

SMUPS News

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Friday 11th February 2022

Hello from the Head!

It has been another busy and very productive week in school with lots of wonderful learning taking place across the classes. On **Wednesday**, we had a visit from our **Local Authority School Advisor**, who looked at reading across the school. It was a very positive visit and we observed reading and phonics in classes across the school, talked to children about their reading and heard children read. It was great to see and hear the children talking enthusiastically about their reading and to see the variety of reading activities across the school.

Sporting fixtures are starting to resume and this week, we sent a team of **year 3 and 4** children to SMCP to play football. It was the first match that many had played and they performed well as a team, but lost 12-4. Well done to Theo for scoring all four SMUPS goals. (A future Harry Kane, perhaps?) Today, a girls team from **year 5 and 6** are playing in a small tournament. We will let you know how they got on next week.

After half term, as the weather hopefully improves, we are hoping to be able to take advantage of the space we have at school to run different sporting activities within school on Friday lunchtimes, with the aim of all children participating and enjoying sports. Details will follow next week.

Year One baked some delicious cookies today as part of their cookery work for DT. They were delicious.

To the email, we have also attached a parents guide to Tik Tok.

Have a lovely weekend.

Collective Worship

We are coming to the end of this half term's theme of **Trust**. On Monday, this week, we looked at the story of Daniel and the Lions.

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 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.

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Certificates of the week!

Acorns: Isla and Amelia

Oak: Ethan and Evie

Ash: Freddie

Pine: Mya

Beech: Daniel

Apple: Abbie. R

Willow: Oscar and Wilf

Elm: Harry and Phoebe

Holly: Asher and Hattie

Well done to all our certificate winners this week.

Reception had a special visit from a new born lamb this week and were busy in the kitchen last week, preparing the salad to go with Friday's lunch.



Year 1 baking biscuits
in the kitchen





Wordy Week

Professor Know It All...



Stone Age



Romans



Henry VIII



W/W2

Did you know...

Ketchup was sold in the 1830s as medicine!

"In my opinion..."
"I think.... because...."

Dates for your diaries

There is lots going on in school in the next half term and beyond. As the weather improves, we are hoping to get the children out on more trips and visits so some additional dates may be added.

We will be hosting parent consultations next half term and originally were planning on doing them earlier in March, but we would like to do them face to face so parents/carers are able to come into school and see their child's work, so we will probably move these back to later in March in the hope that Covid 19 cases are continuing to decrease, meaning it is safer to do this in school.

All classes will be visiting Hakeford Woods next half term. This is a trip funded by the school and PFTA.

Friday 4th March- Year 5 and 6 Geography Trip to Exmoor

Thursday 10th March-Year Three Activity Day at Rock and Rapid

Thursday 17th March-Year Four Activity Day at Rock and Rapid. Reception Class Trip to Rock Park and Barnstaple Museum.

Monday 21st March-Year 2 Pine visit Hakeford Woods

Wednesday 23rd March-Year R Acorns visit Hakeford Woods

Friday 25th March-Year 1 Oak visit Hakeford Woods

Monday 28th March-Year 2 Ash visit Hakeford Woods

Wednesday 30th March-Year 3 visit Hakeford Woods

Friday 1st April-Year 5 Elm visit Hakeford Woods

Monday 4th April-Year 6 Holly visit Hakeford Woods

Wednesday 6th April-Year 4 Willow visit Hakeford Woods.

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.