



**‘Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up’**

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

Thankfulness	Compassion	Perseverance	Forgiveness	Courage	Friendship
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**Newsletter – Friday 9th October 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a rainy week! The children have coped very well with wet playtimes and remembering their coats every day.

This week, despite the miserable weather, two of our classes went on walking trips to locations around the village. Class 1 enjoyed a trip to look for signs of Autumn and Class 3 went to the river to complete some scientific experiments on soil and water. We are so lucky to have so much beautiful countryside right on our doorstep and it is so important for the children to feel connected to their location.

Just a reminder, that we are a healthy school. Therefore, we encourage children to bring healthy lunchboxes and a healthy snack for playtimes. All children in preschool, reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free piece of fruit every day, and children under 5 are entitled to milk via Cool Milk. If your child is over 5, but would still like to have milk every day, you can contact Cool Milk directly to arrange and pay for this <https://www.coolmilk.com/parents/>. More information about healthy snacks can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts/healthier-snacks-for-kids>. We are still a nut free school, so please check packaging carefully.

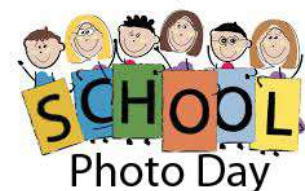
This week, we have been talking about staying safe online in all our classes. We have talked about the importance of keeping certain information private and about using age appropriate websites. It has come to our attention that several children are regularly using TikTok. Please be aware, that the official age rating for TikTok is 13+. The NSPCC have created a really useful website - Net Aware - where you can check the age rating for any games, apps or social media. You can also find out more information about certain sites. <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

As ever, if you have any concerns or queries please feel free to contact the school either via email: [admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk) or phone: 01884 860518.

I hope you enjoy a restful weekend,  
Miss Ratcliffe

**Tempest Photography**

If you wish to order your child’s school photograph, this can be done directly on line via [www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk) deadline for this is Wednesday evening or by returning the envelope to the school office no later than Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October.



**Secondary School Applications**

Reminder to Year 6 Parents - Please ensure you complete your Year 6 child’s application for Secondary school before the 31 October deadline. The easiest way to apply is online by visiting [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline) If you do not wish to or can’t apply online, you can contact customer service centre on 0345 155 1019.



**Celebration Assembly  
Well Done  
For receiving a  
Certificate of Achievement**



**Work**

Pre-School – Jenson has now been coming in very happy and ready to learn. He sets the perfect example in the Pre-School when an adult asks for the children to sit on the spotty carpet. Well done Jenson – Keep up the good work.

Class 1 – Joseph-John – for a great week at school and in particular for superb behaviour on our autumn walk and fantastic ‘findings’.

Mrs North and Jayne were very proud of the excellent behaviour of all the children on Monday morning. They represented our school really well, were sensible, careful and did a great job of finding signs of Autumn.

Class 2 – Faith - Last week, we were verbally retelling the story of Grace Darling. This week, Faith wrote a fantastic story and remembered to use brilliant vocabulary and to write in the first person.

Class 3 – Acacia – This week, we have been exploring poetry and looking at how we can use different verbs and metaphors in our poems to describe a rivers movement in different weather conditions. Acacia produced 4 incredible verses completely independently and blew us away with all of her hard work. One of her verses is copied below:

The rivers a pillow, Comfy and red, like you're sleeping on a cloud, it's soft like a bed.

Class 4 – Lucas – For using algebraic formulae to find the value of missing numbers, then challenging himself to use his knowledge of the inverse to manipulate the equations and confidently explain his findings to the whole class.

**Discovery 17**

**Endeavour 17**

**Enterprise 21**

**Voyager 17**

**PE Days**

A gentle reminder, the children have PE on the following days.

Class 3 - Monday  
Class 4 - Tuesday  
Class 2 - Thursday  
Class 1 – Friday



Please ensure that our child's PE kit is in school on the day and is suitable for the type of weather!  
Black Jogging trousers or Leggings can be worn.

**Music Tuition**

We currently have space availability for Piano Music Lessons in school with Mr Rogozinski, if your child has shown an interest in beginning lessons; please email or speak to Kelly in the office.

## Flu Vaccinations

Flu Vaccinations are taking place in school on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. For Reception to Year 6 children, please book your child's space via this link:

<https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>



If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA).

Tel: 0300 247 0082 Email: [vcl.immunisations@nhs.net](mailto:vcl.immunisations@nhs.net)

## School Dinner Menu week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main	West Country Sausages	Beef Lasagne	Roast Pork & Apple Sauce	Hunters Chicken	Fish Fingers
Vegetarian	Roast Vegetable Tart	Tomato & Veg Pasta Bake	Vegetarian Roast	Roast Vegetable Tart	Vegetable Wrap
Sides	Creamed Potatoes & Seasonal Veg or Baked Beans	Garlic Bread & Mixed Veg	Roast Potatoes, Mash Potatoes, Seasonal Veg & Gravy	Pasta & Mixed Veg or Salad	Golden Fries, pasta, Seasonal Veg or Baked Beans
Dessert	Fruit & Yogurt	Peach Melba	Fruit Platter	Iced Sponge	Chocolate Cracknel

## School Term Dates 2020 / 2021

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
First Day 7th September 2020	First Day 5th January 2021	First Day 20th April 2021
Half-term 26th - 30th October 2020	Half-term 15th - 19th February 2021	Bank Holiday 3rd May 2021
Last Day 18th December 2020	Last Day 1st April 2021	Half-term 31st May - 4th June 2021
		Last Day 22nd July 2021

### Non pupil days:

3rd & 4th September 2020    4th January 2021    19th April 2021    23rd July 2021

## **FSU Information**

We are using an online platform called Tapestry with our Pre-School and Reception children this year. You have already received a permission letter to sign in order for your child to be part of this. Tapestry builds a very special record of your child's experiences, development and learning journey through their early year's education. Using photos, videos and diary entries, Mrs North, Miss Coles, Miss Bradley, Jayne, Lisa and Laura along with you, will 'weave' the story of your child and how they are growing and developing.



The Tapestry platform then works seamlessly to enable these memories to be kept as a permanent record of each child's unique journey. All information held in the platform is stored securely, and can be downloaded and shared as required. You will be able to view online your child's progress and how much fun they're having, whilst also uploading your own comments and media.

The communication between staff and parents that Tapestry enables helps build a shared understanding of how every child can reach their full potential.

If you have any questions about Tapestry then please speak to the adult who works with your child.

## **Foundation Stage Unit - Autumn Walk**



Our Reception children and older preschool children had a very enjoyable Autumn walk on Monday morning and were pleased that the rain held off...almost! The children all behaved impeccably well and returned laden with acorns, conkers, apples and many beautifully coloured leaves. They also managed to spot berries, fungi, birds and spider webs. The children have been using their 'finds' in maths and literacy throughout the week and particularly enjoyed some very creative artwork involving 'conker creatures'!



### **Class 3 – River Walk**


In Class 3 this half term our topic is Flow. As part of our topic, we have been exploring different river features and deepening our understanding of how rivers play a crucial role in The Water Cycle. On Thursday morning this week, we were incredibly lucky that the rain held off long enough for us to visit The Little Dart River in Witheridge. After a challenging and soggy walk down to the woods, we spent some time looking at meanders and observed an oxbow lake starting to form. We also spent some time being fantastic scientists and collected some different water and soil samples for an experiment back at school. The children represented the School impeccably and showed a fantastic learning attitude despite the tricky conditions.



### **Breakfast and After School Club**



Runs daily from 8am and 3.30-5.30 with Bobbie, Jayne and Laura and is available to Pre-School children as well as school children at the cost of £4.00 per child (Pre-School hourly rate dependant of age). Please pre-book sessions through the school office by emailing [admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk) or alternatively phone 01884 860518.



**If your child has:**  
**a high temperature**  
**a new, continuous cough, or**  
**a loss of, or change in, sense of**  
**smell or taste**

**This could be a sign of**  
**coronavirus**

**Book a test**

**If your child has:**  
**a runny nose, is sneezing or**  
**feeling unwell**  
**But they don't have:**  
**a high temperature**  
**a new, continuous cough, or**  
**a loss of, or change in,**  
**sense of smell or taste**

**These are**  
**not normally symptoms of**  
**coronavirus**

**Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial**  
**111 or see your GP**

## Community News



**SOUTH MOLTON**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
— supporting success —

Dear All

Due to COVID restrictions we have been unable to offer year 6 an opportunity to visit SMCC in the usual way this year. Therefore we have put together a virtual 'Open Day' for year 6 students and their parents to access. This is now available on our school website and also on our Facebook page.

There will be more added to this virtual tour in the following weeks, however what is there should give students and parents a really good overview of life at SMCC.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Kind regards  
Ruth Williams  
PA to Principal

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