

South Molton Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr T Parkin



Dear Parents,

It has been a busy week with parents meetings and teachers have been working incredibly hard to provide all parents the chance to meet and hear about how their child has settled into the new school year. As mentioned in my previous correspondence, these are only short meetings to inform you about children's progress but for anything more detailed than that please make an appointment to see the class teacher at another time.

Environmental Prize 2023

We are very happy to announce our winners of the Environmental Prize 2023 along with their fantastic ideas. The Eco committee will work hard over the coming year to implement these ideas by working alongside the award winners.

Water Containers for Rainwater

Mason Dawson - Taw

Molly Boorer - Taw

Lola Hancock - Beacon

Greenhouse/ Polytunnel

Albie Lake - Beacon

Noah Travena - Landacre

Wind Turbine

Rex Wallace - Dunkery

Albert Synott - Beacon

Logan Reed - Taw

Noah Thomas - Taw

Luke Graham - Pinkery

Pencils from Recycled Newspapers

Lucas Allen - Pinkery

Outdoor Recycling Bins

Lilly Taylor - Beacon

More Plants Around the School - Indoors

Eli Bowen - Dunkery



School Uniform Reminder

In assembly this morning we discussed a few reminders about uniform policies and school rules. Children are permitted to wear either a school PE Hoodie or a plain black jumper (no colourful hoodies or jumpers with large logos, etc) on their PE day but this is only for their PE day. When it is a normal day they must wear their green school jumper or cardigan as per the school inform policy. I must also remind parents that children are allowed water only in their bottles inside the classroom, juice or squash is not allowed in the classroom during learning. I have attached a link to the uniform policy on the school website for you information: <https://www.southmoltonprimary.devon.sch.uk/school-uniform>

Parliament Week - Democracy

Last Thursday the school voted on whether to increase the number of No Electricity days from 3 per year to 6 per year. We had a special Polling Day where all children and staff had a chance to vote. Following this, the Eco-committee counted all the votes and announced the following results to the celebration assembly:

No = 49

Yes = 199

Spoilt Papers = 8

Total Votes = 256

The Eco-committee will now investigate how to introduce 6 No Electricity Days to the school calendar next year.



Children in Need Cake Sale- Friday 17th November 3.15pm

Thank you to all those parents, staff and children who contributed cakes for our cake sale to raise money for Children in Need. It is wonderful to see all the cakes and how much everyone enjoyed eating them! We look forward to sharing with you the amount we raised next week.

**BBC
CHILDREN
IN NEED**



Parent Forum - Thursday 30th November 2023, 8.45am

We would like to start a regular parent forum which would be a chance for parents to talk with the senior leadership team around different areas of school life and be a general chance to ask any questions or make suggestions. The first of these will take place on Thursday 30th November 2023 at 8.45am in Lyn Classroom. This will be around the School Improvement Plan and the strategic direction of the school. Mrs Charles-Jones and I will both attend the forum so please do come along. We will of course provide tea/coffee and biscuits! If you have any comments or suggestions in the meantime please do let either of us know. Future parent forums will be held on different days and times to cater for different parents' commitments.

Head Injuries

In response to feedback from parents regarding our current system and research around high quality systems we have decided to make a small change to our procedure around head bumps during the school day. With effect from Monday 20th November, you will receive an email notification via ParentPay if your child has sustained a minor head bump during the school day rather than a phone call. This will only apply when it is a minor injury that we feel does not impact on your child's school day. You will still receive an accident form in the same way at the end of the school day but this email will ensure you can look out for the form and are kept informed. However, if the injury is serious and requires you to collect your child from school or warrants any medical intervention, we will continue to make contact with you by telephone.

Parent Volunteers

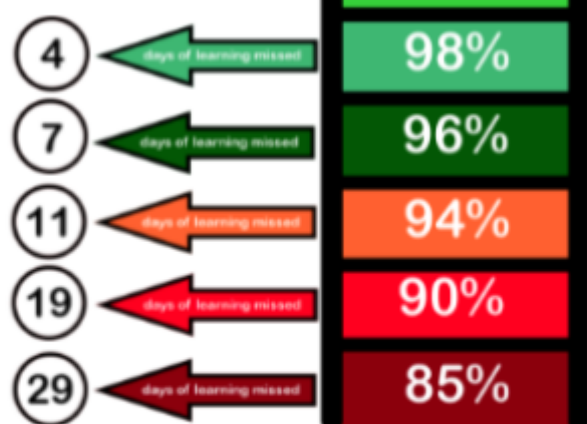
Teachers will also mention how parents can volunteer in their child's class and I would like to tell you briefly about some of the other ways parents or family members can help out and volunteer around the school. Firstly, we really value any part you can play in helping the school and we would love to welcome as many parents or family members into school as possible. There are a variety of ways to help so I have listed some of the below. If you feel like you would like to help out in any of these ways or in any other way then please just let me, the school office or the class teacher. I am usually outside around the school in the morning and happy to chat about this or anything else.



- Governor - working with the governing board and SLT to make strategic decisions about the school
- PTA member - helping the school to raise vital funds that improve the school
- Trips and sports events
- Reading across the school
- General support in the classroom
- Gardening or outdoor learning support

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: **95.13%**

Children arriving after registration at 8:45am 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.

TTRS battle: England Rocks!

This week children from years 2-6 took part in a country wide battle against others schools on Times Table Rockstars. The children could take part in any game type and needed to complete up to 60 minute per day on TTRS to help score points. Unfortunately our school did not come out on top, but we did very well considering there were over 5000 schools taking part! **Puffin** class came out on top with the highest total points. I would also like to give a shout out **Reggie** in year 4, who scored the highest total score. Well done to everybody who took part. It is great to see so many working hard on improving your times table skills!"



Is my child too ill for school?

If parents are unsure if their child should be in school, this guidance in the link below is very useful. If children are unwell during school, we will send them home. We can administer medications both prescribed and over the counter meds with a green form if a child needs meds during the day if needed.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Upcoming Events



After School Clubs Monday 6th November - Friday 8th of December

Christmas shop - Deadline Monday 6th Nov.

Remembrance Sunday Service (Open event) at the Pannier market 10:40am Sunday 12th November

EYFS (reception) Open Day Monday 20th November at 1.45pm please complete a Google form to book in:

Google form link: <https://forms.gle/27DoPVkaZtQndZM86>

Lantern Parade Friday 24th of November Methodist Church at 5:40pm with lanterns switched off

EYFS Nativity Performance Tuesday 12th of December 9:30am-10:30am, and 2.00pm-3.00pm

Christmas Fayre - Friday 8th December 3.30-5pm

I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Mr Parkin



Social Media

Explore our facebook www.facebook.com/Southmoltonprimary/

Browse our instagram page @southmoltonprimary

Find our Twitter page @smoltonprimary1