As I have mentioned previously we have decided to stick to our PAN again for next year and will be opening the doors to summer school on Monday to another 150 (5 tutors groups) students. At present we have decided to keep to the standard size year groups until we can review any additional building we may need. It also allows us to keep the unique feel to the school. We have had four fantastic House Charity weeks which have raised money for a number of charities and in addition to this we raised £450 for Operation Christmas Hamper and over £200 for Christmas Jumper Day. This year we have had a number of reviews by the Trust and they have all been extremely complimentary of the school and the students. It is now widely recognised by all that Somervale continues to be a beacon of exemplary practice. Recently we sent out the link to the parent voice survey to gather your views on the school and I will be reporting back on that in our Term 1 newsletter. The students also completed a student voice survey and their feedback was;

Over 85% of students said they feel happy at the school

Over 90% of students said they feel safe at the school

Over 85% of students feel they are well looked after at the school

Over 89% of students feel they make good progress at the school

Over 90% of students feel they are well taught at the school

Over 80% of students feel they have lots of different opportunities at the school

We are really proud of these results but we recognise that there is always work to be done. The students raised questions about the social zones and in consultation with them we have adjusted these for September. A massive thank you from myself and all the staff at the school for all your support over the last year. It really is a partnership. I would like to wish you all a long, sunny and restful holiday and look forward to seeing all the students in September in their new house ties.

Best wishes

*Joanna Postlethwaite*

Ms J Postlethwaite





# Uniform



## SOMERVALE SCHOOL UNIFORM AND PE KIT

Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform to school. These notes outline what is acceptable. Please speak to the relevant Head of Year if you need further clarification.

Item of Uniform	Acceptable	Not Acceptable
School sweatshirt	Burgundy V-necked with school logo	Any other type of sweatshirt or hoodie
White school shirt	Long or short-sleeved with top button.	A polo shirt
School tie	<b>Clip on House Colour Ties ONLY</b>	Frayed ends or graffiti in any way
School trousers	Black school trousers	Decorative features such as dangling zips, excessively tight-fitting, jersey or leqqing material or jean-style trousers (with rivets)
School skirt	Black, knee-length and <u>pleated</u>	Extreme length, tight or clingy (jersey material) – skirts must be <b>knee-length and NOT ROLLED UP.</b>
School shoes	Black leather or leather style	<b>No 'trainer style' shoes.</b> Even if sold in the school shoe section of the shop.
School Socks	<u>Plain</u> black unbranded socks <b>ONLY</b>	Decorative, logo or overly fluffy socks or socks of any other colour than black.
Coat/Jacket	Appropriate and protective coat (waterproof and warm)	Denim, logo or hooded jackets/sweatshirts and sports style jackets
Jewellery	Ear studs – <u>One</u> small stud in each ear	Any other, this includes nose studs, eyebrow bars and tongue studs
Hairstyle	Sensible and appropriate hairstyles	Anything extreme. No hair dye outside of the natural range of colours. No multi-coloured hair or extreme variations in length.
Make-up and Nails	Neutral coloured make-up and appropriate nail length	Glitter, brightly coloured make-up and anything excessive (e.g. extreme false eyelashes). No nail varnish and extreme lengths that impact on the ability to complete school work and PE lessons safely
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No hats or scarves to be worn in the buildings</li> <li>Additional layers can be worn under shirts but <b>MUST</b> be in neutral colours and not showing</li> <li>Students are <b>NOT</b> to shave 'slits' into their eyebrows. These <b>MUST</b> be filled in appropriately</li> </ul>	

### SOMERVALE SCHOOL UNIFORM & PE KIT

All clothing should be clearly marked with the owner's name. This is particularly important as clothing is mislaid, lost and often unclaimed. Advice about clothing or footwear required for certain subjects will be given by the staff concerned.

If students chose to not follow the schools uniform expectations this may result in students going home to get changed, replacement uniform being worn or possibly removed from circulation until the uniform issue is resolved.

In the case of incorrect footwear, students will be required to wear the school's replacement shoes ('daps') unless there is a medical reason.

Students with extreme haircuts or dyes may be sent home to remedy the situation or placed in isolation until the issue is rectified.

Students who wear excess jewellery will have this confiscated and returned following an after school detention. Failure to comply with any of the above may result in suspension.











# Uniform



## SOMERVALE SCHOOL UNIFORM AND PE KIT

Below, we have listed as a visual record, the various items of clothing which combine to form the Somervale School uniform. These are all compulsory.

		
SV School Sweatshirt: Burgundy, V-necked with school logo	White School Shirt: Long-sleeved	School Tie: House Colour Clip on Tie (from September 2025)
		<p><b>Please note that all school shoes MUST be 'formal style NOT 'trainer' style even if they are sold in the school 'shoe' section of a the shoe shop</b></p>
School Trousers: Black school trousers	School Skirt: Black box pleated school skirt, measuring a reasonable length, ideally to the knee	
		
Acceptable Black leather style shoes (These are only two examples of styles that could be worn)		



# Uniform



## SOMERVALE SCHOOL UNIFORM AND PE KIT

Below, we have listed as a visual record, the various items of clothing which combines to form the Somervale PE Kit:

		
<p><b>Compulsory</b> <b>SV Sports Polo:</b> Red &amp; Black Sports Polo with SV logo</p>	<p><b>Compulsory</b> <b>SV Sports fitted Polo:</b> Red &amp; Black Sports Polo with SV logo</p>	<p><b>Compulsory for all</b> <b>SV Sports Jumper (Unisex):</b> Black with logo</p>
		
<p><b>Compulsory</b> <b>SV Sports Skort:</b> Black with logo</p>	<p><b>Compulsory Sports Leggings:</b> Plain black with no visible branding</p>	<p><b>Compulsory</b> <b>SV Sports Shorts:</b> Black with logo</p>
		
<p><b>Compulsory:</b> Red &amp; black with logo, white sports socks or trainer socks</p>		<p><b>Compulsory</b> <b>Studded Boots and running style trainers:</b> (Round plastic studs only)</p>



# Uniform



## SOMERVALE SCHOOL UNIFORM AND PE KIT

The items below are optional extras. Unbranded or <u>plain</u> black options will also be accepted		
		
<b>Rugby Shirt (Strongly recommended):</b> Red with reversible black band	<b>SV Sports Trousers (Unisex):</b> Black with logo	<b>Thermal long sleeve top:</b> Black, red or white.
		
<b>Plain Black Jumper</b> Plain black with no visible branding or hood	<b>Plain Black Sports Shorts:</b> Plain black with no visible branding	<b>Plain Black Sports Trousers:</b> Plain black with no visible branding

### PE Kit Summary

#### Essential

- Somervale School Polo Shirt
- Somervale School black ¾ zip jumper
- SV Black Shorts **or** SV Skort **or** Plain Black Leggings,
- Black & Red Long Socks or White or Trainers Socks
- Sporting Trainers (with appropriate cushioning. No fashion trainers or canvas shoes)
- Studded Boots\* (round, plastic, moulded studs required so can be used on the astroturf and grass)

#### Optional

- Mouth Guard/Gum Shield
- Shin Pads
- Towel
- Thermal Long Sleeve Top
- Somervale School Rugby Jersey
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms

\*Please note that on the astroturf, metal studs or blades are not permitted. As the surface acts like grass, normal trainers are also not appropriate footwear for the astroturf. Round, moulded, plastic studs are therefore essential.

All Somervale branded and plain uniform options can be purchased from Norton Sports and Camping, located in the High Street.



# Uniform



## SOMERVALE SCHOOL UNIFORM AND PE KIT

### Examples of boots for PE



#### Metal Screw in Studs:

Suitable for the field but not the astroturf. If you already own this type of boot, you can use it, but only for activities on the grass.



#### Astroturf Trainers:

Suitable for the astroturf but not the field. If you already own this type of trainer, you can use it, but only for activities on the astroturf.



#### Blades:

Suitable for the field but not the astroturf. If you already own this type of boot, you can use it, but only for activities on the grass.



#### Round, moulded, plastic studded boots –

Suitable for the field and astroTurf.

### Examples of trainers for PE



#### Canvas shoes



#### Basketball/Skate shoes



#### Fashion shoes



#### Running style trainers



# Celebration Evening

## Celebration Evening

On Thursday 10th July 2025 we held our annual Celebration Evening, this celebration is to recognise students for their outstanding achievement in a particular subject for this academic year.

Congratulations to all who were nominated.





# Humanities Department

## Year 7 Humanities Trip Big Pit and Cardiff Castle

### The Big Pit

For our Year 7 Humanities Trip we visited The Big Pit in South Wales. The Big Pit is a real life mine where students had the chance to go down the mine and experience the conditions that our miners worked under.

They were guided through the mines and also visited the many buildings required to run such a large operation.

Our students also had the opportunity to speak to Welsh miners. We also had a look around the museum, seeing different parts of the mining community and history, and experienced the interactive King Coal exhibit, which gave them more information about modern mining. A great few days had by all involved!

### Cardiff Castle

Year 7 also visited Cardiff Castle, they had a guided tour of the castle through the ages from before the medieval times all the way up to World War Two. We also had a talk and watched a demonstration, this included medieval weapons. The students enjoyed dressing up and pretending to be medieval warriors for the day.



# Humanities Department





# Humanities Department





# Science

## Race To The Line

Last term in science, year 7 had been busy designing, making and then racing CO<sub>2</sub> canister powered cars. We then spent a Friday afternoon timing them to decide which team would progress to the West Area Finals. The Final took place in June at Chepstow School where the selected team were given a safety briefing, rules. They were then given 90 minutes to design and create a canister car from scratch. These cars were then raced against other participating schools in the West of England, and a winner was decided!

I am pleased to say team Somervale came 1st place out of the guest schools.





# Library News

## The Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership Book Awards

Our new initiative to promote reading for pleasure among secondary school students has concluded with the first-ever School Library Book Awards, organised by the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership.

The winning title, *Bird Boy*, is the moving tale of eleven-year-old Will, who, whilst grieving for his mother, finds friendship with refugee Omar, and a bond with an injured osprey chick.

The award ceremony was attended by MNSP students, library staff, CEO Alan Williams and Frome College headteacher, Emma Reynolds, with local author Matt Dickinson and shortlisted authors, Catherine Bruton, Keith Gray, Fleur Hitchcock, Elle McNicoll attending as VIP guests. Nora Dasnes joined the ceremony by video link, live from Norway.

The winning author, Catherine Bruton, tearfully thanked the students for "choosing my book as your winner" and praised the other shortlisted books and authors, saying "I really didn't expect this - I didn't prepare a speech, because the other books are all so good!"



Students from Norton Hill School, Somervale School and Beechen Cliff School shared presentations on their favourite books from the shortlist, arguing eloquently why their chosen book should win.





# Library News

## Accelerated Reader - Word Millionaires Celebration!



Somervale  
School

# Somervale Library Word Millionaires 2025

Christine M	3,250,146
Thomas F	3,083,280
Evie B	2,601,516
Ava B	2,451,339
Edie S	2,305,637
Sienna W	2,116,468
Lilly L	2,043,885
Holly S	1,901,737
Martha A	1,894,044
Imogen R	1,646,048
Melissa E	1,574,750
Izzy F	1,545,750
Freddie .	1,519,175
Lily M	1,398,437
Ashton B	1,390,273
Harrison F	1,244,486
Jasper P	1,114,703
Arthur T	1,085,412
Rosie W	1,047,403
Maisie W	1,037,058

We had our annual 'Word Millionaire' celebration in the library on 9th July!

Congratulations to all those students who managed to read over a million words this year!

Well done to everyone who has been reading and quizzing. You never know...this time next year, you could also be 'millionaires', so keep reading!





# Library News

**Summer Reading** - don't forget to keep reading during the summer break. It's a brilliant way to relax and enjoy the sunshine. Some of our classes have been enjoying reading outside



## Oracy Day - Library 'Top Trumps' Challenge

Students created their own Book Character Top Trumps card. Like any traditional Top Trumps card, students have to plan their character's strengths and weaknesses, in order to do battle during a lunchtime challenge.

Congratulations to Forest, who was our overall winner!

Some amazing oracy techniques performed during the battle, students spoke with real passion about why their book character should win!





# Sports Day

## Sports Day

What a year for sports day! This year saw another year of all students taking part in sport & physical activity all day. We had an amazing 11 records broken by our amazing students:

- Charlie G for breaking the 2015 record for year 8 girls 400m with a time of 1min 14sec
- Charlie G, Aowyn B, Cerys S, Summer G for breaking the year 8 girls relay record for Harridge
- Ethan Y for breaking the 2006 record for the year 8 boys javelin with a throw of 29.95m (+9m on his predecessor)
- Lloyd W for breaking the 2016 record for the Year 8 boys long jump record with a jump of 5.8m (+1.3m on his predecessor). This is currently joint furthest ever recorded at SV and he's in year 8!
- Thomas A, Marshal B, Stanley C, Henry B for breaking the year 8 boys relay record for Ammerdown
  - Neve C for breaking the year 9 girls 200m record
  - Minnie Tranter for breaking the year 9 girls 400m record
- Ethan H, Kody R, Blake C & Marley C for breaking the year 9 boys relay record for Harridge
  - Evie S for breaking the year 10 girls 200m record from 2019
- Issy P for breaking the year 10 girls 800m record from 2014 (by 5 seconds)
- Isla H for breaking the year 10 girls 1500m record from 2014 (by 29 seconds)

A huge congratulations to all students in Greyfield House for their convincing win. We'd also like to thank all Year 11 students for returning to help run the events - we could not have done it without you! The final points are as follows:



# Sports Day

OVERALL POSITION	HOUSE	TOTAL POINTS
1st	Greyfield	925
2nd	Harridge	818
3rd	Stockhill	717
4th	Ammerdown	700





# Physical Education

## Sport Leaders

We've had a busy year for our Sport Leaders. This year we have supported over 500 primary students with sporting events including cross country, sports days and a variety of festivals. A HUGE well done to all of our amazing Leaders that have volunteered their time to help their local community and be excellent role models for younger students.



## Cricket

Year 7, 8 & 10 boys have played some fantastic hard and softball cricket this season. Well done to Ben in Year 10 for his fantastic game against Writhlington hitting a solid 21 runs of 4 overs and bowling three players out. An additional shout out to Freddie in Year 8 for leading a fantastic Year 7&8 team and for organising the boys to step up to play against year 9 students.





# Physical Education

## House Matches

Term 6 saw the final house matches of the years with students competing in rounders. We're already looking forward to next year's competition!



## Athletics

A huge well done to all athletes that competed in the BANES Minor Athletics competition earlier in the term. Well done to Kayden, Lloyd, Will & Erin for their podium finishes!





# Physical Education

## Dance

Dance club have started rehearsing choreography for next years' production, Beauty and the Beast. Students have been doing really well with a complete change in style from last year! We are aiming to be bigger and better, with "Be Our Guest" as our show-piece.

Any students who are taking GCSE dance or are involved in dance club have the opportunity to attend our first dance trip in March 2026 to Move It! 2026. This is a fantastic event with performances, stalls and workshops. If you have not received the letter but would like to attend, please email Miss Wilkinson.

## Sports Council

A huge thank you to our Sports Council who have met with Miss Dury regularly and given the PE department some great feedback which have helped the PE department to make some great improvements that are from a student lense.

We look forward to seeing the council next year!

## Rounders

We have had some brilliant rounders achievements during term 6! Our Year 7 team have been very successful beating Writhlington, St Mark's and Ralph Allen which led to them winning 'the best newcomers' at sports awards. Our other KS3 teams have also had some great team performances and all students have shown great batting and fielding skills as well as team work. Well done all!





# Physical Education

## Run Club

Run Club has been a highlight for our students and our members of staff. We have had a really good bunch of students who take part in this club and have made so much progress with their fitness and running. Special mention to Isla H (Yr10) & Roman (YR7) who also managed to achieve a 5km Personal Best during a Somervale School Run Club session. The students have really enjoyed the variety of different routes that they completed in the local area with a mixture of trail running and road/pavement running. Special thanks to Mrs Cornick who has helped out over this year and we look forward to seeing more students at run club next year! A reminder that we run at different paces so all abilities are welcome!



## Girls Football Festival

During Term 6 we took a small team of Yr9&10 Girls to Bridgwater & Taunton College to compete in a football festival. The girls played some amazing football and demonstrated sportsmanship and a positive attitude throughout, well done girls! Football Club will restart in September and we would love to see as many girls there as possible!





# Physical Education

## Sports Awards

This term we celebrated our year of sport with the annual Sports Awards. Well done to the 200+ students who all represented Somervale this year in someway and extra well done to our award winners;

- Best Newcomer to Dance- **Bow H**
- Most improved dancers- **Reuben R & Sam M**
- The Dance Technique Award- **Evie B**
- Dancer of the Year- **Akasha C & Ruby A**
- Best newcoming team- **Year 7 Rounders**
- Team with the most potential **Year 8 Boys Football**
- Most committed team- **Year 10 Boys Football**
- Most improved team of the Year- **Year 8 Netball**
- Team Spirit Award- **Year 8/9 Girls Football**
- Team of the Year- **Year 10 Netball**
- Best newcomer to school sport- **Riley P**
- Manager of the Year- **Anthony B**
- Captain of the Year- **Jeannie M**
- Sportsmanship Award- **Phoebe F**
- Most committed performer- **Isla H**
- Best performance of the year- **Ben R**
- Sports Leader of the year- **Poppy C**
- Most sporting potential- **Kayden R**
- The Ambrose Award- **Zac R**
- Sports Personality- **Summer G & Sam P**

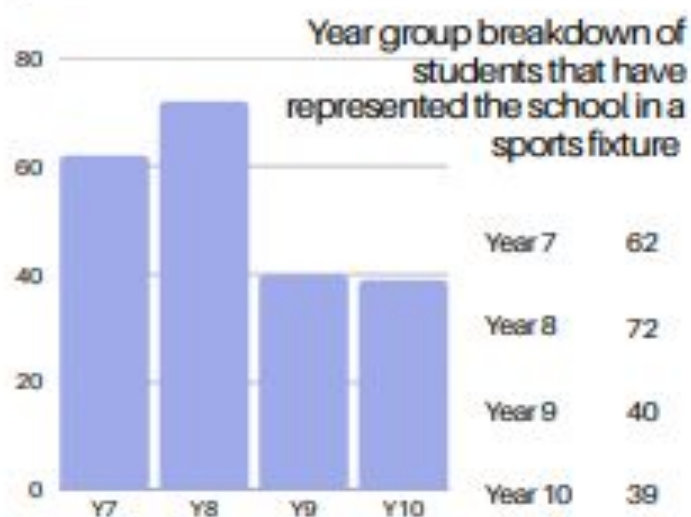




# Physical Education



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN NUMBERS 2025



1 Team Somervale

230

Number of students that have represented the school in a sports team or event

248

Number of clubs run this year

128

Number of fixtures run this year

### PERCENTAGE OF GIRLS AND BOYS ATTENDING FIXTURES & EVENTS



#WHERE IT BEGINS



# Music Department

## SOMERFEST 2025

Students from across years 7 to 11 took to the stage on Tuesday 1st July for SomerFest 2025. On what was one of the warmest evenings of the year so far, the audience was treated to an excellent variety of music and poetry in this final concert of the academic year.

Five of our Club Rock bands performed throughout the evening including a debut performance by year 9 band Psychedelics. Phantom, Pyromania, The Revenants and Cerebellum also wowed the crowd.

We were treated to four piano solos with performances by Keira, Ameia and Erin all in year 7 and Cara in year 10. Chloe in year 8 showcased her clarinet skills with a wonderful performance of a Gavotte by JS Bach.

Our singers were in fine voice with both solo and ensemble performances on display. Songs from the shows have been very popular in the music department this year and they featured heavily in this showcase. We heard Suddenly Seymour from Little Shop of Horrors, Mamma I'm a Big Girl Now from Hairspray, For Good from Wicked, I Know Him So Well from Chess, I Wanna be Like You from The Jungle Book and Six Wives from SIX.

Our singers also performed hits by Adele, Rachel Zegler and Giuseppe Verdi

Mrs Thompson presented students with certificates following their successful participation in the Poetry by Heart competition and Callum in year 8 performed his poem to us.

And that wasn't everything. Before the concert had even started Olivia and Verity provided some pre-show atmosphere with their outstanding DJ sets.

Thanks go to Issac on sound, Minnie on lights and Maia, Jos, Ruby and Oscar, our year 11 leavers, for emceeing the whole show.

Final thanks must go to all of the members of the audience for your incredible support. With a special mention to Mrs Hall and Mrs Powell (parents of Isla and Izzy) for running the refreshments stall.

See you next year for more.



# Music Department

## BATTLE OF THE BANDS 2025

On June 26th Cerebellum, The Revenants, Phantom and Pyromania competed at the joint Somervale and Norton Hill Battle of the Bands. All of the students did a great job and it was a pleasure to see the talent on show.

The Revenants came away with the award for best rock performance and Cerebellum took the award for best rock cover.

This event is growing in popularity every year and we are already looking forward to seeing what the students will have to offer in 2026.

It's an event not to be missed.



## THANK YOU

It's been another busy year in the music department. We've had record numbers of students sign up for instrumental lessons and we'd like to thank our incredible instrumental teachers who continue to mentor and inspire our students every week.

Terry (Drums), Syd (Guitar and Club Rock), Liz (Singing and Choir), Ivor (DJ), Andrew (Piano and Keyboard) Amanda (Woodwind). You're all amazing.

See you next year.

Mr Kehoe and Ms Evans



# English Department

## Whole School oracy Day - 30th June 2025

On 30th June, the whole school celebrated Oracy Day. This year's theme was 'Debate' and students took part in speaking and listening activities across all the subject areas. There were lots of opportunities for purposeful talk and chances for students to voice their thoughts, ideas and opinions. A selection of students in Year 7 and 8 took part in a very active Storytelling Drama workshop with The Drama Bird, and the writer Matt Dickinson delivered a fabulous debate workshop with some of our Year 9 students. At lunchtime, some KS3 students enthusiastically took part in a Library 'Top Trumps' Book Character debate.

The highlight of the day was the new Norton Schools' Speaking Competition, organised by Mrs Thompson. Students from Somervale, Norton Hill and Writhlington competed in a formal public speaking debate. All of the students who took part were fantastic and it was exciting to see young people in our local community speaking so articulately about important issues.





# English Department

## Developing Confidence In Public Speaking

We kickstarted the term with an inspirational talk by Susannah Streeter and Victoria Bartlett from Speakers for Schools. Both Susannah and Victoria have an extensive career in the media both in front of the camera (Susannah) and behind it (Victoria). They have worked on radio and television - including BBC and ITV - travelled around the world, and met an impressive number of famous people.

Emma Yates, Deputy CEO of the MNSP Trust, opened the event by introducing the subject of confidence, opportunities, and success. Her words set the tone for Victoria and Susannah's talk, and reinforced the importance of having high aspirations.

Susannah and Victoria's talk on developing confidence in public speaking inspired some of our girls in Year 9 and Year 10 to seek more opportunities to use their voices and express their views.

Our students received practical advice from body posture, and what to wear, to how to prepare for difficult meetings and interviews.

The girls were impressed with some of the personal stories shared by Susannah and Victoria: similarly to Mrs Yates, they both carved successful careers in quite a competitive industry showing that one can build confidence and learn how to speak in public even if it may seem daunting at first.

We would like to thank Susannah, Victoria, and Mrs Yates for their time and inspiration.





# Careers

On the 2nd July, the whole Somervale School community celebrated all things careers. All students were able to engage with employers, such as Tesco, AirBus, KPMG, RAF, Army, as well as smaller businesses, which included idverde and the Roman Baths. Students were also provided with a stamp card to complete; each time they asked questions to an employer, students were then given a stamp. We collected over 500 completed stamp cards and 5 students from each year group have been randomly selected to receive a certificate for their engagement. Thank you to those business and employers who attended on the day to support our students with their future career aspirations and choices.

Year 7 students were also provided with workshops from Bath Spa University about the Higher Education opportunities, as well as selected Year 8, 9 and 10 students working on access to apprenticeships.

Students were also informed about different careers sectors that were linked to their subjects during their lessons.

A fantastic day all round!





## Careers





# House News





# House News

## Introducing the New House Captains!

After a fantastic election and a hard-fought campaign, the following students will be our new House Captains for the next academic year. A huge congratulations for all of the candidates!

DC = Deputy Captain

VC = Vice Captain

Ammerdown	Greyfield	Harridge	Stockhill
<b>Sam M</b> Anthony B (DC)	<b>Ruby-Leigh A</b> <b>Sasha M</b>	<b>Megan B</b> <b>Darcey D</b> Josh T (VC) Rowan L (VC)	<b>Will C</b> <b>Isla Ha</b> Izzy P (VC)

## New House Leader

With Miss Kidd leaving at the end of the year Harridge will have a new leader for the new school year. Mr Cornish has the difficult task of maintaining Harridge's reputation as the leading house. A huge thank you to Miss Kidd for being a great leader of Harridge, and good luck for your new adventure!

## Sports Day

A huge well done to all students who made some incredible signs for sports day and really encouraged other members of their houses during this incredible day! The winners of Sports Day were Greyfield with a total of 925 points!

OVERALL POSITION	HOUSE	TOTAL POINTS
1st	Greyfield	925
2nd	Harridge	818
3rd	Stockhill	717
4th	Ammerdown	700



# House News

## FINAL TOTALS

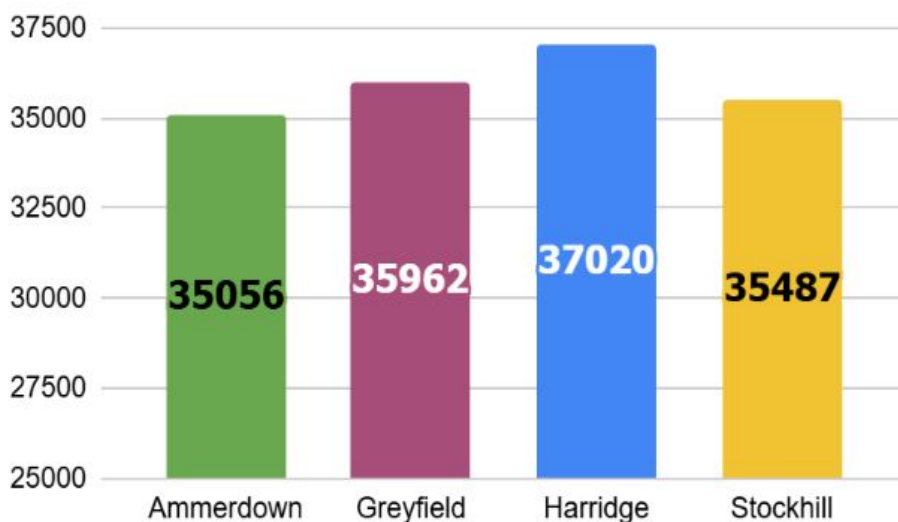
As the academic year comes to a close, it's time to tally up all of the achievement points, thank you tickets, competition wins and attendance points to work out which house takes the top spot...

Our inaugural champions are **HARRIDGE!**

All Harridge students were rewarded with an afternoon on the field with sun, music and ice creams.

Thank you to all of the Somervale community who have gotten behind the House system in its first year - from raising lots of money to charity, to competitions and sports day, we cannot wait to see what next year brings!

## Overall House Points Total



## Current RANKINGS



**Harridge**

**2nd: Greyfield**

**3rd: Stockhill**

**4th: Ammerdown**

## House competitions

At the very end of term 5, we managed to get a House rounders competition in where we had a great turn out! All students were brilliant and showed some great fielding and batting performances! Leaderboard is as follows:

**1st**

**Harridge**

**2nd**

**Ammerdown**

**3rd**

**Greyfield**

**4th**

**Stockhill**



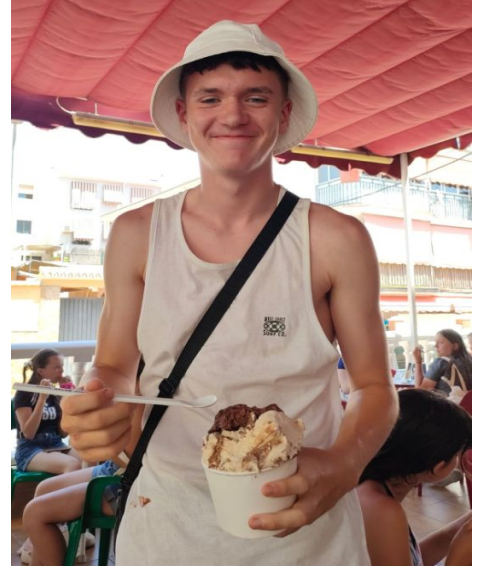


# Activities Week





# Activities Week





# Activities Week





# Somervale Staff Show

## Somervale Staff Grease Show

On Wednesday 9th July students had the opportunity to purchase tickets to watch the Somervale staff performance of the Grease megamix to raise money for our school show. Teachers include Ms Postlethwaite, Mr Pearce, Miss Harris, Miss Evans, Mrs Bendrey, Miss Tanner, Miss Dury, Mr Farrell, Mr Gentle, Mr Batten, Mr Caton, Mr Matsumoto and Miss Low. They have been rehearsing hard, directed by our show committee, as you can imagine the show was a sell out.





# Year 11 Leavers Day & Prom

## Year 11 Leaver Day

The weather did not dampen the spirits of the Year 11's when we said a fond farewell to them on Leavers' day. As is Somervale tradition, the students also met with distinguished members of the local community for an exit interview followed by an emotional goodbye assembly. The fine frocks and snazzy suits got a second airing for the evening prom which was well attended by both students and staff. We wish the 2025 cohort every success for the future.





# Year 11 Leavers Day & Prom





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# Year 11 Leavers Day & Prom





# School News

## Staff Leavers and Joiners 2025

We are sadly saying goodbye to the following staff at the end of this academic year.

**Mr Herron** - Who is moving to be Deputy Headteacher at St Gregory's Catholic School

**Mr Batten** - Who is going to be Assistant Headteacher at Bridge Learning Campus

**Mrs Cox** - Who is retiring and going travelling but we are hoping to talk her into doing some supply for us...

**Mr Caine** - Who is retiring

**Miss Kidd** - Who is seeking a new challenge outside of education

**Miss Field** - Who is moving to a role outside of education

**Mrs Jones (KS3 Pastoral)** - Who is moving to a role with Off The Record

**Miss O'Connor** - Who has been covering in Humanities

We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work and dedication to the school and wish them well.

In September we welcome the following members of staff

**Mrs Piddock** - DT

**Ms Hoyle - Linham** - DT

**Miss Chalmers** - MLF

**Miss Pavanel** - MFL

**Miss Zimmerman** - English

**Miss Halan** - Maths

**Miss Stephens** - Humanities

**Miss James** - Humanities



# SEN Department

## SEN

To finish the academic year, the SEN Dept are so proud of the progress that their IDL students (Intervention for Dyslexic Learners) have achieved. In Year 7, Reading Ages have increased on average by 20.9 months and their Spelling Ages average by 18.7 months. In Year 8 and Year 9, Reading Ages have increased on average by 3.6 months and their Spelling Ages average by 14.2 months.

Congratulations to all the IDL pupils! All that hard work in MG1 (IT Suite) during afternoon registration sessions have really paid off.

Miss Harris (SENDCo) is excited to share that Somervale School has been awarded recognition from the British Dyslexia Association as a Dyslexia-Friendly School. Through the process, the moderator recognised that our *"dyslexic pupils are definitely benefitting from the provision you offer."* With increased provision provided in the classroom from teachers as well as interventions out of lessons led by our Teaching Assistants, it is clear to see that our dyslexic students are thriving and achieving more, from the help and support they receive.

Have a safe and well-rested Summer everyone. From the whole SEN Dept.



# School Office



Somervale  
School

## Somervale School Trips and Visits

To help families plan we thought it would be helpful to share with you when different opportunities arise for the students and which year groups can apply to attend.

Trips/Year Groups	Activities Week	Curriculum	Enrichment
Year 7	School Camp	The Big Pit Geography Trip Cardiff Castle History Trip Bath Literature Festival Trip	Adventure Team Building Day
Year 8	PGL Camp Activities Week Trips	M - Shed History Trip Bath Literature Festival Trip	Ski Trip * Iceland Adventure Trip *
Year 9	Spanish Trip Activities Week Trips	The Imperial War Museum History Trip Bristol Aquarium Geography Trip <u>Lulworth Cove</u> Geography Trip Theatre English Trip	Ski Trip * Adventure Trip * Duke of Edinburgh Bronze
Year 10	Spanish Trip – Only for students studying at GCSE level	Eden Project Geography Trip Bristol Harbourside Photography Trip Work Experience Poetry English Trip Shakespeare English Trip	Ski Trip * Adventure Trip * Duke of Edinburgh Silver Ten Tors
Year 11		Berlin History Trip Bristol Fieldwork Geography Trip The <u>Holford River</u> Fieldwork Geography Trip Poetry English Trip	Ski Trip * Duke of Edinburgh Silver

*(\*) The Ski Trip and The Adventure Trip run alternate years. The Ski Trip is ran in April 2025 and will be running in April 2027 and the Adventure Trip is to Iceland in October 2025 and another one is currently being planned to a different destination.*



# School Office

SOMERVALE SCHOOL

## SCHOOL UNIFORM BANK

We are setting  
up a School  
Uniform Bank

Please can you  
support and  
donate any  
unwanted  
school uniform  
you have

Please donate any of the  
following:

School Jumpers

School Ties

School Coats

School Skirts

School Trousers

PE Kit

[www.somervaleschool.com/key-  
information/school-uniform.htm](http://www.somervaleschool.com/key-information/school-uniform.htm)

Please drop  
off at the  
Main School  
Reception





# School Office



SOMERVALE SCHOOL

## UNWANTED PE KIT APPEAL

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMERVALE PE KIT TO BE USED AS  
SPARE KIT DURING PE LESSONS. IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING IN  
GOOD CONDITION THAT YOU NO LONGER NEED, PLEASE  
DROP IT OFF AT RECEPTION OR PASS IT TO YOUR PE TEACHER  
THANK YOU!



# School Office

## Make a difference - become a School Governor!

Do you feel passionate about education, and want to make a difference at your child's school? Norton Hill and Somervale Schools' joint Local Governing Body are seeking to recruit a committed and enthusiastic volunteer Parent Governor to join our current team.

As a Parent Governor, you will help ensure high standards of achievement for all students and support the Schools' leadership teams in creating an inclusive and thriving learning environment. Parent Governors are there to offer a perspective from the parent community of the schools, and have the same responsibilities as other types of governors.

What does a Parent Governor do?

- Attend and contribute to termly governing body meetings (6 per year) currently held on Wednesday evenings from 6-8pm
- Become a named link governor for a particular area of operation or subject of the school, challenging progress in that area, having regular catch-up meetings with the relevant school leader
- Attend regular online or in-person training sessions to improve the quality and effectiveness of your governor role and that of the governing body as a whole
- Attend occasional interview, appeal and behavioural panels
- Play an ambassadorial role by promoting and representing the schools in a positive light throughout the local community

To be eligible, you should:

- Be a parent or carer of a pupil currently attending Norton Hill or Somervale School
- Have a strong interest in the success and well-being of the school
- Be willing to listen, learn, and contribute constructively and remain impartial
- Be able to declare any business interests in the school

No formal qualifications are needed though some experience of scrutinising reports and data would be useful. Enthusiasm, commitment, and the ability to work as part of a team are just as useful - training and ongoing support will be provided. All Governors must undergo an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check. Access to the internet and email is essential - all Governors are provided with a MSN Partnership email to ensure confidentiality.

This role is rewarding and challenging and always interesting! Your commitment is rewarded by learning new and transferable skills, while supporting the preparation of students to enter the world of further education or employment.

For more information, a person specification and application form, please contact Clerk to the Governors, Vicky Harmer, via email to [vharmer@nortonhillschool.com](mailto:vharmer@nortonhillschool.com)

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young persons. The successful applicant will be required to undergo all the necessary safeguarding checks.

The Governing Body positively encourages applications from suitably qualified and eligible persons regardless of sex, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief, marital status or pregnancy and maternity.



# Important Dates

## Important Dates

**Monday 1st September - Inset Day**

**Tuesday 2nd September - Inset Day**

**Wednesday 3rd September - Return to school week A**

**Monday 8th September - School Photographs**

**Thursday 25th September - Open Evening**

**Friday 24th October - Inset Day**



# Term Dates 2025-26



Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership  
Norton Hill Primary School,  
Silver Street,  
Midsomer Norton,  
Somerset BA3 2UD  
[headoffice@msnpartnership.com](mailto:headoffice@msnpartnership.com)  
[www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com](http://www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com)

## Term Dates Academic Year 2025/2026

### **Term 1**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### **Term 2**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### **Term 3**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

### **Term 4**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026

### **Term 5**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

### **Term 6**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026  
(Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July last day for students)

## INSET DAYS

### **Inset day 1**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025

### **Inset day 2**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

### **Inset day 3**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### **Inset day 4**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### **Inset day 5**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### **Inset day 6**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026

### ***National Bank Holidays:***

*Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025*

*Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025*

*Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026*

*Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026*

*Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026*

*Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026*

*Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026*

*Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026*