



Modbury Primary School Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2026



www.modburyprimaryschool.co.uk



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



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had an enjoyable start to the autumn term. It has been a pleasure to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm, settling back into their routines and beginning their learning for this term. It was lovely to see so many of you at our Meet the Teacher sessions and we will be sending out the powerpoints early next week.

We have been working on dates for Christmas plays and Carol services as we know that lots of you are keen to secure these as soon as possible. As soon as we have the times and dates confirmed, we will let you know.

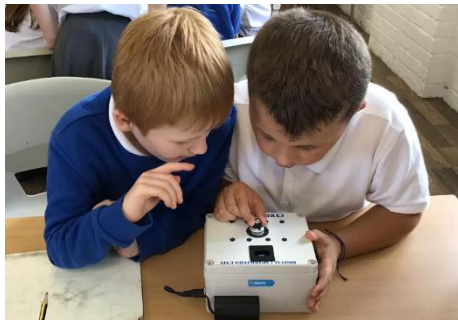
KS2 STEM

The Royal Navy visited our Year 3,4,5 and 6 pupils in the morning to teach them about coding a Sphero . A Sphero has a programmable LED screen that can display messages or data in real time. Using a tablet and the Sphero Edu app, the pupils were able to make it move, respond to its surroundings, and complete challenges. The ball had sensors that detect light, movement, direction, and speed, which helped our pupils to think about how to navigate obstacles and plan courses.



Year 5 & 6's Visit from the Police

We then had a visit from the police who worked with our Year 5 and 6 children to improve their understanding of digital connectivity and how to protect their personal information. They had to crack codes and think about passwords and how they could make their personal information safe.



Year 3 – Science fun!

Year 3 had fun investigating the properties of different rocks in Science this week. Well done Year 3 for working as a team and sharing findings with each other.



Clubs

Information regarding the clubs on offer to the children was emailed earlier today. The clubs will be going live on MCAS this evening at 6pm.

Music Mondays

Good news! Choir, Ocarina and Ukulele Clubs will be starting again next Monday 21st September. Your children will have brought home letters if they wish either to begin one of these clubs or continue.

For those continuing with ocarina and ukulele, the usual system applies. To secure your child's place please send payment for the term to the bank details on the letter. Please make sure your child is equipped with a music folder alongside their instrument for next Monday.

For those wishing to start, forms should be returned to the office if they have not been so already. Children wishing to play ocarina will need their own poly-oc which **MUST** be purchased from <https://www.ocarina.co.uk>. This is important to ensure the ocarinas are all in the same key. As far as ukuleles go, there are many to be found in charity shops or just by asking around. It is also possible to borrow one from school for a refundable £10 deposit.

I will send out letters with details of payments once I have a list of interested children. It is also important for children to have a folder for additional music. Ideally a clip file with plastic pockets works best. Please feel free to recycle old ones. The children can create a cover!

KS2 Choir

This club is free run by myself and Mrs Woods. We meet at 12.30pm on a Monday lunchtime.

Children attending choir need to go straight for their lunch at 12.00pm so they have time to eat before it starts. Sometimes they still get a 10 minute run around too! We have a lovely time with a variety of songs to suit all abilities.

Whilst I realise that Primary School is a time for discovery for young children, I do encourage them to persevere for the whole term if they sign up. We are usually working towards performances each term so it is important to be part of the team.

Any questions I can be contacted on 07803000612.

Sarah Gill

Additional Plea

If anyone has ocarinas, or ukuleles or ocarina music books their child no longer uses, please would you consider donating these for others to enjoy.

Safeguarding News

Returning to school after a break can take some adjustment. This #WakeUpWednesday guide shares practical ways for families and education professionals to make the transition smoother, from gradually restoring sleep and morning routines to preparing school essentials. It also explores how predictability, healthy nutrition and age-appropriate responsibilities can support children and young people as term begins.

Emotional and social readjustment matter too. The guide highlights the value of open conversations, patience and flexibility, alongside gentle opportunities to reconnect with learning and friendships.

Top Tips for SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S RETURN TO ROUTINE

Returning to school after the holidays can be challenging for some children and young people, and both families and education settings can play an important role in helping them readjust. Consistent routines, clear expectations, and supportive communication can support children and young people's wellbeing, self-regulation, and academic success. These practical tips can help make the transition back to school feel more manageable.

1 START EARLY

Gradually reintroduce school-day sleep, meal, and wake-up routines around a week before term begins. In education settings, familiar routines and expectations can also be introduced from the start of term to help pupils settle back in. A gradual and predictable approach can make the transition feel less abrupt and give children and young people the time they need to readjust to the structure of school life.

2 REBUILD ROUTINES TOGETHER

Involve the children and young people in your care in the rebuilding of familiar routines at home and in education settings. Having a say in their daily schedule can increase predictability for them and give them a greater sense of control. This might include discussing morning routines at home or reviewing classroom timetables, expectations, and activities together at the beginning of the school day.

3 ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBILITY

Giving children and young people age-appropriate responsibilities can help foster their autonomy and engagement. For younger children at home, this might include getting dressed independently or checking their school bag. In education settings, children and young people could organise their learning materials, complete simple classroom tasks, or follow a familiar morning routine. These manageable responsibilities can help them feel more involved in the school day while developing useful skills.

4 RECONNECT WITH PEERS

Re-establishing friendships can help children and young people feel more confident and connected when they return to school. Families might arrange opportunities for their children to speak to or spend time with school friends, while educators can use group activities, 'buddy' systems, or collaborative tasks to help rebuild classroom connections.

5 SUPPORT HEALTHY NUTRITION

Regular, balanced meals, particularly at breakfast, are linked to improved concentration, behaviour, and academic outcomes. Families can gradually return to familiar school-day mealtimes, while education settings can reinforce healthy eating routines at the start of term and signpost breakfast provision where available. Consistent access to food can help support children and young people's energy levels and concentration throughout the day.

6 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk to the children and young people in your care about how they feel about the return to school and give them the opportunity to share any worries or questions. Anxiety around going back to school, particularly when starting a new year group, can be common, and children and young people may benefit from your reassurance and support. Parents and educators can all help with this by listening calmly to concerns and questions, and sharing relevant information with one another where appropriate.

7 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING AND PEERS

Light educational activities before term begins can help children become familiar with learning routines again without creating any unnecessary pressure on them. In school, low-pressure recap activities and familiar tasks from the previous year group can serve a similar purpose during the first few days back. Keeping learning positive and achievable can help rebuild children's concentration, confidence, and academic motivation as they settle back into their usual routine.

8 PRIORITISE SLEEP

Ensure the children and young people in your care get age-appropriate sleep and begin returning to their usual bedtime habits before term starts. Reducing screen use before bedtime may also support better sleep quality. Educators can also be mindful that tiredness may temporarily affect children's concentration, behaviour, and emotional regulation as they readjust to school routines.

9 PREPARE AHEAD

Organising uniforms, bags, lunches, and other school essentials in advance can reduce unnecessary stress when school mornings begin again. Educators can also help by preparing pupils for any changes to classrooms, timetables, staff, or behaviour expectations. Giving children clear information about what to expect ahead of time can make the return feel more familiar and help build up their confidence and independence.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Children adjust to changes in their routines at different rates, so your patience and flexibility can be important during the first days and weeks back. Some may settle quickly, while others need longer to adapt to earlier mornings, classroom expectations, or busy schedules. Parents and educators can support children and young people's readjustment by maintaining consistent routines, all the while recognising that concentration, behaviour, or confidence may temporarily look different for them.

WELCOME BACK!

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School, and a business development specialist for Minds Ahead, which works with schools to improve their mental health provision.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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Stars of the Week

This week's focus - Positive attitudes to learning

Reception – Darcy
Year 1 – Polly
Year 2 – Arthur S
Year 3 – Emily
Year 4 – Bo
Year 5 – Theo
Year 6 – Lilah

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-9429-805d2b0ae2
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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

Monday 21st September – Tae Kwondo Workshops Y2-Y6

Monday 28th September - Individual photos

Friday 2nd October - Harvest Festival 2pm

Friday 16th October – Swimarathon – Time TBC

Y6 Junior Life Skills – Tuesday 20th October Details coming soon

Y6 Bikeability – Monday 16th – Friday 20th November

Louise Nicholls
Head of School

Mrs T Coulthard
Executive Head Teacher

Community News



Sponsored by:

 AtkinsRéalis



children's hospice
SOUTH WEST



**Santas
on the Train**

Festive train ride and fun run
Plym Valley Railway
Saturday 28 November

Sign up today chsw.org.uk/santas

Registered Charity
No. 1003314

The poster features a large illustration of Santa Claus in a red suit with a reindeer antler headband, appearing to fly or run alongside a green steam train. The train has a pink smokestack and is labeled 'LORD OLIVER BROWN'. The background shows a snowy landscape with evergreen trees. A circular inset photo shows a group of people, including children and adults in Santa costumes, posing together. In the bottom right, there is a white polar bear wearing a red and green striped scarf, a red robin perched on a branch, and the Plym Valley Railway logo which includes the text 'PLYM VALLEY RAILWAY' and '1982'.



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