

SMUPS News

Tel. (01769) 572656

Email: admin@smups.devon.sch.uk



Friday 4th February 2022

Hello from the Head!

Another week has flown by. I have had a lovely few days in with Pine Class in **year 2** this week and have really enjoyed teaching them and seeing their wonderful learning and great attitude as well as their kindness and politeness.

Last Friday, **year one** had a fantastic day out at Exmoor Zoo and learnt a huge amount about the animals there. They have been full of information about their favourite animals this week and have been busy producing some amazing artwork in the style of Henri Rousseau.

In school we are always impressed by the children's manners, helpfulness and kindness so we have started a new way to show this. Staff have special **SMUPS tokens** which they are giving out to children who display our school values. Each class has a tube for their tokens in the hall. This week, children have received tokens for kind acts such as holding the door for people without being asked, helping someone who has hurt themselves, returning coats left on the field without being asked and picking up litter.

Well done to all our token winners this week.

There is a new **"Wordy Week"** later in the newsletter and it is dinosaur themed. **There are also details of a couple of online courses that are free.**

Have a lovely weekend.

Collective Worship

We have continued our theme of **trust** this week. On Wednesday the Open the Book team told us the story of how Jesus met the first disciples and on Thursday Stuart told us the parable of the Talents.

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 you **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 for 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: Ikra and Cohen

Oak: Alfie G and Harper

Ash: Lauren and Henley

Pine: Cash and Oscar

Beech: Amira

Apple: Ella W

Willow: Jimmy and Jaycie

Elm: Bea and Charlotte

Holly: McKenzie and Lily

Well done to all our certificate winners this week.

Cookery at SMUPS

Today saw the first of our **weekly cookery sessions** for the children across the school. **Reception** were busy this morning making salads with Mel and learning more about healthy eating. As part of their Design Technology work, all classes will be having an opportunity to do some cookery and food preparation this term.

Reception will be making salad, **year one** biscuits, **year two** fruit salad, **year three** rosemary focaccia bread, **year four** soup, **year five** curry and **year 6** will be making spaghetti bolognese, bread and a dessert.

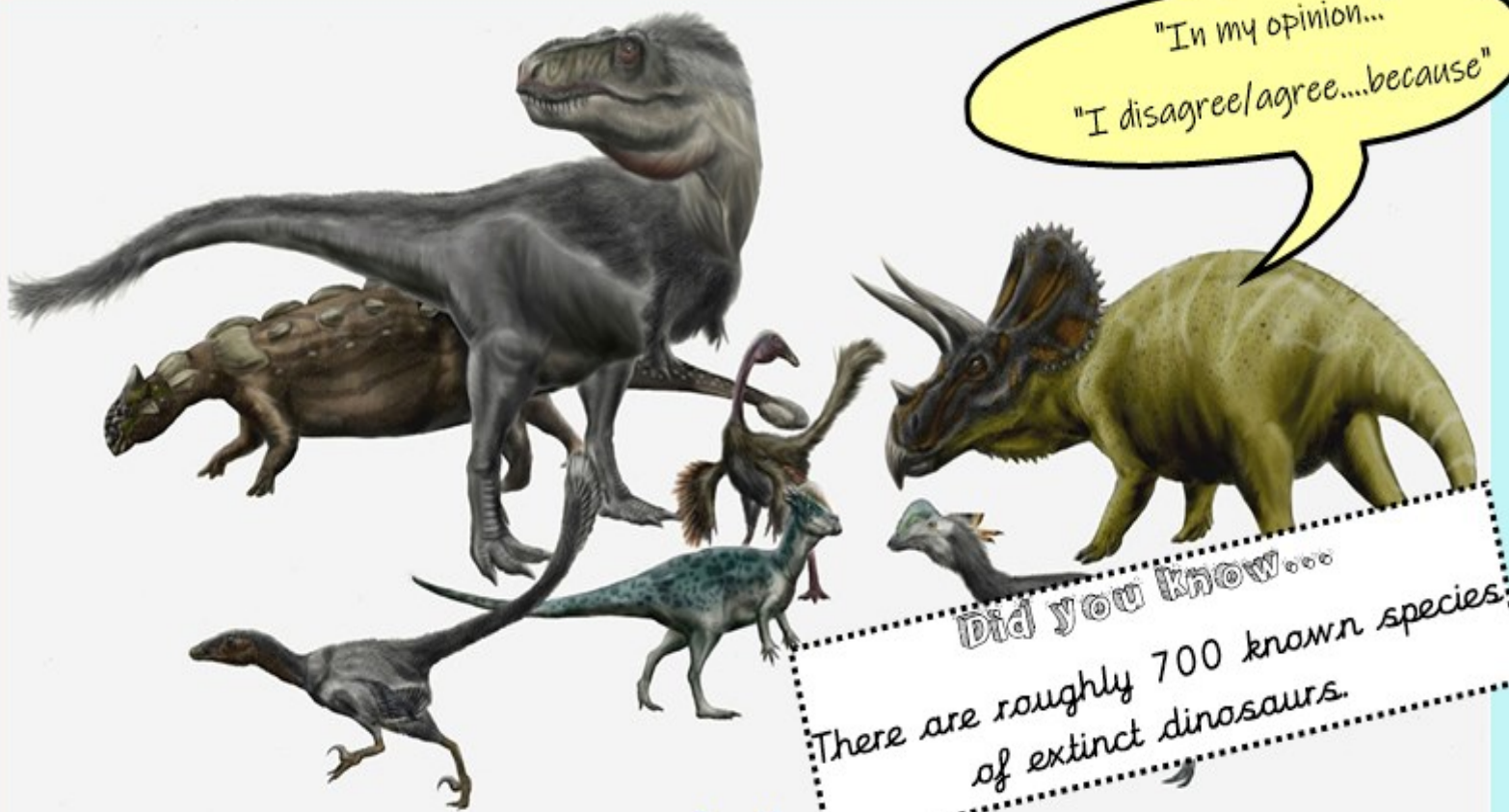
Year 6 will also be doing a food hygiene and allergen qualification as well.

With our new catering arrangements, we are looking forward to being able to put cookery at the heart of our Design Technology curriculum and teaching the children this fantastic life skill.



Wordy Week

If you were a dinosaur,
which one would you be?



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)



Photo Gallery



On Tuesday a lamb came in to visit year 3



Year 3 Stone Age Art



Joint Job Vacancy for a Clerk to Governors

at South Molton Community College and South Molton United C of E Primary School

Minimum 6 hours per week per school (12 hours with both schools). May be required to do extra hours at busy times.

£10.41 - £11.50 per hour depending on experience.

Both schools are looking for a new admin member to join their teams and support the work of their Governors. Candidates must have sound administration experience and be competent in the use of ICT, email and internet and have access to a suitable computer. **This post is home based** but will require an ability and willingness to visit the schools to deal with admin tasks in addition to attending meetings. You should have an interest in education, be tactful, flexible and able to deal with matters confidentially.

Main duties include: -

- **Arranging meetings and sending out agendas**
- **Taking accurate minutes Liaising with Governors and Governors Services on various matters**
- **Circulating and updating policies**
- **Attending appropriate training relating to the post**
- **Supporting the induction of new Governors and guiding the Governing Bodies on procedural matters**

Although the role is being advertised jointly the schools run independently, so the successful candidate will have a separate contract with each school.

For an informal discussion please contact Mr Simon Walker, SMCC Business Manager, on 01769 572129 or e-mail: recruitment@smcc.devon.sch.uk or Hannah Cumings, SMUPS Business Manager on 01769 572656 or email admin@smups.devon.sch.uk

For further details and an application form visit the vacancies section on the schools' websites: South Molton Community College www.smcc.devon.sch.uk or South Molton United CofE Primary School - Vacancies www.smups.devon.sch.uk

Interviews will be held jointly, and candidates only need to complete one application form, which should be sent to either recruitment@smcc.devon.sch.uk or admin@smups.devon.sch.uk.

If you wish to be considered for only one of the posts, or can only offer fewer hours, please specify this on your application form. **Closing date of 9.00am 28th February 2022.** We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff to share this commitment. You will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS check.

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.