



# Stoke Mandeville Combined School

*Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together*

## *Weekly Update Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November*



### **Children in Need Day**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this worthy cause by supporting us through donations. It was lovely to see the children dressed in an array of spots, stripes and Pudsey clothes and accessories!

A huge thank you also to Year 6 and our School Council for putting on yet another hugely successful 'Pudsey Fair' in the Hall. We're so happy to be able to share with you that through a combination of cash and donations online we have managed to raise the fantastic total of

**£327.60!**

If you would still like to contribute to this worthy cause, we have set up a JustGiving page for Stoke Mandeville Combined School where you can easily make your contribution. The link to the page is: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/stoke-mandeville-combined-school-1700059148931>. Any amount, big or small, will make a significant impact on the lives of children who are in need. We appreciate your ongoing support in helping us instil a sense of compassion and community in our students. By participating in Children in Need, we teach our children the importance of empathy and making a positive impact on the lives of others.

### **Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church**

On Sunday, our Head Boy and Head Girl, Neve and Harrison, accompanied Mrs Tong to the St Mary the Virgin Church Remembrance Service and laid a wreath in memory of our fallen heroes.

### **Reception join our Celebration Assembly!**

Today our Reception class joined the rest of the school for their very first Celebration Assembly. Mrs Tong wanted to let parents know how beautifully they all sat and we all look forward to seeing them at every Celebration Assembly.



## Message from KS1

Reception and Key Stage 1 are in urgent need of girls' socks and pants. If you are able to donate any good quality underwear and socks then please bring them to the School Office or give to your child's class teacher. Thank you.

## Friends of SMCS Christmas Market

A letter was sent home to parents of children in Years 5 and 6 this week asking for helpers to assist The Friends of SMCS in running stalls at the Christmas Market. If your child would like to take part then please fill in the form below:



[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdi\\_BgCy6SbSUA6LWY2fXsz1QG4Q4xwJVY67hnM6oHdBmQ8cQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdi_BgCy6SbSUA6LWY2fXsz1QG4Q4xwJVY67hnM6oHdBmQ8cQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0)

## Phonics Information Session

On **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November** Miss Jacob is leading a Phonics Information Session in the Hall at 3.30pm. This is specifically aimed at parents of Reception and Key Stage 1 children, however parents with children in Key Stage 2 are also welcome to attend. Children can also come along with parents as we appreciate the timing coincides with afternoon pick up.



## Flu Immunisations

Unfortunately we had a large number of children miss the opportunity to have their flu immunisation as the email was either missed or not actioned straight away. Please can we ask that if emails of this nature are received in the future that consent be given as soon as possible as we are not always in the position to send out reminders, particularly when the communication is being done on behalf of an external provider as we are not able to see which parents have and have not consented due to data protection. Letters that have been sent home in the week are always highlighted in the 'Communications Home' section of the Weekly Updates as a prompt to take action if needed and check if an email has been missed earlier in the week.

We have spoken to the School Nursing Team and they have advised us that the online consent form can still be accessed and completed by clicking on the following link <https://www.buckschildimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> which will direct you to an online consent form for you to complete. Once you have completed this form you can make a catch-up appointment with the School Immunisations Team by calling them directly on 01494 323000 or email [bht.buckschildimms@nhs.net](mailto:bht.buckschildimms@nhs.net).

## Clothing

As the weather starts to get cooler please consider putting a vest or thermal t-shirt under your child's school uniform, particularly for the younger classes in school who spend additional time outside.

## Play Equipment

Can we please again remind parents that younger siblings must be kept away from the play equipment on the playground during morning drop off and afternoon collection. These areas are unsupervised by members of staff outside of the school day.

## Year 5 - Hazard Alley Trip

On **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November** our Year 5 class are due to travel to Hazard Alley in Milton Keynes for a class trip. The coach is due to leave promptly at 9am and should be returning to school by 2pm. Please can all children wear tracksuit trousers with their school polo shirt and jumper/cardigan on top. Please remember to bring packed lunches in a disposable bag and a named water bottle. All stationery will be provided so there is no need to bring pens/pencils or back packs.

## Road Safety Week

Next week is Road Safety Week. The theme this year is speed. At least 5 people die on the roads every day. Is there really a need to speed?

Your child/children will be bringing home with them today, postcards to colour and fill in. KS1 children will have a picture to colour in and KS2 children will have an activity sheet with word searches and crosswords on.



As an extra, Miss Telfer is asking if children could create a poster on the importance of not speeding. Housepoints will be awarded to each child returning their poster. Miss Telfer and the JRSO's will then choose an overall winner from KS1 and KS2 and their posters will take pride of place in a display outside the school gates.



## Park Away Day

On **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November** we have our final Park Away Day of the year. Please can all parents help support their child in taking part in this by walking, scooting or cycling to school from either their home address or by parking

further away and walking the rest of the way in. For further information about the day and our Walking School Bus please go to the Travel Plan section of our website:

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

## Visits to the School Office

We have had a growing number of people coming in to use the toilets at the end of the school day. Please can we ask that this is only requested in an emergency as this is a very busy time of day for the office and we cannot have people walking around the school when children are about to be dismissed. Thank you.

## Nativity

The Key Stage 1 Nativity performances will take place on the following dates:

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm**  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am**



Tickets will go live on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November** and further information about this will be sent out next week.

## Netball

This is a polite reminder that there is no Netball Club on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**. Remaining Club sessions for Autumn term will take place **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November** and **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December**.

## Dance Club

As Mrs Bushay is sadly leaving us next Friday, please be aware that our last Dance Club of the term will be this **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**. We will be in touch next week about our plans for Dance Club next term.

## Football Game

Last Friday our football team celebrated a fantastic win against Weston Turville with an incredible final score of 9-0! Well done to everyone who played on the team and thank you to everyone who came out to support them.

## Year 4 Swimming

There will be no swimming for Year 4 on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** as Stoke Mandeville Stadium have an event taking place during our usual booking. The cost of the coach for this date will be subtracted from the amount owed for the Spring term when this payment is made available to parents.

## The Big Ambition

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched **The Big Ambition**, a national survey of children and young people across England.

**The Big Ambition** aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's

Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England.

**The Big Ambition** survey will be open until Friday 15th December. Full details including a link to the survey can be found [here](#).



## MAC and ASC

If your child attends MAC and ASC then an email will have been sent to you this week by Mrs Gundry with a few reminders. A new Google booking form will be sent out to existing users on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** for Spring 1 MAC and ASC dates. Once bookings have been received any additional places will be offered to parents on our waiting list.

Please can we ask parents to remind children that behaviour expectations during MAC and ASC are the same as during the normal school day. We have had a few incidences of rudeness and disrespectful behaviour and would like to encourage children to be kind to both their peers and the staff who are looking after them.

## **Healthy Lunchboxes**

Can we please ask that you ensure your children don't share their lunch box contents with other children due to a number of allergies and dietary restrictions that we have in school. We have also noticed a few items of chocolate and other confectionery being brought in for lunch which we would ask that you refrain from adding to lunch boxes. Breaktime snacks should also only be fruit or vegetables please. Please find attached a useful poster giving helpful ideas of what should be included in a healthy lunch box. The following link is also a useful read offering advice about healthy lunch box ideas <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>.

## **Buckinghamshire Highways – Works Information**

We have been informed by Buckinghamshire Highways that works will commence on Brudenell Drive, Marsh Lane and Lower Road from **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November** for 40 days (excluding Christmas holidays). Information signs and parking suspension signs will be erected on site prior to the commencement of the works, giving actual dates and durations.

Please make allowances for the heavy traffic that is to be expected during this time and leave earlier for school if you travel by car. We would encourage wherever possible that parents please walk to and from school or park and stride.

## **Housepoints and Awards**

These were not announced during our Celebration Assembly this week, however we wanted to share that the Values Cup was given out to Esmae in Reception for being thoughtful and helpful to a member of staff.

## **Communications Home**

Netball Club – Netball Cancelled

River Dart Individuals – River Dart Update – Payments Live

MAC/ASC Users – MAC/ASC Reminders

Whole School – Advent Calendar Raffle

Whole School – REMINDER Spots and Stripes Mufti for Children in Need

Reception & Year 6 – Height and Weight Screening

Year 1 – Great Fire of London

Year 2 – Bug Club Login Details (paper copy home with child)

Year 3 – Making Snack Bars

Year 4 – Multi-Skills Festival

Year 4 & Year 6 – Health Related Behaviour Survey

Year 5 & Year 6 – Children Helpers – Christmas Market 2023

## **Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway**

**MAC Users:** MAC 2023/24

**ASC Users:** ASC 2023/24

**Whole School:** Panto 2023 Trip

**Year 6 Individuals:** River Dart 2024 – Payment 1

**Year 6 Individuals:** River Dart 2024 – Payment 2

**Year 6 Individuals:** River Dart 2024 – Payment 3

**Year 6 Individuals:** River Dart 2024 – Payment 4

## The Friends of SMCS

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November we will be having the final 'Treat Friday' of the Autumn term. We are yet to announce what treats we have in store so keep an eye out for more information later in the week via the Friends and School Facebook pages! As always treats will be priced at 50p each. If your child is due to attend ASC on this date then please send them in with 50p so they can be taken to the Stall by an ASC playworker at the start of the session.



### **Advent Calendar Raffle**

For a third year running, we bring you the Advent Calendar Raffle. This year, a number of local businesses have sponsored a wonderful collection of calendars. Tickets will cost £2.50 and the draw will take place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. It is possible to win one of the following, fantastic prizes:

- Smiggle
- Smiggle Bath and Body
- Lego City
- Lego Friends
- Lindt Teddy
- Lindt Reindeer
- Swizzels Sweet Shop
- Percy Pig
- Haribo Make-your-own Tree
- Cadbury's Tower
- Cadbury's Heroes
- Pringles 12 Days of Christmas
- Squidgems
- ... and More!

Tickets will be available to purchase from outside the school/on the playground on the following dates:

- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November - pick up
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November - drop off and pick up
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - drop off and pick up
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November - drop off and pick up

*Please note: an adult is required to be present to purchase the tickets. We are unable to sell tickets to under 16s.*

If your child will be attending morning and afterschool club on all of those dates and you are unable to purchase tickets yourself, then please send in money in an envelope marked with your child's name, class, your name and the number of tickets required. Please send the correct amount by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November so there is time to return your tickets.

## Hamper Raffle

Thank you for all of the Hamper Raffle tickets we have had returned to us so far. We're on track to make a fantastic amount for The Friends of SMCS this year! If you require any more raffle books then please contact the School Office or a member of the Friends and we will get these to you.

We are still in need of helpers for the Christmas Market so if you can offer even half an hour of your time then please email The Friends at

[friends@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:friends@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk)

Secretary for Friends of Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Email: [friends@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:friends@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk)

Facebook: Friends of Stoke Mandeville Combined School

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/758922361131091/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FriendsOfSMCS>

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

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

Date	Time	Event
Tue 21 Nov		Year 5 trip to Hazard Alley
Thu 23 Nov	3.30-4pm	EYFS and KS1 Phonics Information Session ( <i>KS2 Parents also welcome to attend</i> )
Fri 24 Nov		Park Away Day
Fri 24 Nov		Friends Advent Calendar Raffle
Fri 24 Nov	3.15pm	Treat Friday
Fri 1 Dec	3-5.15pm	Friends Christmas Market <i>4.15pm Signing Choir Performance</i> <i>4.45pm Hamper Raffle Draw</i> <i>5.15pm Carols on the Village Green (Signing Choir)</i>
Sat 2 Dec	9.00am-12pm	KS2 Aylesbury Vale Cross Country Competition at Turnfurlong Junior School
Tue 5 Dec		Christingle Service for children at St Mary's
Wed 6 Dec		Reception & Year 6 Measurements Check (School Nursing Team)
Fri 8 Dec		Friends Christmas Disco
Wed 13 Dec		School Christmas Lunch (Chartwells)

Wed 13 Dec	2pm	EYFS and KS1 Nativity – Performance 1
Thu 14 Dec	9.30am	EYFS and KS1 Nativity – Performance 2
Fri 15 Dec		Panto Trip to Aylesbury Waterside
Tue 19 Dec	1.30pm	Close for Christmas Break

### **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](mailto:office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk)

**Telephone:** 01296 612371



*Please ensure all emails are sent to the School Office 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.*