

South Molton Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr T Parkin



Dear Parents,

Although spring still seems far away, there are signs around the school of this approaching and it is lovely to see the tips of the daffodils start to protrude from the grass along the bike track in front of the fence to our amazing nature reserve. Please can parents ensure that children stay off the grass patch between the bike track and fence to ensure we will all be able to enjoy these wonderful plants in the next few months. We may also see some extra bulbs during the year as children and staff planted lots around the school during our autumn 'No Electricity Day' as we continue with our school journey to become more biodiverse and connected to Nature, in line with our school values.

Our Values

Nurturing
Aspiring
Together
Understanding
Resilience
Equal



Strike Action

I am sure parents will have heard about the upcoming teacher strikes, with the first one scheduled for Wednesday 1st February. I am pleased to announce that the current plan is for our school to remain open to all children and classes so please attend school as normal.

This plan is subject to last minute change due to the nature of strike action and rules around this, further correspondence would of course be sent out immediately if there were any changes.

I will write to you further updates about future strike dates as I receive any new information. The further strike dates (with potential full or partial school closure) are:

Thursday 2nd March 2023

Wednesday 15th March 2023

Thursday 16th March 2023

Roundabout Gate

Please see my separate letter (sent yesterday) for details about the installation of the gate as per the picture shown. This will not only help children and families enjoy a safe journey to school but also helps our school on its environmental journey to reduce pollution around the school and our Nature Reserve. Please be respectful of local residents when parking, thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



Eco News

Green Football Weekend is taking place from the 3rd-5th of February. By signing up, you can score goals for your team by taking green action. There is also the opportunity to win prizes.

<https://www.greenfootballweekend.com/>



Star of the week

Luke, David, Chloe, Jenson,
Millie, W, Olivia, L.,
Ruby, I, Scarlett, B,
Darwin

Writer of the week

Grace, CM, Emelia, C, Alby, Aaron,
Victoria, Jaxson,
Mason, T, Emmie, A,
Ethan

Mathematician of the week

Clanna, Ellie-May,
Matthew,
Bert, Georgie, B,
Phoebe, C, Ellie, G,
Riley, TB, Tallie

Lost Property

We currently have lots of lost property, which is stored in the school office, so if you have lost something then please come and check this. Anything with a name on will automatically be returned to your child's class.

Smoking on Site

Please can I remind all parents and family members that smoking or vaping is not allowed anywhere on the school site. This includes the roundabout area which is school property. If you see anyone smoking or vaping then please explain this rule to them and report to the school office immediately.

Reception Night Walk

Despite two cancellations due to bad weather; on Tuesday evening the Reception children in Fernworthy and Dart class were finally able to enjoy a fantastic event: night walk and sky gazing.

We began the evening by gathering around the fire to enjoy a hot chocolate. Together we sang some songs and spoke about what we might see and hear on our night walk. We considered the difference between day and night and how different school looked when everyone had gone home! As the sun began to set the children enjoyed a sparkler. We then set off on our night walk around the school and then to the sports field where we turned our head torches on ready to go on a reflective search. Once we had located all the reflective flags we gazed up at the sky. With a completely cloudless evening we were able to see the crescent moon and the first stars twinkling above us!

Thank you to those that attended, we hope you all had a fantastic experience!

Miss Simpson and Mr Tzen.



Work It Circuit

This week Dunkery Class were very lucky to have Dave and Charlie from 'Work it with a circuit' in with them to do circuits for their Health and Fitness Unit in P.E. The children absolutely loved the variety of fitness activities in the carousel of 16 stations. The stations included squats, push ups, step ups, leg raises, burpees and many more. To finish off the session the children all had a go at pushing and pulling the tank, followed by the squat challenge. Well done to Dunkery Class for showing fantastic determination and resilience!



Library visit

On Thursday, Beacon Class visited our wonderful local Library in South Molton. The children enjoyed a range of activities including making bookmarks, and learning how to use the self service library system. A great experience for all the children.



Sports News

Congratulations to our U11's girls football team who have qualified for the next round of the South Molton learning community competition, held at the South Molton Community College on Monday.

Our U9's and U11's teams are looking forward to the next North Devon tournament, which will be held at Park School next half-term, a big well done to all the children who took part.



Attendance

In a school year, this equates to:



Perfect!

Very good

Good

Improvement required

Concerns

Very concerned

Children's attendance matters - It is every child's right to receive an education.

Our aim is for children's attendance to be 96% or more to help them reach their full potential.

This week's attendance is 94.07%

Children arriving after registration at 9am will be classed in our registers as 'Late'. All late children must report to the office to register.

School finishes at 3:15pm however if something unexpected happens and you're running late, please let us know to make arrangements for your child. We offer a breakfast and after school club everyday allowing you to book your children in if you are not able to collect them at 3:15pm.

Upcoming Events

Thursday 2nd February Tempest Photos
After School Clubs January 9th - 3rd of February



Term Dates

Friday 10th February Last Day Of Half Term
Monday 20th February First Day Back Spring Term
Friday 31st March Last Day Of Half Term
Monday 17th April First Day Back Summer Term
Monday 8th May Bank Holiday

Please see website for further term dates:

<https://www.southmoltonprimary.devon.sch.uk/news-and-events>



Social Media

Explore our facebook www.facebook.com/Southmoltonprimary/

Browse our instagram page @southmoltonprimary

Find our Twitter page @smoltonprimary1

When should my child return to school?



Chicken Pox When all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis None*	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever None*	Hand, foot & mouth None*	Impetigo When lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies After first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek None*	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
	Flu Until recovered	Head Lice None*	Threadworms None*	Tonsillitis None*	