

# SMUPS Newsletter 8/5/26

 Uniquely Different  
Together

 United  
 Universally Prepared

 *Living Life in all its fullness*



Friday 8th May





Dear all SMUPS children and families,

it has been a jam packed, glorious, first few weeks of this half term. I have to begin with special mention of our three Exmoor Challenge teams who did us proud last weekend conquering 16 miles of challenging terrain in the rain. It is a tough challenge, the teams have to navigate and keep each other going without adult guidance and it is physically exhausting. We are so proud of them, for their maturity, motivation and resilience throughout. We look forward to continuing this tradition each year for our Year Six cohorts so Year Five get ready as training begins again in September. I'd also like to thank the Boyles family, Miss Mayne, Miss Snell and of course Miss Dekker for arranging it all and supporting our teams from start to finish.

Next week is SATs week for our Year Six students. They have been working hard all year and we are so proud of them as our largest cohort yet. We will be supporting them as a whole school to ensure they have a calm, smooth week and plenty of well earned snacks to keep them going. **Year Six parents and carers, please ensure that your child is present each day and in school early so that we can keep to our meticulous schedule!**

Miss Partridge will return next Monday 11th May, with us once again to lead early Years and Key Stage One and get ready for many new starters in September. It will be Miss Willis's last day on Friday 15th May next week, before she leaves us for her maternity leave. We wish her all the love and luck for the safe arrival of the new addition and are looking forward to cuddles with another mini SMUPS mascot as our brood continues to expand. Miss Stinchcombe has been working with Miss Willis this half term to ensure a smooth transition for Oak class for the rest of this academic year.

Our updated Harbour Schools Partnership Attendance Policy is in action and automated actions if attendance drops below 95% are applied such as letters and meetings in school. Please also note that we cannot allow under 16 year olds to pick children up unless we have prior authorisation from you and you have added this permission on Arbor. Please speak to your child's Teacher about making this arrangement, if necessary and appropriate.

Have a super fun and family filled weekend.

With all of our thanks and best regard,

Mrs Harvey



## Acorns



Acorns have had another super 2 weeks! I have been so proud of how hard everyone has been working on their drawing club writing, they are blowing my socks off! We are also getting super excited for our trip to the honey farm on Tuesday the 19th of May! In order to prepare we have been learning all about bees and how important they are! We can't wait to be bee keepers for a day!

We are also really looking forward to our 'Ugly Bug Ball' on Thursday the 21st of May, when the children will get to come into school dressed as their favourite bug! They have been spending lots of time practicing our special line dancing to perform at our ball and we can't wait to make some bug-tastic treats to eat too!

Acorns have also spent lot's of time exploring how to keep our bodies and minds happy and healthy.

We know which foods are healthy for us, we know exercise keeps our bodies and minds healthy, we know screen time should be for no more than an hour a day, happen with a grown up to keep us safe and not be near bedtime to help us sleep!

I am looking forward to another amazing last two weeks of term!

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Snell x

## Oak



It's been another great week in Year 1!

We have had a fantastic time swimming, with everyone showing resilience by having a go and being respectful to all the staff. In maths, we have been measuring length and height, so the children may be able to help with measuring jobs at home too! In Curious Quest, we have been learning to use the conjunction "and" to join two sentences together. The children have also enjoyed programming and learning about the Creation Story, alongside producing some excellent artwork. It's been a wonderful week of learning and fun! It's been a wonderful week of learning and fun!

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and carers for your support this year. As I begin my maternity leave next Friday, I am feeling very sad to leave such a wonderful class and school community. I am incredibly proud of the progress the children have made over the year and how much they have grown in confidence, resilience and independence. It has been a pleasure teaching your children and watching them grow, and I will miss them all very much!

Have a great weekend!

Ms Willis :)

## Ash



As the weeks are flying by, it is great to see the children still embracing their learning. Ash class are like sponges, soaking up all new learning and embracing new knowledge. They are very much enjoying their learning on the Titanic and are full of questions and facts and the subject.

I have been blown away by their Maths this last couple of weeks and how they have loved learning about Fractions, something that can be tricky. Their writing continues to be awesome and we have now moved on to Mrs Armitage and the Big Wave, creating ways for Mrs Armitage to move around the North Devon coast and the crazy things she might collect on her way!

We managed to also fit in a visit to the Library last week and collect some books for our research on the Titanic but also our DT project where we are making a vehicle which moves. Thank you to those who have already brought a box in and also a thank you to the parents who walked with us.

Have a lovely couple of weeks!

## Pine



Another fantastic couple of weeks in Pine Class! We have been working super hard in Maths, developing our knowledge of fractions by adding and subtracting them. I have been super impressed with how well the children have retained their learning from our previous fractions unit, and this has really helped us to build on our understanding.

In English, we have been focusing on writing a non-fiction text all about lions. The children have each chosen their own wild African animal to write an informative text about. We have used laptops and books to research information, and I am really looking forward to reading the finished pieces.

To go alongside our writing, we have used polystyrene tiles to create African patterns and animal stencils, and we are getting ready to print these onto paper over the next couple of weeks.

Have a fantastic weekend!

## Beech



We had a wonderful time at Dunster Castle last Wednesday. The weather was good, the castle volunteers were superb and the children were a credit to the school. They were well behaved; recalled what we had already been learning about the Anglo-Saxons well and asked some very interesting questions throughout. Their enquiring minds were full of questions which impressed the guides. We learnt a lot throughout the day and it really helped to bring the topic alive for them.

Beech class always work exceptionally hard and rise to the challenges they are set. Well done to all my children who made the trip highly enjoyable.

Mrs Scandrett













## Willow



We have been enjoying writing about How to Make an Egyptian Mummy this week, as part of our History and Writing curriculum. Vocabulary continues to be amazing, and we practised developing it with deliberate synonyms and antonyms; so we gave lots of detail and didn't rush through our instructions. We are coming to the end of our Fraction, Decimal and Percentages work. The understanding and fluency shown in this unit has been tip-top. Well Done Willow Class.

## Holly



All of Holly class have worked so hard all week and all year. They have shown incredible progress and fantastic learning attitudes a long the way. They should all be so immensely

proud of themselves for what they have achieved this year and I am sure they will showcase this next week in their SATs assessments. We could not have asked any more of them , they are all super stars!

We also want to congratulate the members of our class who took part in the Exmoor challenge, last weekend - What an epic achievement !

Aside from all the work we have done this week in preparation for our SATs we have also been working super hard on our Shakespearian learning in English , studying a scene from Romeo and Juliet and rewriting our own versions , with all the wonderful writing skills we have learnt this half term. There have been some very impressive pieces of writing crafted by the children this week.

As always, great work Holly class - Keep Shining bright !

## Elm



Elm class have worked hard this week in preparation for their SATs assessments next week. We are so proud of their achievements already! We do however recognise that SATs tests only measure a very limited slice of the multitude of skills and talents that the children in our class possess, from art, to sports to music to crafting! On a different note, many of the class took part in the Exmoor Challenge of the weekend and proudly came in on Tuesday showing their medals- the teams did themselves proud showing camaraderie and spirit even in the drizzle! Next week we will be learning the story of Hamlet and hope to perform it as a short play later in the term. We hope this provides a creative outlet after their morning assessments! Good luck Year 6- we're proud of you!

 Stars of the Week/s



Acorns: Harry & Teddy, Noah & Abigail

Oak: Mason & Amelia, Millie & Phoebe. B

Ash: Lucas, Joanna and Annabelle

Pine: Lottie & Brilliant Jasper & Nolah

Beech: Ralph & Oscar; Joshua & Ruby

Willow: Alfie G & Ethan, Poppy and Brody

Elm: Isabelle S, Isabelle B

Holly: Jack & Mila, Oliver & Rosie

## Collective Worship



We have been building on our theme of **hope** by thinking about our aspirations for the future for everyone in our school community and our world. We celebrated David Attenborough's 100th birthday and thought about his incredible contributions to looking after our planet and the animals that live on it. We thought about our role as guardians of God's earth. Michael talked with us about how sunflower seeds are signs of hope. Church team told us the story of the baptism of Jesus and how he showed humility in joining the people he came to save to be baptised.

## Attendance



Acorns: 95.92%

Oak: 91.43%

Ash: 92.12%

Pine:94.86 %

Beech: 96.67%

Willow: 97.7%

Holly: 93.41%

Elm: 97.62%

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



- Family hub support drop in dates: every 2nd Tuesday of the month in term time only  
9:15 - 10:30am 12/5 9/6 14/7
- Year Five Open Day SMCC Thursday 18th June 9:15am-2:30pm (please book your child on via the QR code)

## SMUPS PTFA

There will be a vacancy for the Chair of our PTFA role from September as our incredible Sam will be stepping down after a champion run heading the PTFA. Sam and the team have accomplished so much for our school and we are truly grateful for their every effort and continued commitment. Please contact one of the team or email [smupsptfa@gmail.com](mailto:smupsptfa@gmail.com) if you are interested in taking on this role or joining this awesome team so that their incredible work can continue and our school gets all the support it needs to blossom!

