



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 6th September

Innovate

Thank you for your patience this week and over the summer whilst we sort out some initial teething problems with our new school meal providers. We have thankfully not had any disruption to food service this week as a result of the technical issues and the feedback we've had so far from pupils and staff is that the food has been of a very good quality.

Menus have been uploaded to our [school website](#) if you would like a reminder of what is on offer or if you have not already signed up to school meals yet and would like to see what is available. If you have not yet received an activation link and would like to gain access to the Innovate site for ordering meals, please email primary@impactfood.co.uk. Meal orders can be placed up until 11.55on on Saturday night.

Meet the Teacher

On **Tuesday 17th September** we will be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon from 3.30-5pm for parents and carers to come in and see their child's new classroom and meet with their new teacher. No books will be shared at this meeting as they will be available later in the term for parents evening.

Year 4 Swimming

Swimming lessons will start next week for our Year 4 class. A letter for this will be sent out on Monday and payment to cover our coach costs will be added to School Gateway early next week also. On Wednesdays children will need to bring a swimming costume or shorts into school and a towel. Please note all children will require a swimming hat. Goggles may be worn if a consent form is signed for this (this will be attached to the letter next week).

Contacting the Office

As a reminder to parents, 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, however during busy times such as the start and end of term this may be up to 5 days. For any emergencies please telephone the School Office on 01296 612371.

If your child is absent please report this via our Absence Line which is 01296 612371 – Option 1. Alternatively you may email your child's reason for absence to office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk. Please ensure you have contacted the School Office before 9am if your child is absent so that registers can be completed in a timely manner. If you have a planned absence due to a medical appointment, please notify the School Office as soon as possible

and send evidence of the appointment where applicable e.g. hospital letter or doctor/dental appointment. Screenshots are acceptable if you do not have a paper copy.

Mr Charlton

As we start the new term we are also saying a sad farewell to Mr Charlton. After being at the school for nearly 10 years he has made the decision to retire and spend more time with his family. He has given so much to the school with his care and attention to everything we do on site. He has been here in all weathers, at all times of the day and sometimes the night. He has been a constant positive member of the team and while we know his retirement is well deserved we will undoubtedly miss him around the building.

It has been a pleasure to have such a talented member of the team helping us all.

Thank you Mr Charlton!

River Dart – Year 6

For Year 6 parents there will be a talk regarding the River Dart trip which is due to take place in May. This will be delivered via Zoom at 5.30pm on Wednesday 25th September. A link will be sent to parents closer to the time.

Summer Reading Challenge

Mrs Tong would like to say a big thank you to all the children and parents who have been completing the Summer Reading Challenge. There are lots of house points and certificates to be awarded shortly!

Autumn Term Dates

Please find attached a list of upcoming dates for the autumn term. We hope this will be useful for you to have a note of and will let you know throughout the term when there are further details to be shared regarding these.

Healthcare Plans

This afternoon, Medical Condition Update forms have been sent out to all children who have previously had a Healthcare Plan with the school. Please can we ask that all parents complete the Medical Condition Update (even if your child no longer has a condition) so that we can update our records? If your child is still in need of medication in school then please complete the Healthcare Plan which was also sent out this afternoon and return it to the School Office as soon as possible.

Trophies

This year we are requesting that trophies are returned to the School Office as soon as possible so that they can be displayed in a new trophy cabinet. If your child received a trophy at our end of term Prizegiving Ceremony then please can we ask that this is return to the School Office next week. Thank you.

Pupil Premium

If you think your child may be eligible for Pupil Premium funding at school, please complete the attached form and return it in confidence to the School Office.

No homework this week

There has been no homework issued this week so that the children have the weekend to recover from their first week back at school! Homework will be given out next Thursday and as usual it will need to be completed and handed in by the following Tuesday.

Nut Free Reminder

Please remember that we are a nut-free school as we have a number of children with life-threatening allergies. Please refrain from adding any snacks to your child's lunchbox which may include nuts. This includes chocolate spread sandwiches, Kinder Bueno bars or cereal bars.

Football Trials

Next Thursday Mr Lack will be holding football trials for Years 5 and 6. This will be held from 3.30-4.15pm on Thursday 12th September. Please ensure your child brings into school a football kit (or PE kit), boots and shin pads. After the trials have been held, Football Club will be held on Thursdays from 3.30-4.15pm.

Lost Property

We have accumulated a lot of lost property and it is only the first week back! Anything named will make its way back to class. Anything unnamed and unclaimed will either be donated to The Friends for their Used Uniform website, or taken to a local recycling centre. Please can we again remind parents to label ALL clothes, bottles and lunchboxes so we can try and reduce the amount of unnamed lost property that builds up every term.

Requests from After School Club

Our After School Club has asked for donations of any dollhouses and toy cars for children to play with. We are fully stocked with games but if you have either of these items then please get in touch!

The Friends of SMCS

AGM - Wednesday 18th September, 7:15pm, in school

Please join us for our AGM where we will be sharing what we achieved last year and outlining our hopes for the year ahead. There is also a chance for you to ask us questions. We will also be looking to make a few small changes to our constitution, but in order for us to do this we need to have at least 25 members of the association in attendance to conduct a vote to make these changes, so we really do need your support at this event. The constitution can be found in the [Friends](#) section of the school website. The meeting will not last more than an hour (hopefully only 45minutes) and attendance at the meeting DOES NOT commit you to being part of the Friends.



Shop with Asda?

Raise £1 plus 0.5% of every shop for the school FREE!

Easy as 1, 2, 3...

- 1 Open your Asda rewards app
- 2 Tap 'Cashpot for Schools'
- 3 Search for and select 'Stoke Mandeville Combined School'

If you would like to get more involved in raising money for the school which goes towards funding trips, iPads, play equipment and other treats for the children, then please email friends@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk to introduce yourself. Whether you can help on Treat Days, assist with marketing our events or even be an extra person at meetings to bring new fundraising ideas to the table, everybody is welcome!

WE'D LOVE TO GIVE YOU A

HUGE THANK YOU

FROM

WITH YOUR HELP WE RAISED

£8345.66

IN 2023/2024

CHRISTMAS FAYRE £1956.65	SUMMER FAYRE £2353.71
TREAT SALES £1036.85	ADVENT RAFFLE £351.40
DISCO & STOKE FEST £675.24	EASTER RAFFLE £262
VALE LOTTERY £243	STEVE'S RIDGEWAY CHALLENGE £601
SECOND HAND UNIFORM £257.72	EASY FUNDRAISING £42.79
	SPORTS DAY £104
	QUIZ NIGHT £298.50
	CLOTHING COLLECTION £182.80

♥ THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT ♥

The Friends of SMCS

Chairperson: Vanessa Swain

Secretary: Alex Griffiths

Treasurers: Amy Bailey and Chris Telfer

Communications Home

Years 5 & 6 – Dance Club 2024 – Sign Up Sheet

Years 2 to 4 – Premier Gymnastics – Bookings live tonight 7pm

Whole school – Message from Innovate

Whole school – Welcome back – Reminders

Whole school – Hot School Lunches – Links outstanding

Year 6 – Message for Year 6 parents

Year 6 – Secondary Transfer Test – Opt out deadline

Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2024 - 2025

ASC Users: ASC 2024 - 25

Year 5 & 6: Dance Club 2024 – Sign Up Sheet

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

Date	Time	Event
Tue 10 Sep		PRACTICE Secondary Transfer Test (Year 6)
Tue 10 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	Premier Gymnastics sessions start (booked children only in Years 2-4)
Wed 11 Sep		Year 4 Swimming starts
Thu 12 Sep		Secondary Transfer Test (Year 6)
Fri 13 Sep		iRock Starts (signed up pupils only)
Mon 16 Sep	3.20-4.15pm	School netball club with Miss Telfer starts
Tue 17 Sep	3.30-5pm	Meet the Teacher Event
Wed 18 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	ZKT Dance sessions start (booked children only in Years 5-6)
Wed 18 Sep	7.15pm (for 7.30pm start)	Friends of SMCS AGM (School Hall)
Thu 19 Sep	3.20-4.15pm	Football trials with Mr Lack (Years 5 and 6)
W/C Mon 23 Sep		Cycle to School Week
Wed 25 Sep		School Photographs (Individual and Siblings)
Wed 25 Sep	5.30pm	River Dart Talk via Zoom for Year 6

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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