

SMUPS News

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Friday 1st October 2021

Hello from the Head!

Autumn has certainly made an appearance this week. We haven't let the poor weather dampen our spirits however.

After school activity clubs have started this week and it is great to see such an uptake in these and a number of trips and visits have been planned for later this term to enrich the curriculum. We are also arranging a programme of swimming lessons for different year groups at South Molton Pool as part of the children's P.E. curriculum. Children in year two and three are likely to go after half term. Details will be confirmed shortly.

It is hard to believe that the children have been back in school for almost a month as the time has flown by. Our new reception children have made a super start to their time at SMUPS and are busy getting stuck into their phonics work as they begin their journey of becoming readers. It is great to see children across the school enjoying their reading and utilising the extensively stocked library. Do make time each week to share books with your children and encourage their reading.

Across the school, it has been great to see the children really developing their vocabulary in different subjects and using advanced vocabulary. We use a tiered approach when teaching vocabulary to pupils—Know, Grow and Show words.

Know—these are the words that we use very often and are part of our everyday vocabulary

Grow—these are the words that have different meanings and that aren't used so often, but really help understand topics and concepts.

Show—these are the very specific topic words

Have a great weekend.

Collective Worship

This week we looked at the Parable of the Talents on Monday.

Things to Remember

- **Please do not drive up to drop off or collect your child** at normal pick up and drop off times as we have large numbers of people walking on site. Please only use the car park if you are a blue badge holder. **The disabled parking spaces are for blue badge holders only.** If you need to drive, please park safely and considerately on the roads around school.
- **Individual School Photos are next Thursday 7th Oct.** In-school sibling groups can take place but **we won't be able to invite siblings from outside our setting into school.**
- A reminder that we are a **nut free school.** Please do not give your child nuts as a snack or in their packed lunch as we have a number of children in school with nut allergies. Many thanks.

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Certificates of the week!

Acorns: Cohen and Emmett

Oak: Finley A.S and Jessica

Ash: Nora

Pine: Jacob

Beech: William B

Apple: Cody

Willow: Isabella and Wilf

Elm: Louis and Eva

Holly: Finley

Well done to all our certificate winners this week.

School Crossing Patrol

Please note that at present we are not able to staff the crossing patrol in the afternoons so please take extra care when crossing the road after school.

Parent Volunteers in School

If you are able to spare some time each week to volunteer in school to hear children read or help with maths, we would love to hear from you. Please could you register your interest via an email to the school office. We will then arrange an induction and some training for volunteers. Your help will be very gratefully appreciated.

Natasha's Law

As a result of new legislation that comes into effect from 1st October, we will no longer be able to accept home made cakes for birthdays due to new guidance around food preparation and labelling. Only shop bought sweets and cakes with a full list of ingredients and allergens will be OK.

Mental Health—10 a day



1
Talk about your feelings



2
Do something you enjoy and are good at



3
Keep yourself hydrated



4
Eat well



5
Keep active in mind and body



6
Take a break



7
Stay connected to those you care about



8
Ask for help



9
Be proud of your very being



10
Actively care for others

Home Learning—"Wordy Week"



"Wordy Week"

If you were stuck on a desert island, who would you choose to take with you?



Did you know...

Sweden has 267,570 islands which means it has the most islands in the world!

Covid -19 Guidance

As you will be aware, the guidance for Covid-19 rules in society and schools has changed. We are no longer required to work and be organised in schools in the same way that we were. Although we are not operating the class "bubble" system as we were last school year, we are still being cautious with mixing different year groups inside. Therefore we are having key stage collective worship in person in the hall, rather than whole school, we have staggered lunchtimes for key stage 1 and 2. This gives the children much more space to play in.

We have completed an extensive risk assessment to reflect the current guidance and the last 18 months or so has given us extensive experience of different ways of working, so we will be able to respond to changing local and national guidance if the need arises.

Please continue to follow the guidance for symptoms. If your child displays any of the following symptoms please keep them off school and arrange a PCR test.

- A new continuous cough
- A loss of taste and/or smell
- A high temperature—above 38 degrees.

Other possible symptoms may include headaches, aches, cold symptoms and upset tummy.

Where there is a positive case in a class, no longer will the whole class automatically need to isolate. NHS test and trace will contact close contacts of the case. We will also advise on next steps.

Please remain vigilant and alert. Please keep us updated on any possible cases so that we can help minimise any potential spread and help keep our whole school community safe.

The full guidance for self isolation can be found on the link below

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

We will continue to update you with any new changes to guidance over the coming weeks and months.