



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 13th September

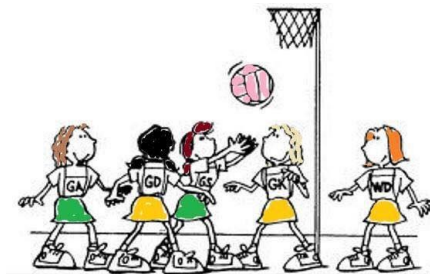
Meet the Teacher

As a reminder we are holding a 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon on Tuesday 17th September from 3.30-5pm for all classes. This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and see where they sit in class. There will not be books available to see at this stage as these will be put out for our Book Look in

October. Please note this is not an opportunity to talk about your child's progress or attitudes to learning as this will be discussed during Parents Evening in October. If you have anything urgent you wish to discuss with your child's teacher before Parents Evening then please request a meeting via email to the School Office office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk.



REMINDER: In the past we have had cause to be concerned that some parents have tried to take photos of the classroom environment to get a full class list of children and their birthdays. Please be reminded that we do not allow mobile phone use in school and that no photographs should be taken of the classroom displays or any children. Thank you.



Netball - Mondays

Netball Club is now open for you to sign your child up on School Gateway if they are in Year 5 or 6. Sessions will be taking place on Mondays from 3.30-4.30pm. Please note that sessions will finish at 4.15pm later in the term when the clocks change due to light conditions, and we will be in touch later in the term to let you know when this time change will take effect.

Children will need to wear either school PE kit or bring in their own sporting kit. Miss Telfer has asked for children to bring tracksuit bottoms or leggings to wear when they have finished the session if they are not already wearing them to practice. Please also ensure they bring a named water bottle.

Sessions will start from this **Monday 16th September** if your child has been signed up on School Gateway. Please sign up your child to take part on School Gateway. If your child is not attending for any reason then please let the School Office know so that we are not looking for them at the end of the day.

Extracurricular Clubs

We recognise it may have been a surprise to many of you that we have had to make the difficult decision to start charging for clubs run by external providers. However, by asking for this small charge, we are

confident we will be able to keep a broad range of opportunities available for children and for which the school will continue to subsidise.

For those children signed up to participate in clubs run by external providers (e.g. Premier Gymnastics, ZKT Dance, Sports Factor) please can we request that these payments are made as soon as possible in order for us to pay their invoices. If you do not make payment by the deadline then your child may lose their place. A reminder of these deadlines can be found below under 'Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway'.

iRock

iRock is BACK! If your child would like to take part and join one of our existing bands then there are spaces still available. Please go to www.irockschool.com to enrol or find out more.

Uniform Stickers

There is a HUGE amount of lost property that is unnamed in our front entrance. Please can we again plead with parents to label all items of clothing, either with a laundry marker or name label.

As a reminder we have a fundraising arrangement with Stikins and Stamptastic whereby The Friends of SMCS can earn vital funds for every set of stickers or name stamps that are purchased!

Stamptastic - Purchase name stamps through [Stamptastic](#) (Put in this code at checkout to earn us commission: HP225XA)

Stikins - Purchase name stickers through [Stikins](#) (Put in this code at checkout to earn us commission: 22409)

Can you help Pollyanna Preschool?

We have been asked by Pollyanna Preschool to share with parents the sad news that their garden was unfortunately vandalised over the summer holidays. Further information can be found in a newspaper article published in the Bucks Herald:

<https://www.bucksherald.co.uk/education/childrens-charity-in-aylesbury-launches-fundraiser-after-its-facilities-were-vandalised-4779506>

This has been disheartening for both the children and the staff, as these resources are essential to the children's play and learning experience. If you think you can help in another way then please get in touch with Pollyanna Preschool to see if there is anything you are able to provide them with.



Travelwise Week

Next week we will be promoting 'TravelWise Week' at Stoke Mandeville Combined School. This is a week-long travel challenge where children (and parents!) are challenged to travel more wisely. Children should have brought further information and 'Travel Pledges' home with them to complete over the weekend and return to school on Monday. Help us to achieve a Platinum Travel Award this year and promote sustainable travel to and from school!



ATTENTION ASDA and Sainsburys Shoppers!

There are currently two fantastic reward schemes that both shops offer which can benefit our school and children.



ASDA Cashpot for Schools

ASDA has recently launched a 'Cashpot for Schools' campaign, where they will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your nominated Primary School. To help raise funds for Stoke Mandeville Combined, simply follow the instructions on the attached image. Every time somebody opts in to the scheme, ASDA will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot - so even if you don't shop at Asda, just signing up to the app will help us!

For further information please check out their dedicated webpage for Cashpot for Schools

<https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>



Sainsburys - My School Fund

This is completely free to sign up and both you and Stoke Mandeville Combined will receive eGift cards to be used at participating retailers based on a percentage of your spend.

Step 1: Visit myschoolfund.org to sign up for free and link to Stoke Mandeville Combined School (HP22 5XA) - Unique Reference No: 3390

Step 2: Register your credit/debit card to your account

Step 3: Spend at participating retailers

Step 4: Start receiving your eGift cards!

If you currently shop at either of these retailers then we'd really appreciate it if you can sign up to these reward schemes which will give us additional funds to purchase equipment for the children.

Team Kit Sponsorship

If you think you can assist with sponsoring some new team kit for the school, or know any other local businesses who may be interested, then please get in touch with Mrs Stewart via the School Office. This can be a full or partial sponsorship and we would be happy to consider any offers!



Parking

Our taxi drivers have asked us to remind parents not to park near the exit gates as they are having trouble with entering and leaving the school site. Please allow adequate room for them to manouvre and keep clear when they are arriving or departing school. Thank you.

After School Club

Please can we remind parents that ASC must be booked in advance and is not a last minute option due to us needing to have the correct number of staff in place. If you know in advance that you are going to be late to collect your child, then please don't leave it until 3.20pm to call as this is a very busy time in the office and we have difficulty in getting hold of the class to make them aware as they have already left the classroom for the school playground.

Signing Choir

Signing Choir will be starting again this Thursday for children in Years 3 to 6 until Christmas. In the spring term from Thursday 9th January, children in Years 1 and 4 will then have the opportunity to take part as Years 5 and 6 will be rehearsing for Young Voices (further details about this to follow from Mrs Tong!). In the summer term from Thursday 1st May, Years 1 to 6 will be able to take part together. There is no formal sign up needed for this as it takes place during school lunchtimes.

Contacting the School Office

If you have a query then please email this to the office where possible (office@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk). If you have an urgent message for the afternoon e.g. a change to collection arrangements, then please call the School Office on 01296 612371 if you are notifying us after 1pm so that we can ensure that messages are delivered in time.

Open Mic Musical Evening at St Mary's Church

Next **Saturday 21st September**, St Mary's Church will be holding an Open Mic Musical Evening from 7-9pm. The aim of the event, apart from raising much needed funds for repairs, particularly to the bells, is to give local adults and children the chance to demonstrate their musical talents; playing instruments or singing to a smallish audience. If you would like to sign up to take part then please email Ellen Cowley ellen.cowley1@ntlworld.com.

Hot Chocolate's Joke of the Week

Every week we bring you the very finest jokes and riddles 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 entry is...

What did the first hat say to the second hat?

I'll fall behind but you go on ahead

Noah in Year 3

Why did the cheese family like to go on holiday to Blackpool?

To go and see the 'hallouminations'

Evie in Year 6



The Friends of SMCS

REMINDER: Friends of SMCS AGM

Wednesday 18th September - 7.15pm arrival for 7.30pm start

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.

If you are unable to attend in person then please feel free to join us via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86956249119?pwd=cdJ04nodc7F6ioo1AXnBV0XFPZHf8W.1>

Meeting ID: 869 5624 9119

Passcode: s8Ttro

The Friends of SMCS

Chairperson: Vanessa Swain

Secretary: Alex Griffiths

Treasurers: Amy Bailey and Chris Telfer

Housepoint Totals this Week

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

Chequers	Claydon	Hughenden	Waddesdon
945	833	915	1023

Well done also to Year 6 who won the Tidy Award for this week and to Lucy in Year 6 who was the recipient of the Values Cup!

Communications Home

Whole School: School Crossing Patroller

Whole School: Attention ASDA and Sainsburys Shoppers!

Year 4: Year 4 Swimming – Autumn Term 2024

Years 5 & 6: Football Trials – Thursday 19th September

Years 5 & 6: Football Trials (Years 5-6 Only)

Years 5 & 6: Netball Club 2024-25

Individuals from Years 5 & 6: ZKT Dance – Payments Set Up

Individuals from Years 2 to 4: Premier Gymnastics – Payments Set Up

Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2024 - 2025

ASC Users: ASC 2024 – 25

Year 4: Swimming – Autumn Term 2024 (payment deadline 18/9/24)

Year 5 & 6: Years 5 & 6 – Football Try-Outs (sign-up deadline 19/9/24)

Year 5 & 6: Years 5 & 6 – Netball Club 2024-25 (sign-up deadline 23/9/24)

Individuals from Years 2 to 4: Premier Gymnastics – Autumn Term 2024 (payment deadline 20/9/24)

Individuals from Years 5 & 6: ZKT Street Dance - Autumn 2024 (payment deadline 20/9/24)

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

Date	Time	Event
W/C Mon 16 Sep		TravelWise Week
Mon 16 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	School netball club with Miss Telfer starts
Tue 17 Sep	3.30-5pm	Meet the Teacher Event (<i>all years from Rec to Year 6</i>)
Wed 18 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	ZKT Dance sessions start (booked children only in Years 5-6)
Wed 18 Sep	7.15pm (<i>for 7.30pm start</i>)	Friends of SMCS AGM (School Hall) <i>Zoom link available in Friends of SMCS news item above</i>
Wed 18 Sep	3.20-4.20pm	Sports Factor Multi-Skills sessions to start (booked children only in Years 1-2)
Thu 19 Sep	3.20-4.20pm	Sports Factor Multi-Skills sessions to start (booked children only in Years 3-4)
Thu 19 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	Football trials with Mr Lack (signed up children in Years 5-6)
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



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 and this may be extended to 5 days during particularly busy times. For all urgent queries please telephone the School Office.