

SMUPS News

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Hello from the Head!

Welcome back to SMUPS and a very warm welcome to our new families across the school. It has been wonderful to be together as a school and hear and see children playing with friends and Classmates, engaged in their learning and happy to be back at school. The children have been amazing with the way they have settled back in and got used to new Classrooms, teachers, routines and ways of working. We are all extremely proud of them.

Thank you to all the parents/Carers for your patience and understanding as well as co-operation with all the new rules and routines. There has been a huge amount of information to digest and lots of new ways of working. We are keeping them constantly under review and will adapt when necessary.

Please don't hesitate to email in any suggestions.

We are focused on safety and minimising risk of transmission of Covid-19. Please do not send your child into school if they have Covid-19 symptoms—a new continuous cough, a fever/high temperature and/or loss of taste or smell, or if someone in your household has these symptoms. Please also inform us if you have been informed by Test and Trace that you have been in close contact with someone with a confirmed positive test.

You can book a test if your child displays these symptoms via <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Over the next few days you should receive a curriculum letter from your child's class teacher, outlining topics and routines for the class. We want to ensure that the children have a really positive year this year and that we minimise the longer term impact of the time out of school. Have a lovely weekend.

Collective Worship

Although we can't all be together physically in the hall as we would normally, we are using video and Microsoft Teams to get together each day to share thoughts and focus on our school values. This week we have focused on being "Uniquely different, United Together and Universally Prepared"

Things to Remember

- Please bring in a **full water bottle** each day as we are not using the water fountains.
 - Please **do not park on the school site** at pick up and drop off times.
- If contact details have changed, please let the office know via email or a telephone call so we can update records.
- Children in KS2 can quiz at home on Accelerated Reader. Class teachers will send home usernames and passwords.
- **After School and Breakfast Club need to be booked at least 48 hours in advance.** We are limiting numbers to 22 children. Please use School Gateway. If you have any problems, please email.

Certificates and Awards

We had our first certificate assembly of the school year today.

Well done to our first winners.

Oak: Billy and Oscar

Acorns: Alfie G and Evie

Ash: Isabelle and Jake

Pine: Sophie L and Dylan

Elm: Theo and Nellie

Holly: Quinton and Callum

Beech: Charleigh and Kourtney

Willow: Jayden and Tiegan

Apple: Emma and Isaac



Reading at Home

Children should be reading each day at home. It is the best way of supporting your child's learning. Please read to and with your child each day and talk about what they have read. We have invested a lot of money on a new reading scheme for reception and KS1, meaning the books will be fully phonically decodable and match the sounds the children have learnt.

In Reception and KS1, children will bring home a story book and a reading book each week. Please read the same story 5 times and the reading book 5 times so they become more fluent and learn the pattern of language, structure and new vocabulary.

In KS2, children will bring home their own reading books to read and quiz on. They should be reading for 20-30 minutes a day to develop their stamina.

SMUPS YouTube Channel

During the period of school closure we launched the SMUPS YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPaonUwT2LfqBKQLhQegV-g> or search for South Molton United C of E Primary School.

It proved extremely popular and there are lots of videos showing phonics lessons, maths lessons and stories, alongside book recommendations and projects.

We are keen to continue to use this and use it as a tool to help children and parents/carers with their home learning. Therefore, we are going to start adding weekly short videos for each class, showing what the class will be learning the following week in maths and phonics. We call this pre-teaching as it helps the children gain in confidence about upcoming areas of learning, meaning they are more likely to be successful.

We will also be putting up videos showing examples of how to support learning in different aspects of the curriculum and some guides to teaching various aspects of maths.

Please do subscribe to the channel and look out for these videos, which we hope you will find useful.