



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 24th November

Year 5 Trip to Hazard Alley

On **Tuesday 21st November** our Year 5 class had a wonderful time during their visit to Hazard Alley at the Safety Centre in Milton Keynes. The children were exposed to different situations which could be dangerous and learnt how to react. They all had a go at calling the Emergency Services and relaying the message in a calm manner.

The children really enjoyed the experience and all went home with key points on how to stay safe. Miss MacKellar and other staff members who attended were so proud of them all for being sensible and acting as great ambassadors to the school. Well done Year 5!



For more photographs from the day please head to our [School Photo Gallery](#).

Thank you

Your support has made a real difference to those in the Armed Forces community.

Without your efforts, we couldn't do the work we do.

To Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Together we raised £254-41

To find out more about how your donation helps, please visit rbl.org.uk/poppyappeal



Poppy Appeal

We have this week received information from The Royal British Legion that we raised an incredible **£254.41** for their Poppy Appeal. Their local representative informed us that this was the highest amount raised by any of her designated settings so a huge congratulations to everyone who supported this fundraising effort.

Heights and Weights Measurements

On **Wednesday 6th December** our Reception and Year 6 classes will be visited by the School Nursing Team as part of the Childhood Measurements Programme. Please don't forget to log in to the [Parent Portal](#) so that you can see the results when they are available. If you wish to opt your child out from these measurements then you will need to do this via the Portal.

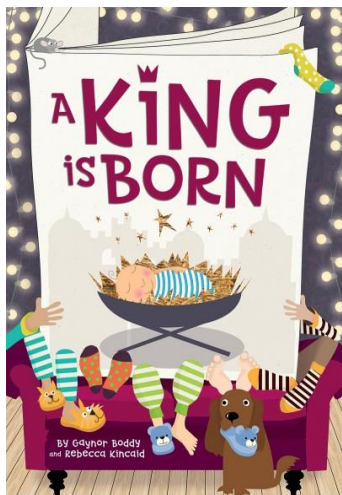
Panto Trip

Don't forget to give your consent and pay your contribution for our annual trip to the Pantomime at the Aylesbury Waterside by heading to the 'Payments' section of our School Gateway app by **Monday 4th December**.



Chartwells Bookings

As a reminder please note that for the Pantomime trip on **Friday 15th December** all children must either have a packed lunch from home or order one from Chartwells. There will be no hot school meals available on this day. If you have already placed a hot meal order for this date then your order has automatically been swapped to a cheese roll packed lunch. If you would like to cancel this then please log in to your ParentPay account and make the change by Tuesday 28th November.



'A King is Born' – KS1 Nativity

Tickets for our EYFS and KS1 Nativity will be going on sale on **Monday 27th November!** These are priced at £2 each and will be limited to 2 per family per performance in the first instance. These can be purchased on School Gateway under 'Payments'. Please note that no physical tickets will be issued for these and all names will be held digitally by the school for checking off at the door.

Subject to availability we may release further tickets at a later date for families to purchase additional seats for other family members. Tickets are required for anyone requiring a seat at the performance including younger siblings. Babes in arms or toddlers on laps do not require a ticket.

Year 2 – Building Castles

Mrs Bennett has asked for Year 2 children to please bring in recycling items on **Thursday 30th November** e.g. cereal boxes, crisp containers, other light cardboard, cleaned yoghurt pots and similar items, as they will be building castles on this day in groups of 3.

Please do not bring any items that have previously contained nuts or eggs. Please can we request that these items are not brought in until the day itself as storage is limited in the classroom. Thank you.

Christmas Cards

As we head towards December, we find many pupils wish to send Christmas cards to their friends in the school. We accommodate this by installing a Christmas post box in the main foyer which will be available from **Friday 1st December**. If your child would like to send some cards this year please would you check the envelopes to ensure the cards can be easily sorted and distributed. Each envelope needs to have the name and class of the recipient clearly written on it. Unfortunately we are not able to provide parents with class lists, but we're sure your child will remember the names of their very close friends!



We will encourage all children who bring cards into school to post them in the post box because the children are always very excited when the Christmas Post arrives in their classroom. Regular deliveries are made in the days leading up to the end of term. Last posting day is **Thursday 14th December** and final deliveries will be made on **Friday 15th December**.

The following information may help you with envelope writing!

Reception	Mrs King	Year 4	Mrs Khan
Year 1	Miss Jacob	Year 5	Miss MacKellar
Year 2	Miss Poole	Year 6	Mrs Tong & Ms Hayden
Year 3	Mrs Ryan & Mrs Andre		

Christingle

On **Tuesday 5th December** we will be taking the children to St Mary the Virgin Church in Stoke Mandeville, to take part in a Christingle service. There will be two services:

10.00am for KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)

11.00am for Reception and KS1 (Reception, Years 1 and 2)

The school signing choir will be performing at both services with a few songs learnt this term (due to the size of the choir half of the children will go to one service and half to the other). During the service there will be a collection for The Children's Society. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, then please any monetary donations in to class on **Tuesday 5th December**, or alternatively you can donate online through a JustGiving link that we have set up at:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/stoke-mandeville-combined-school-1700666191527?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fstoke-mandeville-combined-school-1700666191527&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Message from Mrs Bushay

Mrs Bushay wanted us to share with you how overwhelmed she has been with the cards and gifts given to her by children today. She wanted to pass on her sincere thanks and say how much she will miss everyone.

River Dart – Payment Reminder

If your child is going to River Dart next year then this is a reminder that Payment 1 (£60) is due by **Friday 30th November**. This is available to pay via School Gateway or alternatively cash can be brought directly to the School Office.

Stoke Mandeville Village Society

Please find attached some details of upcoming events being put on by the Stoke Mandeville Village Society, including the Christmas Light Switch On on The Village Green next Friday 1st December straight after our Christmas Market event.



Park Away Day

Thank you to everyone who took part in today's Park Away Day this morning. Mrs Stewart was delighted with how well this went today and there was such excitement amongst the children as they came into school!



Christmas Jumper Plea

To help relieve some of the pressure on families this Christmas, we would like to encourage members of our school community to donate their preloved Christmas jumpers to the school so that they can then be passed on to other families and/or used in our KS1 Nativity on 13th and 14th December. If you have a Christmas jumper that your child has outgrown we would really

appreciate it if you could donate it to the school. Jumpers can be dropped off to the School Office up until **Monday 11th December**. Please contact the office if you would like to obtain a donated jumper. We hope that this will benefit some families as well as having a positive effect on the environment.

Sports Clubs Reminder

Please note the last dates of term that our staff-led clubs will be run before the Christmas break:

~~Tuesday 5th December~~ **Tuesday 28th November** – Last Netball Club

Thursday 7th December – Last Football Club

Please note the last dates of term that our external sports clubs will be run:

GameOn – Football – Monday 4th December

Premier – Gymnastics – Tuesday 12th December

Sports Factors – Fun Games – Thursday 7th December

Netball

As you will see above, the last club session will now be on **Tuesday 28th November** as a match has been scheduled for **Tuesday 5th December** for Year 6 members of the club. Further details about this will follow from Miss Telfer next week.

Hot Chocolate's Joke of the Week

Every week we bring you the very finest jokes straight from the Meeting Room to your inboxes! Mrs Stewart will be choosing her favourite joke shared by children during Hot Chocolate Friday so please do help your child by coming up with a (child-friendly!) funny joke for Fridays! This week's entries are...



What is the difference between a horse and a duck?

One goes quick, the other goes quack!

George in Year 4

What is a Mummy's favourite music?

Wrap

Madiha in Year 2

Housepoint Totals this Week

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

Chequers	Claydon	Hughenden	Waddesdon
9371	9368	9385	9480

Reception won the Tidy Award for this week and Harrison and Neve from Year 6 were the recipients of the Values Award.

Communications Home

Whole school – Traffic
Whole school – Christingle Service
Whole school – REMINDER Park Away Day
Whole school – Treat Friday
Reception, Year 1 & 2 – Nativity Tickets 2023
Year 2 – Castle Building
Year 2 – Multi-Skills Festival
Year 4 – REMINDER Year 4 – Multi-Skills Festival
Signing Choir – Christmas Performances

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

Advent Calendar Raffle

Thank you very much to everyone who supported our Advent Calendar Raffle. We sold nearly 150 tickets and had more than 20 calendars in the draw. We are hugely grateful to all our sponsors for helping us to purchase so many wonderful calendars. We hope that all the winners enjoy opening them throughout December. We will update you with how much we have raised after the money has been counted.



Christmas Market - Next week!

Next *Friday 1st December* will be our outdoor Christmas Market. There will be market stalls, tombolas, the hamper raffle, games, a performance from the signing choir and more! The outside stalls will open at 3pm, and the children's games will open at 3:20pm as the children come out of school. The games will be run using a wristband system, similar to the Summer Fayre. A wristband will cost £2 and will allow the wearer to play 6 games. We do hope that lots of you will stay to join in the fun!

Bring a Bottle Mufti

Next Friday will be a mufti day. The children are invited to come to school in full mufti, in exchange for a donation of a bottle. Please drop these off outside the office in the morning. We ask that donations are **IN DATE** and that there are no cleaning products.



Hamper Raffle

The class reps have been doing an amazing job at creating some fantastic hampers for our raffle. We currently have a pamper hamper, children's crafting hamper, luxury M&S hamper and a Christmas treats hamper. We are also excited to announce that there will be a theatre hamper with a family ticket to see Cinderella at Milton Keynes Theatre on Wednesday 10th January (a huge thank you to MK

Theatre for donating the tickets). Please return any unsold tickets to the office as soon as possible so that we can sell them at the Christmas Market.

Christmas Disco

On *Friday 8th December* we will be holding our Christmas disco - watch out for posters with details.



Secretary for Friends of Stoke
Mandeville Combined School

Email: 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
Fri 1 Dec		Bring a Bottle Mufti
Fri 1 Dec	3-5.15pm	Friends Christmas Market 4.15pm Signing Choir Performance 4.45pm Hamper Raffle Draw 5.15pm Carols on the Village Green (Signing Choir)
Sat 2 Dec	9.00am-12pm	KS2 Aylesbury Vale Cross Country Competition at Turnfurlong Junior School
Sat 2 Dec	10.30-11.30am	Signing Choir to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Tue 5 Dec		Christingle Service for children at St Mary's Church
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

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.