



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Updates Friday 15th September

Well done to Year 6!

Our Year 6 children are all to be congratulated on their positive approach to this week. The Secondary Transfer Test (11+) week is always daunting, especially after such a long break, and they all managed the situation well and with admirable maturity. As a reminder there are a number of upcoming open evenings at our local grammar and upper schools which you may like to research on their individual websites. Some require you to book ahead of time so it is worth checking this before travelling there.



TravelWise Week – 18-22nd September 2023

This afternoon your child will be coming home with a pledge card ahead of Travelwise Week which is running from next Monday to Friday. Please can you fill this in together with a 'promise' for the week (e.g. "I will ride my bike to school every day" or "We will park further away and scoot to school on 3 days") and have them return it on Monday to their class teacher.

Harvest Festival

On **Wednesday 27th September** we will be having our school Harvest Assembly. As part of this we will be collecting donations for the Aylesbury Vineyard Storehouse. This is a local charity that support people by supplying essentials, such as food, in times of need.

The main items that they need at the moment are:

- Tinned fruit
- Tinned meat/chicken e.g. corned beef
- Long life milk (UHT)
- Custard/Rice Pudding
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned fish e.g. tuna, mackerel
- Beans/spaghetti

If you feel you are able to donate then please send donations in with your child **from Monday 25th September** onwards where all items will be collected before being displayed on the stage as part of our Harvest Assembly.



Year 4 Swimming – Payment reminder

If you have yet to make payment for your child to attend swimming sessions to cover our coach costs then please note the deadline for this is today. Payments can be made via our School Gateway app or alternatively please bring cash to the School Office.

School Photographs

As a reminder we are having individual and sibling photographs taken on **Tuesday 19th September** in school. Please can you ensure that all children arrive at school in **full uniform and looking smart**.



On this occasion we have decided not to have sibling photographs taken with children who do not attend Stoke Mandeville Combined School until we have had experience of working with Imago due to the additional organisation and administration that this entails.

Email Reminder

Please ensure all emails are sent to the School Office (office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk) and not via School Gateway or classroom apps such as Seesaw or Google Classroom as these are not monitored and will not be responded to. Please note that we have a 48 hour response policy to all emails. For all urgent queries please telephone the School Office.

Meet the Teacher Event – Classroom Rules

Next Wednesday we will be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' event for Years 1 to 6 from 3.30-5pm. This will be an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and see their classroom. Please note that this is not an opportunity to discuss classwork as this can be discussed at Parents Evening in mid-October. Alternatively if you have any other urgent concerns then these can be discussed in a more private setting at another time which can be arranged by contacting the School Office.

In the past we have had cause to be concerned that some parents have tried to take photos of the classroom environment to get a full class list of children and their birthdays. Please can we remind parents that this is not allowed as it breaches GDPR. All mobile phones should remain in bags or pockets when you are inside the school please.

Changes to family circumstances

If your family circumstances have changed over the summer break then please contact the School Office so that we can be made aware of any changes to parental settings. If you are suffering financially during this difficult time and think that you may be entitled to some additional help, then please complete a Pupil Premium form and hand it in to the School Office where it will be treated in a confidential manner. Pupil Premium forms can be found on our website under <https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/key-information/pupil-premium> or you can ask for a printed copy from the School Office.

Term Dates 2024-25

As a reminder all of our term dates for 2024-25 are up to date on our website under <https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/news-and-events/term-dates>.



Nut-Free School

Please remember that we are a nut-free school. Please check any snacks or packed lunch contents and ensure they don't contain nuts. This includes any Kinder chocolate or fruit bars.

Earrings

If your child has earrings then please ensure they are sent to school with tape for covering them during PE lessons. Alternatively please make sure their earrings are removed before school on their PE days.



Park and Stride

We are very grateful to local businesses including The Bell and The Bull for allowing our school community to park and stride from their parking areas. Please can we ask our parents however to be mindful when using disabled spaces and only use these if they are blue badge holders as we do have some pupils at our school who rely on these spaces. Thank you.

After School Sports Clubs

School-led clubs for Years 5 and 6 will begin next week and will again include netball, dance and football. The details of clubs available are as follows:

Sport	Day	Time	Teacher
Netball	Tuesdays (from 19 th September)	3.30-4.30pm	Miss Telfer
Dance	Wednesdays (from 20 th September)	3.30-4.30pm	Mrs Bushay
Football	Thursdays (from 5 th October following try-outs)	3.30-4.30pm	Mr Lack

If your child would like to attend either Dance or Netball then please head to 'Payments' under School Gateway to give consent and inform us of their collection arrangements. There is no payment associated with these clubs and the app is only used for consent purposes.

Please note that Netball and Football will finish slightly earlier at 4.15pm when the afternoons start to get darker and parents will be informed of this closer to the time.

Football

Mr Lack will be holding football try-outs next **Thursday 21st September** from 3.30-4.30pm with a view to starting after school football from **Thursday 5th October**. Club sessions will run from 3.30-4.30pm (please note as the days get shorter then sessions will finish at 4.15pm) and will run every Thursday in school term time.

If your child would like to take part in try-outs then please complete the consent form on School Gateway titled 'Year 5 & 6 - Football Try-Outs'. In order for the form to be submitted please add your child's collection arrangements in the 'Payer Comment' section.

School Gateway



If you are new to the school, or have not previously done so, please don't forget to sign up to our School Gateway app which is our main method of communication. You can give consent for clubs and make payments for MAC & ASC as well as school trips. If you are having any problems with logging into this then please contact the School Office for assistance.

Communications Home

Whole School – Flash Frozen Friday
Whole School – Lost Property and Uniform
Reception – Reception Notices
Years 1 to 6 – Meet the Teacher Event
Year 4 – Google Classroom Code – Year 4
Year 5 – Google Classroom Code – Year 5
Years 5 & 6 – Football Try-Outs
Year 6 – Google Classroom Code – Year 6
Year 6 – River Dart – Virtual Meeting

Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2023/24
ASC Users: ASC 2023/24 – Autumn 1
Year 4: Year 4 Swimming – Autumn Term 2023

Year 5 & 6: Football Try-Outs
Year 5 & 6: Netball Club 2023-24
Year 5 & 6: Dance Club 2023-24

Housepoint Totals this Week

Well done to **Waddesdon** for earning the most housepoints this week.

Chequers	Claydon	Hughenden	Waddesdon
1503	1284	1646	1730

Year 2 won the Tidy Award for this week and Ivy from Year 6 was the recipient of the Values Award.

Dates for the Diary (New dates or times are written in RED)

Date	Time	Event
Mon 18 Sep		Travelwise Week
Tue 19 Sep	AM	IMAGO Individual and Sibling Photographs
Tue 19 Sep	5pm	River Dart Talk by CRS Adventures
Wed 20 Sep	3.30-5pm	Meet the Teacher Afternoon (Years 1-6 only)
Mon 25 Sep		Cycle to School Week
Mon 25 Sep	9am	Bag2School Clothing Collection
Tue 26 Sep	7.15pm	Friends of SMCS AGM
Wed 27 Sep		Harvest Festival (<i>donations for Aylesbury Vineyard</i>)

Fri 29 Sep		Park Away Day
Wed 18 Oct	3.30-6pm	Parents Evening (Face to face in school)
Thu 19 Oct	3.30-5.30pm 6-8pm	Parents Evening (Face to face in school) Parents Evening (Online)
Thu 19 Oct	3.20pm	Finish for half term
Fri 20 Oct	All Day	Staff Inset Day
Mon 30 Oct		Autumn 2 term commences

The Friends of SMCS

Thank you to everyone who came to our Flash Frozen Friday this afternoon or who volunteered with running the event.



We look forward to welcoming as many new members as possible to The Friends of SMCS AGM on Tuesday 26th September. This will be your chance to find out more about how the association is run and how you can get involved with some exciting events happening throughout the year.

The Friends of SMCS

Chairperson Vanessa Swain

Secretary Alex Griffiths

Treasurers Amy Bailey and Chris Telfer

<https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/our-school/friendsofsmcs>

Class Updates

We know how much you enjoy finding out what the children have been learning in our Weekly Updates. You can find this information by selecting the link below to your child's class.

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

School Office

Opening hours: 8am to 3.40pm Monday to Friday

Email: office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk

Telephone: 01296 612371



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