



Southmead Primary School Newsletter Issue 31

**Friday 17th
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Good afternoon everyone,

What a full and busy week we have seen. There has been so much going on this week, I will endeavour to provide you with just a flavour of what we have been doing...

SATs
The SATs are over for us, in both Year 2 and Year 6! Well done to all of our children (and staff). All children tried their best and we couldn't have asked any more of them. I cannot fault the children's positive attitude and think they have taken the tests more in their stride than us. As soon as we hear our results, we will let you know.

Bikeability
You may have seen our Year 5s out and about this week. This has been part of our annual Bikeability week which sees us welcome trained professionals who teach our children about bike maintenance, road safety and ensure that we are teaching them to be as safe as possible on their bikes. Thank you to Ian and Kevin for working with our children. I was extremely proud of their feedback about our children's behaviour and positive attitudes.

Letter Join
You may know that we have been trialling a new handwriting scheme which has had immensely positive results. Therefore, we have officially adopted the Letter Join Handwriting font. Please see www.letterjoin.co.uk/ for more information and examples.

Maxi
We were extremely fortunate to welcome Trent 'Maxi' Maxwell, from Australia's Bondi Beach. He was a great ambassador for beach and sea safety which, with the environment where we are fortunate to live, is essential. Not only this, he talked about his life experiences and the determination and perseverance he has shown to be where he is now. This supported our school values of RESPECT in abundance. If you have ordered books, they will be taken to your child's classroom as they come in.



Equipment
Finally, we have replaced several PE Mats and the netball posts around our school. Whilst the old mats and posts still had lots of use left in them, the manoeuvrability of the posts was a little challenging. With this in mind, we will be selling the old PE mats for £5 each and the netball posts, for home practise, for £20 each. Please let the office know if you are interested in buying them.

Have a fantastic weekend and I will see you on Monday. One more week before half-term ... where has the time gone?!

Y6 Bike Ride
To celebrate the end of Year 6 SATs, children and staff went to Rock Park on their bikes today. Fun and enjoyment was had by all and it was really nice to see the children relaxing.

On the way back, we also attended Whole-Life Farm. Thank you to Mr Burridge and his family for organising this. The children had a great time and the looks on the children's faces when the ice-creams were given out was a delight!

STEM Challenge Presentation Evening
Last night, Dr Corney and I attended a prestigious awards ceremony at Barnstaple Hotel, for the North Devon Manufacturers' Association, with Louis, Marcie, Ethan and Beatrix and their parents. Last week, I announced that our children had won the annual challenge for the third year in a row, by building the tallest tower from spaghetti and marshmallows that was able to hold an egg for 30 seconds. I have since found out that 10 schools competed with over 600 children involved, so it was a huge triumph for us to win. Second place went to Woolsery School, who designed a structure which held 19 eggs.

WIN £500 of activity equipment for our school

The link to the entry form can be found here:

<https://www.schoolsbuddy.com/competition/>

Sun Cream

We recommend you apply the 8 hour protection sun cream to your child before school so it lasts all day. However, if your child does need extra cream in school it should be clearly labelled and kept in their class teacher's cupboard. They must be told not to share with anyone else as some children are allergic. They also need to be able to apply it themselves.

Devon Schools Show Jumping

Isabel competed in the 3rd round of the North Devon schools Show Jumping League on Sunday in 40cm class and came 3rd out of 29 riders with a clear round in the 50cm class.



Bug Hotel - EYFS

A big thank you to Mr Drayton who has built a wonderful bug hotel for us. All it needs now is a diverse collection of inviting rooms for the mini-beasts to move into. YR - Y2 are invited to design and make a 'room' for mini-beasts that will be slotted into the hotel. These could include bamboo sticks, fir cones, or recycled items. Have fun researching and choosing what to use. The maximum measurements are: 6.5cm tall, 16cm wide, and 8cm from front to back. All entries to be delivered to Mrs Wilsdon's Hermit Crab classroom. Record your name and class on the clip board for a chance to spend one lunch time bug hunting with Mrs Wilsdon.

Calling all cake lovers!

Sadly we all know someone affected by cancer and they may at some point need the help of the Seamoor (chemo) Unit at the North Devon District Hospital. This is the wonderful place I work alongside some fantastic colleagues so I am going to do a tandem skydive to raise money for the new Cancer and Wellbeing Centre.

School have kindly allowed us to hold a Cake Sale after school on Friday 24th May so if you would like to contribute towards what will be a fantastic resource for North Devon then please come along. Any cake donations also very welcome on the day please! Thank you, Sarah D (mum to Simeon and Sol)

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sarah-dunn-529>

Star of the Week	
0HER	Sophie T
0STA	Jensen C
1SHR	Freddie M
1PER	Arthur D
2SAN	Artie G
2KIT	Elijah L
3CUR	Lani A
3PUF	Aaron S
4POR	Ally F
4DOL	Laila D
5OTT	Gracie G
5/6GRE	All Yr 6
6BLE	All Yr 6

Class Attendance %	
0HER	95.24
0STA	98.64
1SHR	99.35
1PER	97.78
2SAN	100
2KIT	92.92
3CUR	96.4
3PUF	94.8
4POR	97.69
4DOL	96.92
5OTT	95.94
5/6GRE	96.36
6BLE	99.29

Golden Table of the week			
KS1		KS2	
Arthur C	1PER	Pixie R	4POR
Paddy H	1PER	Layla D	4DOL
Phoebe G	2SAN	Oscar F	5/6GRE
Mia B	2KIT	Aston J	5/6GRE
Lunchtime Class of the week			
KS1		KS2	
Kittiwakes		All Year 6	

Coming up...

- Mon 20th May - Bikeability
- Thu 23rd May - EYFS trip tot the Dinosaur Park
- Fri 24th May - Aquathlon
- Fri 24th May - Non Uniform for Watson House
- Fri 24th May - Cake Sale
- Fri 24th May - Half Term
- Mon 3rd Jun - Back to school

Most improved attendance

KS1 = Sandpipers

KS2 = Dolphins

5 minutes extra playtime on Monday!

Highest Class Attendance

KS1 = Sandpipers KS2 = Blenny
Whole class wins a prize!