

SMUPS Newsletter 20/3/26

 Uniquely Different
Together

 United
 Universally Prepared

 *Living Life in all its fullness*



Friday 20th March



 Hello from Mrs Harvey

Welcome to the weekend all SMUPS children and families,

We have ended this week with joy on this Red Nose Day. Much fun was had during our Funny Mini-Olympics in Early Year and Key Stage One and Cricket Competition in Key Stage Two. Thankyou for all your effort coming into school from 'red to toe' or funky PE kit. Please don't forget to donate. Use the QR code or link to our just giving page. Last week we had a wonderful Science focused week for National Science week. Miss Thompson opened the week introducing our focus on year group investigations and each class showcased these at

the end of the week in celebration collective worship. This week our wonderful Year Sixes have been practising for their upcoming SATs after Easter. It has been calm, relaxed and we are so proud of them for their focus and effort. The rest of the school have been wholeheartedly supportive in making sure we have been flexible and quiet to best support them. We are going to be reviewing our ethos, vision and values and would like feedback from our families to support us renew and refine them. We would greatly appreciate your time to complete this short survey to support us with this process. It will be followed with an Ethos focused meeting in the Summer term where we will invite parents to attend to input their views. There will also be some Parent Forums where we would be glad of your contribution for school improvement evaluation and planning.

Complete ethos, vision and values survey here: [SMUPS SCHOOL ETHOS, VISION AND VALUES PARENT SURVEY – Fill in form](#)

All our thanks and very best,

Mrs Harvey



 **Class News**

Shout out!



Acorns



Acorns have had a fantastic 2 weeks of learning! We really enjoyed taking part in science week and were particularly excited by our special delivery of chicken eggs that we have been observing in our class incubator. We are crossing all our fingers and toes that we have some baby chicks hatch before the Easter holidays!

Acorns have also been doing lots of practice for our first ever sports day and we are so excited to show you are super speedy running!

This week we are been perfecting our part in the Easter Performance which we can't wait to perform to the school! Today we are taking part in our red nose day mini Olympics! Everyone has put in so much effort in raising money for Red nose day!

We are looking forward to another exciting 2 weeks ahead!

Well done Acorns, I'm so proud of you!

Oak



What a fantastic week it has been! The sunshine has given us all an extra spring in our step, and everyone has been working incredibly hard.

Today was especially brilliant as we celebrated Comic Relief. We had so much fun in the sun, with Year 6 taking on the role of mini-teachers and guiding us through an exciting mini-Olympics. Their leadership made the day even more special!

In Geography, we have been learning about where we live. We explored how South Molton is in North Devon, and that Devon is a county in England. We created our own maps of the school, and on another day, we studied the artist Hundertwasser. Inspired by his unique style, we designed and drew colourful maps of the school, using his ideas to guide our creativity.

It has truly been a joyful and productive week!

Ash



The last couple of weeks have been fantastic!

We took part in Science week last week and spent some time looking at the Explorer and Scientist Ernest Shackleton, linking his work to our habitat learning. We used the idea of how polar bears survive in polar habitats to investigate what insulators are and which material would keep an ice cube frozen the longest. A reminder that next week, Thursday 26th March, we will be going to Arlington Court to continue looking at our Science work on habitats. Please make sure the children are in full school uniform, are dressed appropriately for the weather (wellies would be advisable) and have a backpack with water bottle and packed lunch if bringing one from home.

In English, we have finished our writing around 'Once upon a dragon's fire'. The children have been really excited about their writing and have produced some great pieces of work. I am looking forward to sharing these with you at parents evening next week.

Pine



Wow, what a fantastic couple of weeks we have had!

Last week was extremely busy as we took part in Science Week. Throughout the week, we conducted an experiment exploring how the size of a shadow changes as the distance of a light source is altered. We thoroughly enjoyed investigating this, and we even had the opportunity to observe our own shadows when the sun decided to make an appearance 🌞

We also went on our trip to Kent's Cavern to explore the caves and learn about the Stone Age period. This was a fantastic day out, and I couldn't be any prouder of Pine Class for their wonderful behaviour. Everyone was extremely polite and a true credit to SMUPS.

In addition, we had a morning of cooking where we made bread rolls and vegetable soup, imagining how people in the Stone Age might have prepared food. It was a great morning, and the children absolutely loved it.

This week has also been filled with lots of learning and fun. In English, we have started a new topic book, focusing on descriptive writing about Pompeii. In Maths, we have been working on fractions, and the children have done an amazing job.

We ended the week by celebrating Red Nose Day, taking part in a cricket workshop and dressing up in red, funky PE kits.

Well done to everyone in Pine Class — I am so incredibly proud of you all! 🌟🌟🌟













Beech

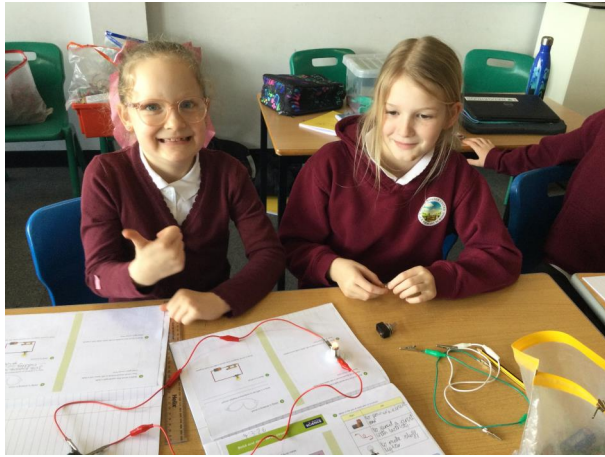
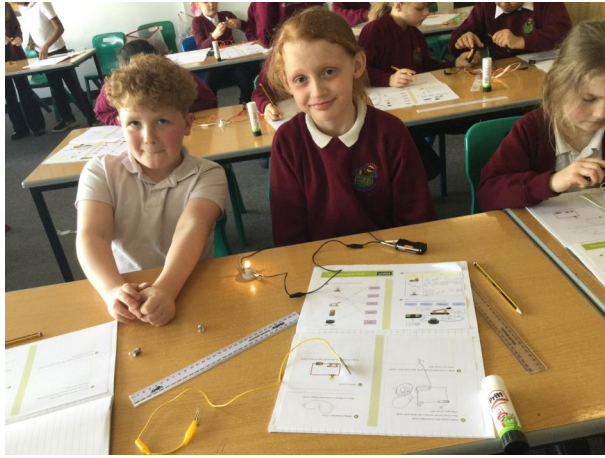
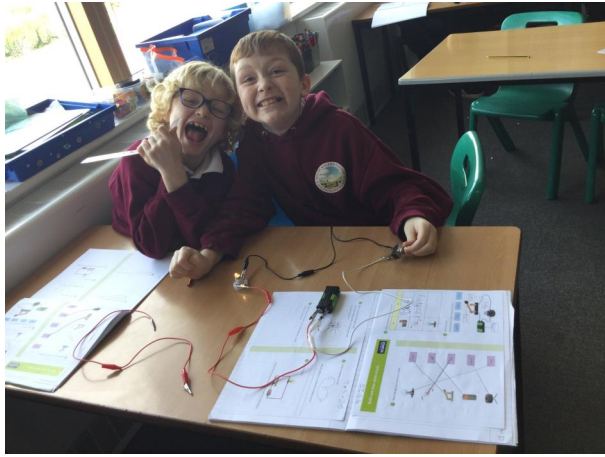


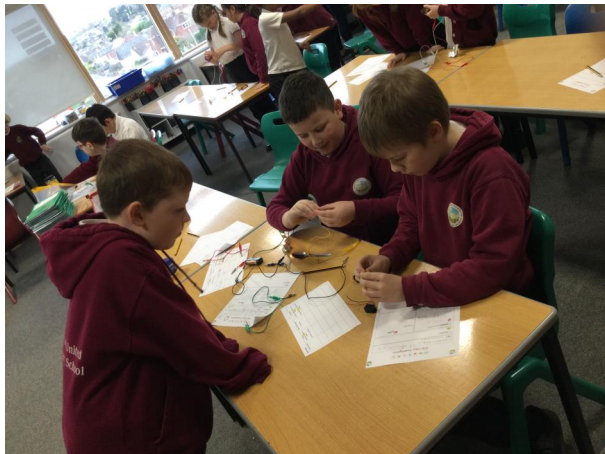
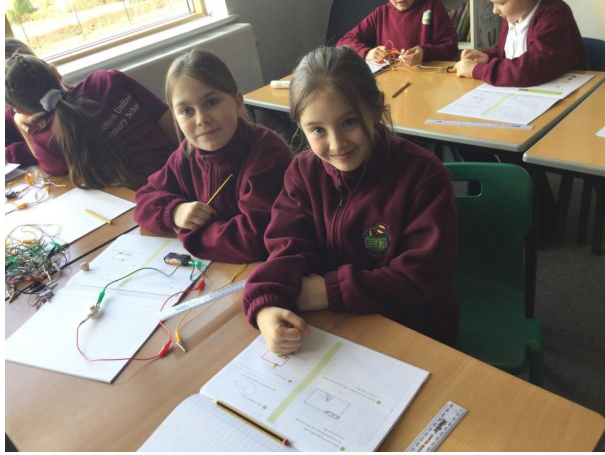
The children in Beech Class developed their Scientific Enquiry skills during Science Week and enjoyed making and investigating circuits. They planned their own investigation into which everyday materials were electrical conductors and insulators exploring the classroom with much excitement. We also learnt about Benjamin Franklin and his famous Kite experiment, which the children found fascinating.

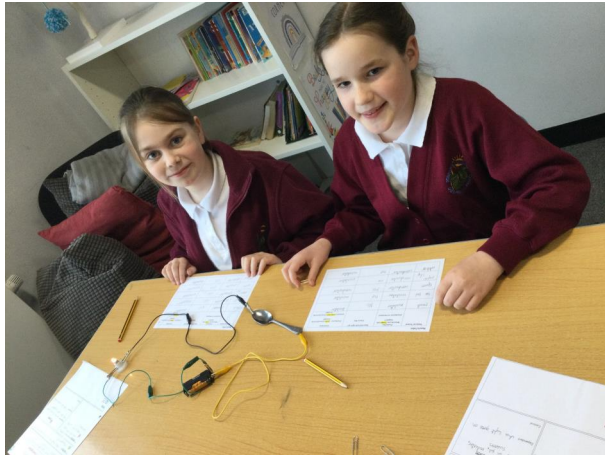
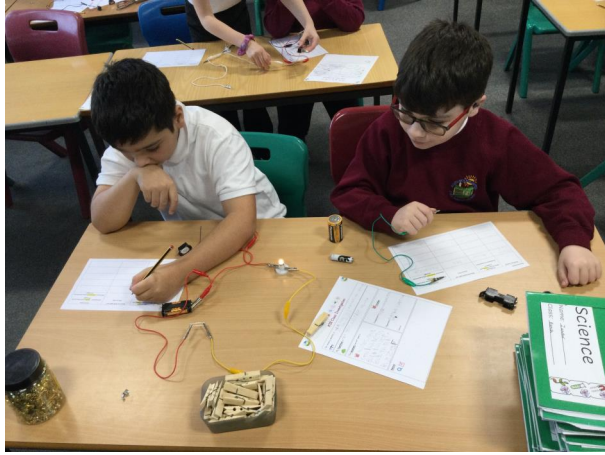
We also had a small troupe of girls representing us at Kingsley School in football tournament on Wednesday. They did a fantastic job and were lucky with the weather too. What a fabulous morning they had. Well done girls!

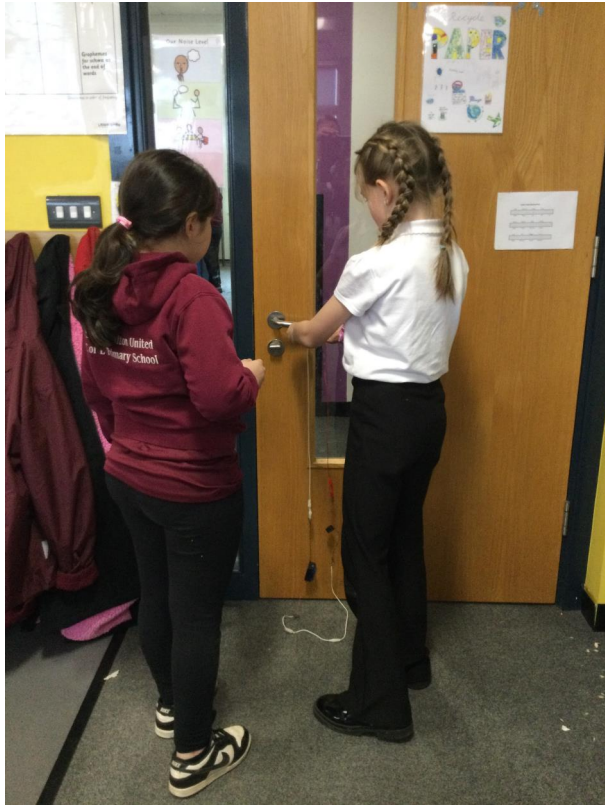
We finished the week with some super Red Nose Day outfits ready for our Mini Olympics. The children really enjoyed their cricket session outside in this wonderful weather. It was a really nice way to end a very busy week.











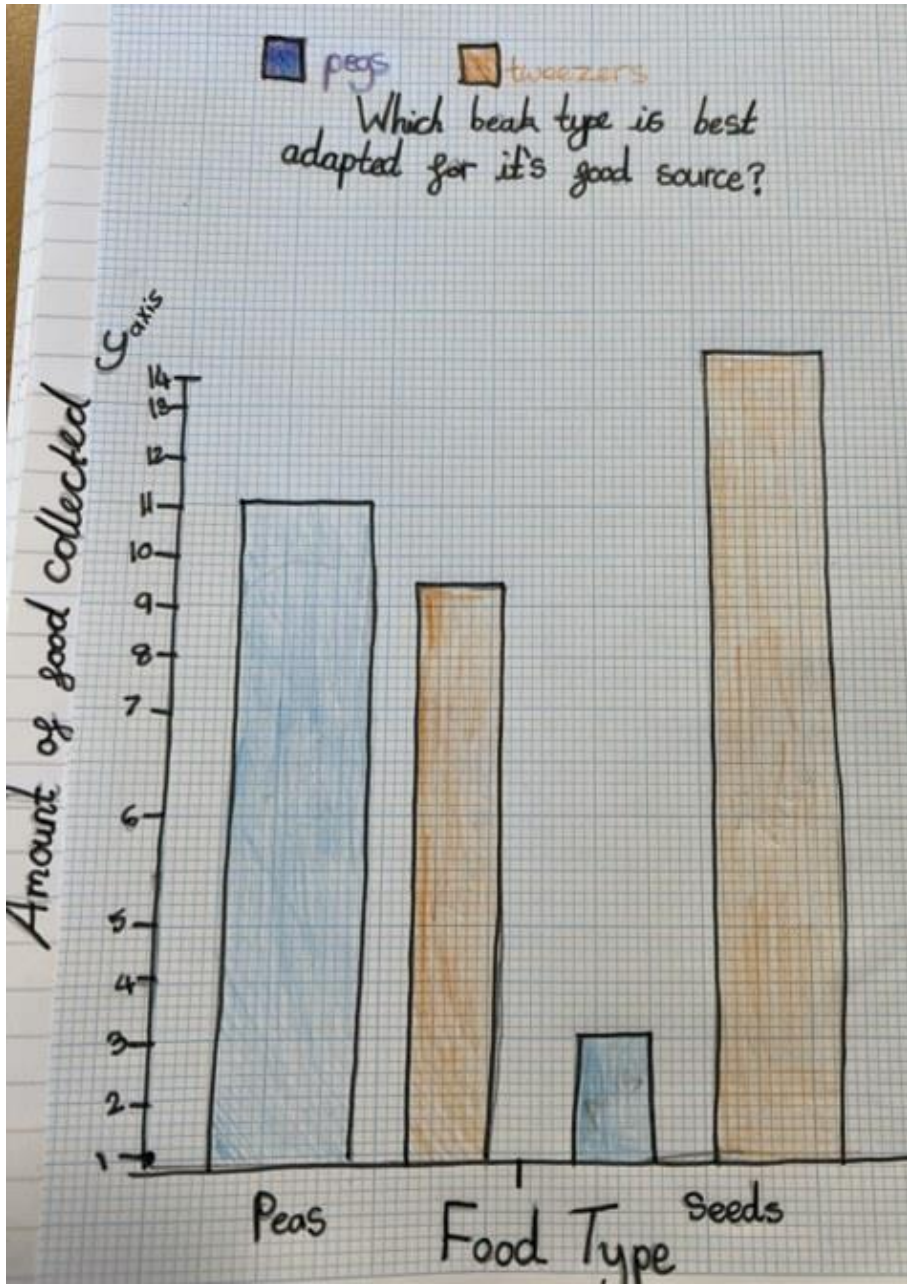
Holly



We are full of pride for Holly class this week as they have been so resilient and studious. Working hard towards all term towards their SATs, they have put so much effort into their Mock papers this week and the results have shown what incredible progress they have all made. This is on account of all their perseverance and diligence with their school work and home work. Excellent effort team!

Last week was Science week and we had great fun discussing what it means to be a scientist and how these skills could be transferable to their own passions. We had some lovely conversations about the children's life goals and interests, some of which they shared during collective worship. We explored some famous scientists and their journey's to success. We also conducted a whole class investigation into the drivers of evolution , where we all became 'Darwin's Finches' and timed ourselves collecting food with different implements. We ended this week by sharing our learning in a science celebration collective worship. Our class talked confidently and informatively about their investigations, that week.

We have been fortunate in the timing of red nose day, as we have ended this week with lots of fun in the classroom and an epic whole class cricket game, during which the children really exhibited their competitive sides! It has been a very successful fortnight of learning successes. Well done Holly class !!



Willow



We finished off last week with a great presentation of our parachute investigation for Science Week. Thank you Miss Thompson for organising this so the children could be really independent with the whole process from start to finish.

We had lots of fun writing and rewriting frog life cycles this week, playing around with being informal and fun or very serious experts, by adapting our writer choices.

We are smashing through another fractions unit and this one was noticeably easier as we built on our previous learning and made connections readily.

And not forgetting, our beautiful art work from this week. We have brought together our Gustav Klimt work to create our Ancient Egyptian Queen or Pharaoh on a backdrop of ancient landmarks. They were truly original, creative and very carefully sketched and finished (Tapestry and Collective Worship share to follow soon.)





Elm



A huge well done to Elm class who have had a 'mock' sats week this week. We have been very proud of how resilient the children have been and the excellent progress they have made this year. We have a couple of exciting things coming up in the next couple of weeks

including making a special Easter lunch for the whole school next Wednesday, including ham and cheese crosses and Easter egg nests. We will also be having a go at screen printing our t-shirts using our designs, and taking part in our whole-school Easter service. Thanks to those who have booked parents consultation meetings for next week- there are still some slots available if you haven't booked yet.

Stars of the Week/s



Acorns: Delilah & Seb Maria & Jonny

Oak: Harry & Noah & Phoebe. P & Austin

Ash: Poppy, Lacie-Mai & Dylan Hallie & Ryder

Pine: Pine Class Amelia & Henry

Beech: Ava & Darius, Sofia & Rupert

Willow: Lottie & Aralie, Caitlin & Sam

Elm: Tyler and Moise, William and Isabelle S

Holly: Mila & Jake , Olivia & Nora

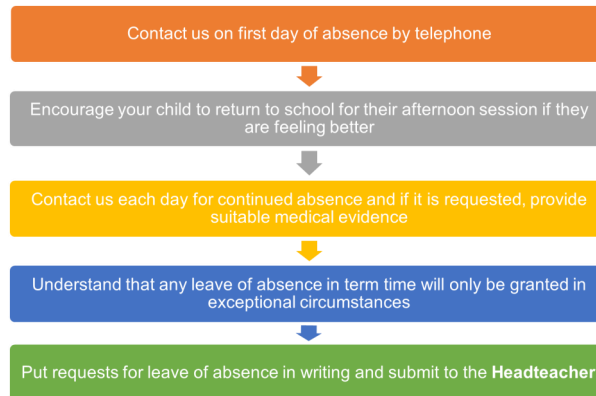
Collective Worship



We have been practising songs for our Easter performance demonstrating **unity** and **joy** together. Church team began telling the Easter Story, this week focusing on **Palm Sunday** and Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We saw how crowds laid palm branches and their coats on the road for Jesus their saviour. Palm Sunday sets the stage for the events of **Good Friday** and **Easter Sunday**.

We also thought about **Joy** and what makes something fun at the beginning of this week. We recognised that we all have our own idea of what fun is and this may well be different from others. We must make sure our fun doesn't negatively impact anyone else. We also thought about **neurodiversity** and how brains can work differently and make things others find easy, hard. We celebrated famous figures who have found their passion to suit the way their brains work and succeeded despite struggles.

Attendance



Acorns: 94.27%

Oak: 97.04 %

Ash: 96.17%

Pine: 95.83%

Beech: 91.04%

Willow: 93.88%

Holly: 93.99%

Elm: 98.61%

Attendance %	Missed Days	Missed Weeks	Days Missed Over 5 years	Weeks Missed Over 5 years	Annually	Hours of Learning Missed (approx.)	Impact over 5 years
100%	0	0	0		Excellent	0	None
99%	1.9	0.38	9.5	1.9	Very Good	9.5	
98%	3.8	0.76	19	3.8	Very Good	19	
97%	5.7	1.14	28.5	5.7	Very Good	28.5	
96%	7.6	1.52	38	7.6	Good	38	
95%	9.5	1.9	47.5	9.5	National Average	47.5	Quarter Year missed
94%	11.4	2.28	57	11.4	Below National Average	57	
93%	13.3	2.66	66.5	13.3	Below National Average	66.5	Approximately third year missed
92%	15.2	3.04	76	15.2	Requires Improvement	76	
91%	17.1	3.42	85.5	17.1	Requires improvement/worrying	85.5	
90%	19	3.8	95	19	Cause for concern	95	Half Year missed
89%	20.9	4.18	104.5	20.9	Serious concern	104.5	
85%	28.5	5.7	142.5	28.5	Major issue	142.5	
80%	38	7.6	190	38	Significant impact on outcomes	190	Whole Year missed
75%	47.5	9.5	237	47.5	Significant impact on outcomes	237.5	1 ¼ year missed



- 23rd & 24th March: Parent consultations - please book via Arbor
- Family hub support drop in dates: every 2nd Tuesday of the month in term time only 9:15 - 10:30am
- 14/4 12/5 9/6 14/7

- Wednesday 1st April: Sports Day

Cashmere Park Easter Egg Hunt



Join us on Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th April at Tilia Homes Cashmere Park, from 10am – 5pm, to house hunt and egg hunt at the same time! Will you be able to find all the hidden eggs?

We look forward to seeing you there.

Red Nose Day



https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd26-south-molton-united-cofe-primary-school?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=020

Please follow this link to donate for Red Nose day, we have a £250 target that we want to smash! Donate to wear 'red to toe' OR funny PE kit for our sponsored Red Nose mini Olympics in Early Years and Key Stage One and Red Nose cricket in Key Stage Two.

SMUPS PTFA



Profit from recent fundraising events:

Disco - £737.00

Bingo - £326.77

Wonka bars - £531.08

Lambing bingo - £425.00

Uniform sales - £110.00

Staying Safe



We have recently updated our Behaviour Policy which we will be uploading to the website and sharing with you. Please see below our pupil and parent code of conduct that outlines expectations of all children and families whilst on and off the school site. It is of utmost

importance that all pupils, parents and visitors feel safe and respected at our school and within our community.

Our Code of Conduct

At South Molton United C of E Primary School, pupils are expected to:

- Be ready to learn: Show engagement with school and learning. Have 100% attendance and make the most of learning opportunities every day.



- **Demonstrate respect:** Show respect for others, our resources, our space and ourselves using kind actions and words. Look smart and wear the correct uniform.
- **Remain safe:** Make choices that keep us and those around us safe.

We ask parents and carers to support us by working in partnership to:

- **Model positive behaviour:** Be kind and respectful to all members of our school community, including each other, children and staff. Communicate constructively: Raise concerns calmly and through appropriate channels. Leave a message with the office for a phone call back or speak to your child's teacher at the end of the day.
- **Celebrate success:** Support your child's learning and school activities. Celebrate when they've done well!



- ***Keep schools safe:*** Refrain from aggressive, threatening, discriminatory or inappropriate behaviour. Our school site is a warm, welcoming place and only safe adults can be on the school site.

These expectations for all remain outside of the school day and whilst online.