



**South Molton  
Community  
Primary School**

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Dear Parents & Guardians,

18/09/26

We have enjoyed another successful week in school, with a continued focus on getting the basics right. Across all year groups, staff have been working hard to embed classroom routines and expectations, helping children to settle quickly into their learning and develop positive habits that will support them throughout the year.

A particular focus has been on presentation and handwriting. We believe that taking pride in work is an important part of developing high standards, and it has been wonderful to see the progress children are already making in presenting their work carefully and improving the quality of their handwriting. These small details make a big difference and help create a culture where children take pride in all that they do.

#### **Farewell and Good Luck, Mrs Charles-Jones!**

Today we say a temporary farewell to **Mrs Charles-Jones**, who begins her maternity leave. I am sure you will all join me in wishing her and her family every happiness as they prepare to welcome their new arrival. Mrs Charles-Jones has been a valued member of our school community and will be greatly missed by both staff and children over the coming months. We look forward to welcoming her back and meeting the newest member of her family in the not-too-distant future.

Whilst Mrs Charles-Jones is on maternity leave, we are delighted to welcome **Mrs Hooper**, who joins us as **Assistant Headteacher** for the next year. Mrs Hooper has joined us on a one-year secondment from Newport School and many of you may already have had the opportunity to meet her around the school. She is also available on the school drive on Thursday mornings and is looking forward to getting to know our children, families and wider school community.

I know you will join me in giving Mrs Hooper a very warm South Molton welcome as she becomes part of our team, while also wishing Mrs Charles-Jones all the very best as she begins this exciting new chapter.

#### **Uniform Update: Hair Tied Back**

Following a review of our uniform expectations, we are making a small amendment to our uniform policy. From Monday, all children with long hair will be expected to have it tied back whilst in school.

This is already a requirement for PE lessons for safety reasons. However, following a small number of incidents involving loose hair during the school day, we feel that extending this expectation is the safest and most practical approach for all children.

Children have already been informed of this change during assemblies this week so that they understand what will be expected when they return on Monday. We would be grateful for parents' support in ensuring that children with long hair come to school with their hair tied back each day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support as we work together to maintain the high standards and safe learning environment that all of our children deserve.

### **Harvest Celebration and Food Bank Collection**

On Friday 25 September, we will be holding our annual Harvest Assembly with the children. Harvest is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the importance of gratitude, kindness and supporting those in our local community.

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will once again be collecting donations for our local food bank. We would be very grateful if families could donate tinned or packet goods over the coming weeks. These donations will be shared and celebrated with the children during the assembly before being delivered to the food bank to support local families in need.

We know how generous our school community is, and these contributions will make a real difference to others. Thank you in advance for your kindness, support and generosity. We look forward to celebrating Harvest together and demonstrating the values of care, community and compassion that are so important to our school.

### **Meet the Teacher Meetings - Week Beginning 21 September 2026**

(All meetings take place in Lyn Class)

- **Monday**
  - 9:15am to 9:45am: Avon Class (Ms McWilliams)
  - 2:45pm to 3:15pm: Dunkery Class (Miss Lavin)
- **Tuesday**
  - 9:15am to 9:45am: Taw Class (Miss Langmead)
  - 2:45pm to 3:15pm: Pinkery Class (Miss Gallaway)
- **Wednesday**
  - 9:15am to 9:45am: Dart Class (Miss Simpson)
  - 2:45pm to 3:15pm: Landacre Class (Miss Marrow)
- **Thursday**
  - 9:15am to 9:45am: Beacon Class (Miss Rainger)
  - 2:45pm to 3:15pm: Puffin Class (Miss Bloom and Mrs Hooper)

### **Upcoming Events**

Year 6 Swimming Wednesday afternoons on the 23rd and 30th Sep & 7th Oct

Meet the Teacher Meetings - Week Beginning 21 Sep

Tuesday 22nd Sep Flu Vaccination

Tuesday 6th Oct Year 5 Farmwise Trip

Friday 23rd Oct Non Pupil Day

Half Term: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Monday 9th November School Photos

Monday 7th Dec Reception & Nursery Nativity 9:30am

Tuesday 8th Dec KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 09:30 & 14:15

Last Day of Term: Friday 18th December

**Full term dates for the year are on our website**



## **Social Media**

Explore our facebook [www.facebook.com/Southmoltonprimary/](http://www.facebook.com/Southmoltonprimary/)

Browse our instagram page @southmoltonprimary

Find our Twitter page @smoltonprimary1