



Modbury Primary School Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2026



www.modburyprimaryschool.co.uk



<https://www.facebook.com/p/South-Hams-Federation-61556768462697>



<https://www.instagram.com/southhamsfederation2025/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! It has been wonderful to see all our children returning with such enthusiasm, and we're especially pleased to welcome our new pupils and their families into the Modbury community. As the weather is so changeable, please can children come prepared for all eventualities.

Please can we ask that parents drop children off at the gate or door where possible. We obviously understand that our reception children are learning to come into school and will need parental support, but for safeguarding purposes, children from Year 1 upwards should be dropped at the gate/door where possible.

Clubs

Information regarding clubs will be coming home next week. Please keep an eye out for this information.

Data Collection Information Reminder

As we begin the new school year, please take a few moments to check and update your child's information via MyChildAtSchool (MCAS). It is essential that we hold accurate contact details, emergency contacts, medical information, dietary requirements and parental permissions for every child. Up-to-date information helps us keep your child safe and ensures we can contact you quickly if needed. Please log into MCAS and review your child's details as soon as possible, even if you believe no changes are required. Accurate records are particularly important as we prepare for the annual School Census later this term. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain current and accurate pupil information.

Privacy Notices and Data Protection

As part of our commitment to protecting the personal information we hold about our pupils, parents and staff, our Privacy Notices are available to view on the school website. These notices explain what information we collect, why we collect it, how it is used, and who it may be shared with. We encourage all parents and carers to take a few moments to read these documents. We would also like to remind families that consent for the use of photographs, videos and certain types of information sharing can be reviewed and updated at any time. Parents can amend their preferences through MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) or by contacting the school office. Please ensure your contact details and your child's information are kept up to date so that we can communicate with you effectively and respond quickly in the event of an emergency. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our records accurate and our school community safe.

Emergency Consent

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping every child safe, we would like to remind parents and carers about Benedict's Law, which strengthens allergy safety measures in schools. Named in memory of Benedict Blythe, this legislation aims to ensure that all schools have clear allergy policies, appropriate staff training, individual healthcare plans where needed, and access to emergency adrenaline auto-injectors for severe allergic reactions. We also ask families to complete and return emergency consent and medical information forms promptly, as up-to-date consent enables us to act quickly and appropriately in the event of a medical emergency. By working together and ensuring

that all health information is accurate and current, we can help provide a safe and inclusive environment for every child.

We need you to help make our schools AMAZING places for our children to grow and to learn

Without volunteers, our schools simply cannot run and we **urgently need enthusiastic people** to join our governing body.

Absolutely **no education experience needed!** You do not need to be an education expert. We welcome diverse perspectives from all walks of life. If you have a passion for your community, **you have everything it takes to make a real difference.**

Governors work behind the scenes to support our four primary schools. You will focus on the big picture by planning long-term goals for our schools, checking how they are progressing, and ensuring school budgets are spent wisely to give children the best possible education.

Time commitment: Just 5–10 hours a month (around 6 meetings a year, with online options available).

Who Do You Know? If this isn't right for you, **please pass this on!** Do you know a grandparent, a retiree, a friend or a neighbour who wants to give back to the community? We need people like them to keep our village schools thriving.

Get in Touch Today

To find out more please email clerk@southhamsfederation.org.uk. The governors next meet on Monday 21st September, if you would like to come along and observe the meeting please let us know.

Safeguarding News

It can be challenging for parents and carers to know whether children are spending too much time on their digital devices. As technology becomes more pervasive in all of our lives, many children and young people in particular are beginning to experience tech-related dependencies. In this guide, you'll find tips on avoiding potential risks such as damage to health and wellbeing, app addiction and a lack of sleep.



What parents need to know about SCREEN ADDICTION



Children as young as 13 are attending 'smartphone rehab' following growing concern over screen time. There are now help centers in the UK which deal with screen addiction for children and adults showing the seriousness of device addiction. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has officially recognised gaming addiction as a modern disease. The condition was confirmed as part of their International Classification of Diseases (ICD) which serves as an international standard for diagnosing and treating health conditions.

7 out of 10 children said they had missed out on sleep because of their online habits and 60% said they had neglected school work as a result. It is important that children get the sleep they need in order to focus the next day.

Your child may become less interested in anything that does not include their device. You may notice that your child is missing school time and generally being less engaged with other activities in the home. It is important to discuss this with your child as soon as you notice a behaviour change.



The Children's Commissioner report 'Life in Likes', explored how children aged 8-11 are using social media today. It showed that children are using their devices to speak to their online friends about their problems and seek acceptance and support, removing face to face interactions.

Apps have been designed with 'psychological tricks' to constantly keep grabbing your attention. One example of this is on the app Snapchat, where you can gain 'streaks' when interacting with your friends. If you don't respond, you lose the streak. This addictive nature of apps aims to engage children and keep them coming back for more.



**National
Online
Safety®**



Top Tips for Parents



In today's digital age, technology is an important part of a child's development so completely banning them from their device will mean they are missing out on a lot, including conversations and connection with their friends. Rather than banning them from using their devices, we suggest setting a screen time limit. Work out what you think is a suitable and healthy amount of time for your child to be on their device per week. Remember that your child may need to use devices for their school homework so only set screen limits on recreational time on their device. Once you have established this, have the conversation with them to discuss why you are implementing a screen limit. There will be others in your child's friendship group who will not have screen limits set and will be sending messages when they do not have access to their phones.

Children model their behavior on their peers, so if their parents are constantly on their device, they will see this as acceptable. Try limiting your own screen time and follow the same rules you have set for them. If you have asked your child to not use their device at the table, make sure you don't. Try setting house rules that the whole family abide by.

Setting a rule about removing devices from bedrooms will help your child to get the sleep they need and be more focussed the next day at school. 20% of teenagers said that they wake up to check their social network accounts on their devices. Even by having a device switched off in their bedroom, they may be tempted to check for notifications.

There are many risks associated with devices, such as cyberbullying, grooming, sexting, viewing inappropriate content etc. Less time spent on a screen means that a child will be less exposed to these risks.

It may seem like an obvious solution, but encouraging children to play with their friends, read a book, or playing outdoors will help them realise they can have fun without their device. Playing football, trampolining, camping, going for a walk or swimming are all healthy replacements for screen time. Try to join them in their Outdoor activities to show your support.

Have you tried to settle your child by giving them a tablet at the dinner table or restaurant? This may seem like a quick fix to calm them down but in reality, it is encouraging them to use their device as a distraction from conversation and dealing with their emotions. We suggest removing all technology from the dinner table and having conversations with your family about how their day has been.

STATISTICS

99% of children aged **12-15**
go online for nearly **20.5hrs** a week

Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety



This week's focus - Classroom resilience



Reception – Charlie

Year 1 – Leah
Year 2 – Margo
Year 3 – Malachy
Year 4 – Arthur
Year 5 – Jack
Year 6 – Gwen

Achieve4All – Autumn Term 2026 – bookings now available!

If your child would like to join/continue this after school Multi-Sports club on a Wednesday (3.30pm-4.30pm) this term until October Half Term, please follow the link below to book.

Modbury	Wednesday	KS1+2 Multi Sports Club	https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/activity/achieve4all-multi-sports-club-ks12-modbury-wednesday-ivybridge-ee870376-fb8c-424e-9429-805d2b0aead2
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If you have any queries or questions, you can contact them on: info@achieve4all.co.uk

Diary Dates - New dates in bold

Tuesday 15th September – The Royal Navy & The Police visiting KS2

Wednesday 16th September – Early Years Coffee Morning – 9.15am (School Hall)

Wednesday 16th September – Years 1-6 Meet the Teacher evening

Monday 21st September – Tae Kwondo Workshops Y2-Y6

Monday 28th September - Individual photos

Friday 2nd October - Harvest Festival 2pm



Louise Nicholls
Head of School



Mrs T Coulthard
Executive Head Teacher

Community News



18th, 19th & 20th September 2026

DadFest DevonTM

Location: Beryl's Campsite, Beeson. Kingsbridge,
South Devon. TQ7 2HW

Awarded 'Best Small Event in the UK' in 2015 & 2025
The only UK festival just for dads & their children.

- campfire stories • water-rockets • bat walk
- Forest School • board games • rifle range
- wrestling show • arts & craft • sport skills
- kids disco • music workshops • archery
- slip n slide • beach trip • food & drink • & more...
- + 2026 World Dad Dancing Championship

Dads/ male carers with children of all ages welcome

DadFest 2026 tickets must be bought in advance

Dad + 1 child (all ages): £109

Dad + 2 children (all ages): £119

Dad + 3 children (all ages): £129



Ticket includes camping & all activities – nothing more to pay
Get food tickets too: £40 (dad): £30 (children)

To book search 'ticket tailor DadFest Devon'

or email: info@thedadsnetwork.org



Plymstock St John Ambulance Badgers

We are looking for new badgers to join our fun, safe and confidence-building programme for children aged 5–10.



When & Where

Thursdays, 6pm–7.30pm
Elburton Methodist Church Hall



What Your Child Will Experience

Badgers learn essential skills through engaging, age-appropriate activities:

- First aid basics
- Games and crafts
- Teamwork and communication
- A wide range of themed subjects, including:
 - Global Badger
 - Performance Badger
 - Community Badger
 - Active Badger

These help them progress towards the Super Badger Award, celebrating their achievements and personal development.



After Age 10

Once they are 10 and start year 6 Badgers can move up to St John Ambulance Cadets, where they can continue learning, volunteering, and even train as operational first aiders at community events.



Contact

For more information or to register interest:



www.sja.org.uk/badgers



siobhan.logue@sja.org.uk