



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 1st March

Science Week

It has been an exciting and busy Science Week for the whole school. The children have had a range of science opportunities throughout the week including workshops, shows, visitors, visits and plenty of experiments. The planetarium was an exciting opportunity for Reception to Year 3 with the children talking about what they saw with great detail afterwards. The Year 5 and 6 children thoroughly enjoyed the RAF STEM workshop, one even saying it was the best day ever! The shows from Science Oxford allowed for much awe and wonder!



A big thank you to the Friends of SMCS who helped to fund a number of the events in Science Week. Thank you to Mrs Taylor, Mrs Cotton and Mr Isaac for coming in to speak about their careers and how they link to science. These talks really helped the children to understand how science helps us in everyday life. Thank you also to Year 3 and 4 parents for being so generous with donating items to class for experiments during Science Week. And a final thank you to all of the parents who accompanied Year 2 and 3 on their trip to Science Oxford today.

Please keep an eye out for our Science Week photo gallery that will be uploaded over the coming weeks!

Miss Poole
Science Leader



National Offer Day

Today Year 6 parents should have received details of their child's allocated secondary school by email. Parents who applied online will also be able to log on to the online portal where they can view and respond to their offer. If you have not received the offer by Monday 4th March please contact the School Office and they will be able to assist.

Please remember to accept or decline any place offered by 23:59 on **Thursday 14th March**. If you do not respond by this date then your offer will be removed.

Staff Changes

Next Friday we will be saying goodbye to Miss Butler who is leaving us to embark on a change of career. We are sure all of the Year 1 parents will join us in wishing her a fond farewell and thank her for everything during her time with us.

SEN Coffee Morning

A targeted group of parents have this week been sent an invite to the 'Children's Worries Workshop' on **Thursday 7th March at 9.30am**. This talk will be given by a visiting Educational Psychologist from Buckinghamshire Council, Amy Rodriguez. If you have not received an invite but would like to come or receive further information about this parent workshop then please contact the School Office to make them aware. If you have received the invite don't forget to complete the [Google Form](#) to let us know that you will be attending.



Swimming Gala

On Wednesday a group of children from Year 5 and 6 went to Stoke Mandeville Stadium and represented the school in an Inter-School Swimming Festival. Each child had to swim 25m backstroke, 25m breaststroke, 25m freestyle, relay medley and a freestyle relay.

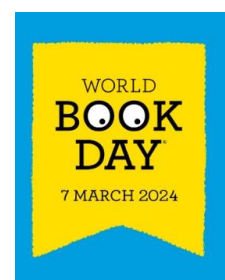
The children all tried their very best and represented the school impeccably. They didn't place in the top 3 but are winners in our eyes for their outstanding sportsmanship to themselves and other schools.

Swimming

Mrs Khan wanted to remind Year 4 that swimming will start again next **Wednesday 6th March**.

World Book Day

Don't forget next **Thursday 7th March** it is World Book Day! Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character (or author!). We look forward to seeing all of the costumes from our pupils (and teachers!) on Thursday. If you need any inspiration for what character your child should dress as then please have a browse through our photo galleries from the last two years of World Book Days!



<https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/schoolphotogallery/worldbookday2022>

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Parking on Zig Zags

This week we have received another photograph from a neighbour complaining about our school parents parking on the zigzags.

Parking on school keep-clear zigzags is dangerous and illegal. They are there to protect the safety of your children. Vehicles that park on school keep-clear zigzags can obstruct the vision of children, making it dangerous when they are crossing the road.



Please do not park on school zigzags or on road junctions.

Calpol reminder

Please can we remind parents that if children have a temperature then they should not be sent to school. Please don't dose children up with Calpol first thing in the morning as this inevitably wears off at lunchtime and we end up with some very poorly children who need to be sent home. A temperature is usually indicative of an infection so children must please remain at home until their temperature returns to normal. Thank you.

Imagine something embarrassing happened to you at school when you were in the 7th grade. Everyone laughed and it was awful and you were mortified. Then a few weeks passed and everyone found new things to laugh about and they moved on. You didn't forget how embarrassed you were, but you could move on too. ❤️

Now imagine you did something embarrassing in 7th grade. And everyone laughed and it was awful. But someone also caught it on Snap Chat. And turned it into a meme. And a Tik Tok. And everyone in school saw it. And took a screen shot of it. And spread it further. And you couldn't get away from it. And no one forgot. And you couldn't either. And people were still re sharing it months later. ❤️

Just sit there and imagine it for a minute.

Kids aren't ready for social media. It starts with us parents.

Social Media

As our Internet Safety lead, Miss Poole was keen for us to share the following post which has been shared widely online in recent weeks. It is certainly food for thought, particularly for our older classes who may have mobile phones and have access to social media.

As a reminder we have [online safety](#) guides on our website where you can read about different apps and what their age limits are. We are always interested to hear about new apps if you have any concerns about them so please let us know and we will do our best to share information about them with our parent body.

Parent Forum

Just a reminder that our next Parent Forum is due to be held on **Tuesday 5th March** at 2pm in the Meeting Room. All class representatives (or stand-ins) are invited to join. *Please note this is a change to the originally scheduled date of Wednesday 6th March due to staff availability.*

Housepoint Totals this Week

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

Chequers	Claydon	Hughenden	Waddesdon
6403	6416	6401	6476

Year 5 won the Tidy Award for this week and Alex in Year 6 was the recipient of the Values Award.

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...

Why did the toilet roll roll down the hill?

To get to the bottom!

Felicity in Year 1



Why did the hedgehog cross the road?

To go and see his flat mate!

Josh in Year 5

An Update from The Friends

On Monday we raised £50 from the Secondhand Uniform Sale and can also announce that £108.32 was made from the Treat Sale last Friday! Thank you to all parents for supporting these events and also anyone who helped to run the stalls.



Thanks to our fundraising efforts (and your generous donations!), we have been able to support Science Week by funding the Planetarium, coaches for the Year 2 and 3 trip to Science Oxford as well as other important resources for Science Week. It is events like these that we work so hard for with running fundraising events, so please continue to support us for the benefit of both your children and the school.

Reminder – If you have any unwanted good quality gifts for a raffle which is being held during the Family Quiz Night on Friday 26th April then please bring these to the School Office or hand them to a member of the Friends Committee.

Communications Home

Year 2 and 3: Year 2 & 3 Science Oxford Trip

Year 6: Pizza Making

Individuals: Anxiety Workshop

Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2023/24

ASC Users: ASC 2023/24

Year 6 Individuals: River Dart 2024 – Payment 4 (*deadline 29th March 2024*)

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

Date	Time	Event
Tue 5 th Mar	2pm	Parent Forum in Meeting Room (<i>class reps or stand-ins welcome</i>)
Thu 7 th Mar	9.30am	SEN Coffee Morning – Anxiety
Thu 7 th Mar		World Book Day
Mon 11 th Mar	9-10am	Bikeability: Balance (R & Y1)
	10.30am-12.30pm	Bikeability: Level 2 (Y5 & Y6) – Group A & B (Playground)
	1-3pm	Bikeability: Level 1 (Y3 & Y4)
Tue 12 th Mar	9-10am	Bikeability: Balance (R & Y1)
	10.30am-12.30pm	Bikeability: Level 2 (Y5 & Y6) – Group A (Road)
	1-3pm	Bikeability: Level 2 (Y5 & Y6) – Group B (Road)
Wed 13 th Mar	9-10am	Bikeability: Balance (R & Y1)
	10.30am-12.30pm	Bikeability: Level 2 (Y5 & Y6) – Group A (Road)
	1-3pm	Bikeability: Level 2 (Y5 & Y6) – Group B (Road)
Thu 14 th Mar	9-10am	Bikeability: Balance (R & Y1)
	10.30am-12.30pm	Bikeability: Level 2 (Y5 & Y6) – Group A (Road)
	1-3pm	Bikeability: Level 2 (Y5 & Y6) – Group B (Road)
Fri 15 th Mar		Red Nose Day for Comic Relief (Mufti Day)
Sat 16 th Mar		AVPSAA KS2 Cross Country at Ascott House, Wing
Tue 26th Mar	2pm	Year 3 and 4 Musical Extravaganza (Performance 1)
Wed 27th Mar	6pm	Year 3 and 4 Musical Extravaganza (Performance 2)

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.