



# Stoke Mandeville Combined School

*Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together*

*Weekly Update Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September*

## **Pupil Leadership School Elections**

Today we have been fortunate enough for the school community to elect the school pupil leadership team. This was organised as a democratic process and only 2 votes could be cast for the leadership team. This did not take gender as the priority but rather the recognition of personal attributes which meet the criteria for the best candidates for the roles available.



This year we have been fortunate enough to be able to elect 6 pupils to the leadership team. Within this we have 2 head girls, 2 deputy head boys and 2 deputy head girls. We are very proud of the efforts of the children who have stood for election and know we have a very positive team to support the work of the school this coming year

We are delighted to be able to share with you the following pupils who have been selected for these roles of responsibility:

<b>Head Girls</b> Rosie and Edie	
<b>Deputy Head Boys</b> Phillip and Riley	<b>Deputy Head Girls</b> Tabitha and Layla

The following House Captains have been selected from Year 6:

	<b>House Captain</b>	<b>Vice House Captain</b>
Chequers	Thanula	Micah and Lily
Claydon	Harley	Lana and Muhammad
Hughenden	Abigail	Josh and Kim
Waddesdon	Lucy	Kisha and Ruby

The following Junior Road Safety Officers were elected from the Year 6 pupils:



Lily-Sue	James
Bella	Romi

JRSOs help promote road safety issues within the school and local community and will be working with Miss Telfer to help improve road safety and create better parking awareness around the school site.

Democracy is an important value at our school and pupils are given the opportunity to have a voice through the School Council. The election of School Council members is based on pupil votes after each child putting themselves forward has spoken to their classmates about why they would like to be a representative. We are happy to announce that the following representatives for this year are:

<b>Year 1</b>	Leo and Vale
<b>Year 2</b>	Edith and Vinnie
<b>Year 3</b>	Dexter and Hattie
<b>Year 4</b>	Ahmad and Molly
<b>Year 5</b>	Florence and Georgi

Our Year 6 representatives are made up of our Pupil Leadership Team.

### School Photographs

Don't forget that on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September** we have Tempest coming in to take school photographs. This will be for individuals and siblings, and class/team photos will be taken in the spring term. As Year 4 will be swimming on Wednesday morning we will ensure they have their photographs taken first.

### Cycle To School Week is coming!

Get pedal ready, Cycle To School Week is this coming Monday! Here's your C2SW Checklist:

-  Cycle checked and road ready
-  Route to school planned
-  Bikeability skills at the ready
- Pedal pledge made by going to <https://www.bikeability.org.uk/cycletoschoolweek/>



You're ready to ride! Get involved from 23-27 September at [cycletoschoolweek.com](https://www.cycletoschoolweek.com).

As an added bonus next week, Miss Telfer will be tying a token to a few lucky bikes or scooters at random each day. Your child can then come to the School Office to exchange the token for a special 'Cycle to School Week' prize!

## Park Away Day

To continue our excellent work and in working towards regaining our 'Platinum Travel Plan' status we will be running our next 'Park Away Day' this coming **Friday 27th September**.



On this day there will be no parking at the front of the school. Children and parents (or just children if you choose to drop off your child) can meet school staff at Eskdale Road Community Centre, The Bull public house or at the allotment parking area on Lower Road where the Walking Bus will depart at 8.20am and 8.40am (no staff will be left at the drop-off points after the second departure).

We will then be holding our 'Park Away Day' on the last Friday of every month which we hope will be a huge success to help encourage more families to 'Park and Stride' to school and ease congestion in the layby and nearby roads.

We are still in urgent need of adult helpers to meet at the drop off points and help to escort the children to school. We ideally need two adult helpers for each walking group so if you can assist then please email the School Office as soon as possible marking your email '**FAO Miss Telfer – Walking School Bus**'.

## Outstanding Payments

If your child attends an afterschool club or swimming lessons then please check your School Gateway account to see if you have a payment outstanding. We have a large number of payments still waiting to be made, and as a result have had to extend the payment options on these. Please check the section below titled 'Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway' for further details of payments currently open to parents and the new payment deadlines. As always if you are having any difficulty with paying these then please contact the school in confidence for us to discuss an alternative payment plan.

## Front Railings and Play Equipment

Please can we remind parents not to let their children play on the railings outside the School Office, or on the play equipment at the end of the day on the playground. The play area is unsupervised by staff during this time and we want to avoid any unnecessary accidents from happening. Thank you.

## Staff-Led Clubs

For children attending our teacher-led afterschool sports clubs (Netball and Football), we wanted to remind parents of our zero-tolerance policy on unacceptable behaviour, consistent disruptive attitude or any type of unkind conduct. This will not be deemed acceptable and the offending people will no longer be invited to attend. Netball and football training is a privilege, and the same unacceptable behaviour rule extends to the classroom



(Miss Telfer and Mr Lack will be staying in touch with both Year 5 and Year 6 teachers and TA's). This has been explained to the children at trials but they would appreciate it being reinforced by parents and guardians. Thank you for your support with this.

## **Zones of Regulation**

We will be running a parent information session on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** at 2pm to explain the Zones of Regulation in further detail. All parents are invited!

The aim of the session is to make sure that parents understand the terms that we use in school to deal with emotions. This strategy was introduced at the end of last year so now we are looking to embed it more thoroughly. We hope that parents can use the same strategies at home, to help their children learn to name, understand and ultimately deal with their own emotions. We have 4 zones that we use in school to divide our emotions into groups. We then use different strategies to help us deal with our emotions, depending on the zone e.g. if I am feeling tired I will probably need some fresh air or to stand up and move myself a little. These strategies are used throughout the school from Reception to Year 6.

The session will be for about 45 minutes with time afterwards to discuss issues raised and ask further questions. For further information please contact Ms Hayden via the School Office.

## **ASC Cancellation Reminder**

If your child has been signed up to an after school club and you no longer wish for them to attend a pre-booked ASC session, please ensure you put this in writing to the School Office via email. We are unable to make the assumption that you no longer require the place as some of our pupils attend ASC after their sports club has finished.

Also if applying for a leave of absence for medical or other reasons, please ensure that you let us know if there is an ASC session that needs cancelling as these are run on two systems which do not automatically sync. As a reminder we must have at least 48 hours notice of any ASC cancellations in order for a refund to be given.

## **Young Voices**

This week Mrs Tong started the Young Voices choir for Years 5 and 6. Permission slips for this trip have also been given out in class and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If your child would like to join then this is held on a Monday lunchtime. Children can also be in the signing choir if they wish as this is held on Thursday lunchtimes.

## **Maternity Cover – Cleaner**

We have a cleaning position open for maternity cover which is due to start after October half term. If you know of anyone who would be interested in assisting us with this then please get in touch with Mrs Stewart via the School Office for further details. The position is to cover 2 hours per day which can be before or after school.

## 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 entries are...



### Why was the skeleton scared to go to the movies?

Because he had no guts!

*Dexter in Year 3*

### Have you heard the joke about the sloth crossing the road?

It'll take me too long to tell you!

*Jamie in Year 5*

### What fish swims at night?

A starfish!

*Esme in Year 3*

### What did the policeman say to his belly?

You're under a-vest!

*Vinnie in Year 2*

## An Update from The Friends of SMCS



Firstly, a huge thank you to all the parents who joined us for our AGM this week. We had a record turnout and this enabled us to have a valid vote on the constitution. We also had a good number of parents volunteer to be part of the committee, which we are both grateful for and excited about. Hopefully with a larger team we will have some fresh new ideas. We also voted in our named committee roles:

**Chair** - Vanessa Swain

**Vice Chair** - Sal Floyd

**Secretary** - Alex Griffiths

**Treasurer** - Amy Bailey

**Vice Treasurer** - Chris Telfer

The Chair's report is attached to the newsletter if you would like to read it.

After the AGM we held our first meeting of the academic year and started planning lots of events for the coming months. Here is a brief outline of some of the events to come.

**Bag2School Collection** - An easy way to help us to raise money and a good excuse to have a clear out of your wardrobes! We have a collection booked for Monday 14th October. Please drop off your good quality clothes (and shoes and accessories) on the village green by 9am on the day. There is no limit to the number of bags we can have so please do tell friends and family.

**Family Bingo Night** - On Friday 18th October we will be holding another Bingo Night. Doors will open at 5:30pm, with eyes down at 5:45pm. You are welcome to bring your own food and drink. Please email us if you would like to book a table. See attached poster for more details.

**Winter Shopping Evening - Friday 15th November, 5:30-7:30pm** - We felt that this year we would have a little shake up of our Christmas events and will begin the festivities with a winter shopping evening. Further details will be coming. If you would be interested in having a stall at this event please do get in contact ([friends@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:friends@stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk))

**Brunch with Father Christmas** - watch this space for further updates on this exciting new event! We will be asking for donations of good quality second hand soft toys AFTER half term.

**Christmas Disco - Friday 13th December** - Get ready to party at our first disco of the year!

### Housepoint Totals this Week

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

Chequers	Claydon	Hughenden	Waddesdon
1914	1901	1902	1985

### Communications Home

**Whole school:** School Office

**Whole school:** Flu Vaccination – Consent letter

**Whole school:** Meet the Teacher Event - Today

**Individuals from Years 1 & 2:** Payment Set up – Sports Factor Y1&2 Multi-Skills – Autumn 1 2024

**Individuals from Years 3 & 4:** Payment Set up – Sports Factor Y3&4 Multi-Skills – Autumn 1 2024

**Year 6:** River Dart 2025 – Initial Letter

### Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

**MAC Users:** MAC 2024 - 2025

**ASC Users:** ASC 2024 – 25

**Year 4:** Swimming – Autumn Term 2024 (**extended to 27/9/24**)

**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 (**extended to 23/9/24**)

**Individuals from Years 5 & 6:** ZKT Street Dance - Autumn 2024 (extended to 23/9/24)

**Individuals from Years 1 & 2:** Sports Factor Y1&2 Multi-Skills – Autumn 1 2024 (payment deadline 27/9/24)

**Individuals from Year 3 & 4:** Sports Factor Y3&4 Multi-Skills – Autumn 1 2024 (payment deadline 27/9/24)

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

Date	Time	Event
W/C Mon 23 Sep		Cycle to School Week
Wed 25 Sep	Morning	School Photographs (Individual and Siblings)
Wed 25 Sep	5.30pm	River Dart Talk via Zoom for Year 6
Thu 26 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	Football Club with Mr Lack starts
Fri 27 Sep		Park Away Day
Wed 2 Oct		Flu Immunisations with School Nursing Team
Wed 2 Oct	2-2.45pm	Zones of Regulation Meeting – <i>all parents welcome</i>
Mon 7 Oct		Harvest Festival – Details to follow
Fri 11 Oct		Secondary Transfer Test Results Day (Year 6)
Mon 14 Oct	9am latest	Bag2School Charity Clothing Collection
Thu 17 Oct		Year 5 School Trip to Hazard Alley

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