



# Stoke Mandeville Combined School

*Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together*

*Weekly Update Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January*



*We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and the children have enjoyed their first week back at school.*

## Staff Updates

We are delighted to have welcomed some new members of staff to Stoke Mandeville Combined School this week. Miss Sims has joined Mrs Khan and Mrs Hutson in Year 4 and Ms Osborne has joined Miss MacKellar and Miss Telfer in Year 5. Next week Mrs Wells will be joining Mrs Ryan, Mrs Andre and Mrs Barlow in Year 3. We know that our pupils and parents will join us in giving them a warm welcome to our school community.

## Wifi Outage

Some of you may be aware that the school has unfortunately suffered a WiFi outage over the Christmas break which has reduced our capacity in some areas such as the children being signed in and out and for access to iPad learning in school. We are working with our IT providers to have the system repaired as soon as possible and have alternative processes in place for now, however please can we ask that you bear with us during this time.

## Absences

If your child is off school for any reason then please ensure that the office is contacted **by 9am at the latest**. If you have informed your child's class teacher directly when dropping off siblings then you will still need to let the office know separately so that an accurate record can be kept and you are not chased unnecessarily. If you are attending a medical or dental appointment then prior notice should be given to the office and evidence of the appointment provided (a screenshot will suffice if a paper copy is unavailable). Absences can be notified via telephone 01296 612371 (dial 1 for absence line) or email to [office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk).



## Cold Weather Alert

From Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January until Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January there is a yellow cold weather warning in effect. Please ensure your child comes to school with a warm coat. We also recommend scarves, hats and gloves (please name these wherever possible).



### Toys in School

Please can we remind parents that toys, fidgets and gadgets should not be brought into school e.g. mini skateboards. We ask for your help with this to avoid accidental breakage or loss of a favourite toy. Thank you.

### River Dart

For parents of Year 6 children who are coming to River Dart, this is a gentle reminder that Payment 2 is due by **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January**.

### Teacher Training with Astra SCITT

Whether you or someone you know is a recent graduate or potential career switcher, teaching offers a rewarding, challenging and varied career. Stoke Mandeville Combined School works in partnership with [Astra School Centred](#)



[Initial Teacher Training](#) to provide training for new primary and secondary teachers. Astra works in partnership with over sixty local schools and all courses lead to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and most applicants also study for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). Do contact Astra ([hello@astra-alliance.com](mailto:hello@astra-alliance.com)) if you would like to know more, or you can head to a specially dedicated page on our school website: <https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/astra-scitt>.

### Sports Clubs

Afterschool sports clubs will be restarting next week. A reminder of these dates and times can be found in the table below. Please note that all clubs provided by external providers are booked with them directly (with the exception of Dance) and are currently fully subscribed. If your child is interested in joining any of these clubs then please contact the School Office and you will be placed on a waiting list.

Club	Provider	Day	Time	First date	Last date
Netball (Y5-Y6)	School-led (Miss Telfer)	Tuesday	3.30-4.30pm	Tue 9 Jan	Tue 26 Mar
Dance (Y5-Y6)	ZKT Dance	Wednesday	3.30-4.30pm	Wed 10 Jan	Wed 27 Mar
Football (Y5-Y6)	School-led (Mr Lack)	Thursday	3.30-4.15pm	Thu 11 Jan	Thu 21 Mar
Gymnastics (Y2-Y4)	Premier	Tuesday	3.30-4.30pm	Tue 9 Jan	Tue 26 Mar
Football (Y4-Y6)	GameOn	Monday	3.20-4.25pm	Mon 8 Jan	Mon 25 Mar
Ball Games (Y3-Y4)	Sports Factor	Thursday	3.20-4.20pm	Thu 11 Jan	Thu 8 Feb

### Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

**MAC Users:** MAC 2023/24

**ASC Users:** ASC 2023/24

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

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

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

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

Date	Time	Event
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan		Reception 2024 Entry – application deadline
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	3.20pm	Friends of SMCS Treat Friday
Thu 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb		Roving Bookshop
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	3.20pm	Spring 1 Term Ends
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb		Staff Inset Day
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb		Spring Term 2 Starts

## **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.*