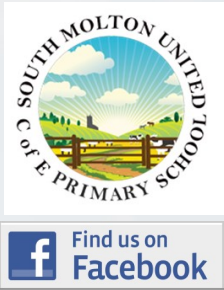


SMUPS News

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Friday 28th January

Hello from the Head!

It has been a busy couple of weeks in school since the last newsletter. Apologies that there wasn't a newsletter last week. As you will be aware we have seen a small number of positive covid cases within the school community and this reflects the high infection rates in the local area and across the country. We will continue to keep you updated of the situation within school. Please refer to the guidance on the newsletter and the two emails sent with the "Warn and Inform" letter for the latest guidance.

On Friday last week, the children enjoyed the pantomime visit and M+M Productions "Jack and the Beanstalk." It was a great show and wonderful for the children to be able to see some live theatre in school. This week, we have had some children in **years 3 and 4** training at lunchtimes ahead of a **football fixture** against South Molton Community Primary School next month. We hope to be able to arrange many more sporting events as the weather starts to improve and we head into spring.

Across the school, there has been some super learning taking place as the children really get into their new topics. I have enjoyed learning about the Anglo Saxons with the children in **Willow** class over the last couple of weeks in their history lessons. **Year 2** have been doing some fantastic art work, linked to their geography topic of "Weather" and **Reception** were able to learn all about ice, freezing and melting with the frosty mornings last week.

There is a new "**Wordy Week**" to discuss as a family. Watching the children across the school, it is really noticeable how well they discuss and debate things in class and how confidently they speak in front of their peers.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Collective Worship

We have been continuing with our theme for this half term of **Trust**. On Monday, **KS2** learnt about **Holocaust Memorial Day**, which is 27th January each year.

Things to Remember

- The disabled bays in the school car park are reserved for those who hold a blue badge AND are also on their own to pick up their child/ren
- With the colder and more unpredictable weather, please make sure your child has their coat each day.
- Only children in **year 3, 4, 5 and 6** with a sibling in **KS1** should be coming in to school before **8:45am**.
- Thank you to those parents for keeping up to date with **School Gateway payments in advance of clubs and dinners**. This really helps with the smooth running of the school. If you are struggling to keep on top of payments owed, please contact the office so we can arrange a suitable payment plan.

SMUPS News



Certificates of the week!

Acorns: Jaxon and Finn

Ash: Jack and Olivia-May

Pine: Ralph

Beech: Isabella

Apple: Ellis

Willow: Zavier and Scott

Elm: Annaleigh and Toby

Holly: Amelia and Cameron

Well done to all our certificate winners this week.

Maths at Home

In school, the children have a short 10-15 minute daily precision maths lesson, where they focus on revising, practising and being really confident with the key aspects of maths, so that they are able to use these parts to help with more complex areas of maths. You can really help your child with maths at home by focusing on quick, fun games and quizzes to practise the basics.

In Reception and Key Stage One

Number recognition and counting. For example recognising house numbers or numbers on car plates. Or games such as one more, one less, 10 more, 10 less.

Playing dice games to help develop their understanding of addition and subtraction. Number bonds to 10, 20 and 100.

In Key Stage Two

The biggest one is times tables as this helps with so many aspects of maths. The children can use times tables rockstars to practise.



"Wordy Week"

WHERE DO YOU STAND?



Cats are
better than
dogs.



Did you know...
Cats can sleep for up to
17 hours a day.

FREE ONLINE COURSES

The National Autistic Society is offering a free online course for parents of children with autism.
For more details please follow the link

[Virtual Parent Support Programmes - New Registration \(autism.org.uk\)](https://autism.org.uk)

Emotional Logic - Free parent introduction session

Do you want to:

Know how to help your children build their inner strength to adapt to the changes and challenges in life?

Explore new ways for your family to communicate and talk about tricky emotional issues?

Find new ways to deal with others when they feel angry, anxious or stuck?

The Emotional Logic Centre are offering a free online parent introduction training session on 2 Feb
at 7.30 - 8.30 pm.

[Introduction session \(jotform.com\)](https://jotform.com)

Covid-19 Latest Guidance

In school, we will be continuing with measures to reduce the potential spread of Covid-19.

These include staff undertaking twice weekly lateral flow testing, increased ventilation around the building and in classrooms, increased hand washing and cleaning during the school day and reduced contact between classes during the school day. We will keep these measures under review and take additional steps if necessary or in response to any outbreaks.

The guidance around self isolation has changed again this week.

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced this week to 5 full days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 5 and day 6 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 6.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation. Further information is available in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

If a child is off school because of a positive covid test, but is feeling well with no symptoms, we will set work for them to complete while at home. However, if they are poorly, then we won't set work for them as they should focus on getting better.

If you are unsure or have any questions regarding this guidance, please do not hesitate to contact.