



# Stoke Mandeville Combined School

*Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together*

*Weekly Update Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October*

## ModeShift Travel Award

This week Miss Telfer and her team of JRSOs were awarded with a 'Good Travel Plan' Award by Emma Jackson who is part of the Schools' Sustainable Travel Team. We're proud of this award and continue to work towards regaining our Platinum Travel Award again next year and we need your help to do this! The reason we have unfortunately lost our 'Platinum' status is due to the increase in journeys being made by car for the school run. We hope by running initiatives such as the Walking School Bus and encouraging walking, cycling, scooting and 'Parking and Striding', we can achieve our sustainable travel goal and be awarded with a 'Platinum Travel Plan' Award this time next year!



## Parking agreement with The Bell and The Bull

Earlier today an email was sent to say that parents could request a parking permit for parking at The Bell and The Bull in the mornings and afternoons. We've had an overwhelming response to this email and will need to get laminating a few more permits! We will be sending these home with children next week once we have a list of everyone who has responded.



## September Travel Tracker

This afternoon 141 September Wow badges were handed out by Miss Telfer and her JRSOs. These are awarded after checking the Travel Tracker where children complete a daily survey to say how they travelled to school. For those children who travel to school in a sustainable way e.g. walk, scoot, cycle or park and stride

2-3 times a week for a month, they will receive that month's Wow badge. Well done everyone!

## Zones of Regulation

Thank you to those who attended the Zones of Regulation information session with Ms Hayden this week. As a summary of what was covered, we have 4 zones that we use in school to divide our emotions into groups, which helps us to identify how we feel. 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 slides used during the session have now been uploaded to the website and can be found by clicking on the following link: <https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/handouts>.



## World Mental Health Day

On **Thursday 10th October** we will be celebrating World Mental Health Day! This year we want the children to understand that everyone has mental health, just as everyone has physical health and no one needs to be alone if they are struggling. To demonstrate this we are encouraging the children to wear a yellow accessory alongside their normal uniform so they can 'stand out and stand proud'.

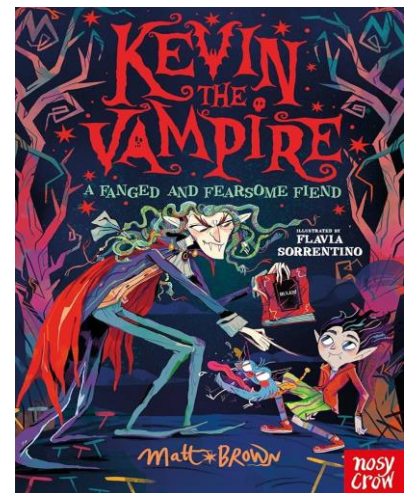
We are not asking for donations for this. Ideas of accessories include: socks, sweatbands, badges, ribbons, T-shirts, hairbands, laces, belts and stud earrings... although we are sure the children will think of a few more!

## Key Stage 2 Author Visit for Years 3 - 6

On **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October**, we are delighted to be welcoming author and TV presenter, Matt Brown, to Stoke Mandeville Combined School to speak with our KS2 classes. Matt is joining us to discuss his new book, 'Kevin the Vampire - A Fanged and Fearsome Fiend', and telling the children all about his exciting life in TV and becoming an author.

If you would like to pre-order a copy of Matt's book, ready to be signed and dedicated at school on the day, please click the link below and place your order through 'Our Bookshop – Tring'

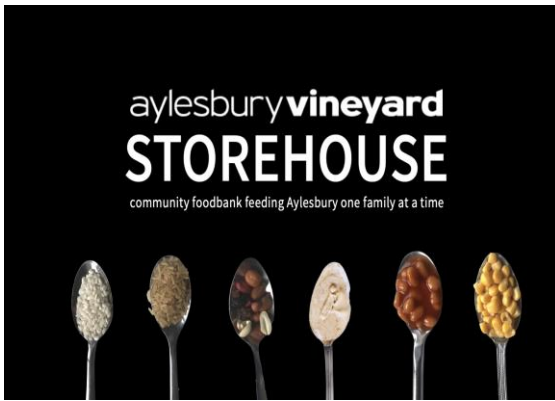
<https://www.ourbookshoptring.co.uk/product/kevin-the-vampire-a-fanged-and-fearsome-fiend/>



When purchasing, please be sure to include your child's name and class so that the books can be labelled up before the event. All orders will automatically be delivered free to the school in time for the event.

## Office Visits and Drop Offs

Please can we again remind parents to send their children in with everything they need at morning drop off including packed lunches, water bottles, swim kit, PE kit and afterschool sport kit. We are still having a lot of these items coming into the office in dribs and drabs which means a lot of unnecessary trips to classrooms to deliver them during busy times for the office! Thank you.



**REMINDER - Harvest Festival**

On **Monday 7th October**, we will be having our school Harvest Assembly. As part of this, we will be collecting donations for the Aylesbury Vineyard Storehouse. This is a local charity that supports people by supplying essentials, such as food, in times of need.

If you are able to contribute, please send your donations in with your child on **Monday 7th October**. We will be displaying our donations in the School Hall for the Harvest Festival. Thank you for your support.

Currently, the Storehouse is in particular need of the following items:


- UHT milk
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Instant noodles
- Tinned fruit
- Desserts (custard, angel delight, rice pudding)
- Spreads (jam, honey, marmalade etc)
- Microwaveable and normal rice

**Netball Reminder**

Please remind your child that they must bring either leggings or tracksuit bottoms to change into after Netball has ended (if they are not already in these). We want to ensure children don't cool down too quickly for their onward journey home, especially as the weather gets colder in the coming weeks.

**Online Safety**

If you've played or seen any online games from the past few years, you've probably noticed that almost every title of this kind has some kind of chat functionality. Whether allowing players to send


text messages to one another 

or letting them use their mics to chat together on voice 

if you're on a multiplayer game, chances are you can talk to your

fellow gamers, one way or another  .

Sadly, such a function comes with its fair share of risks – as is to be expected with a feature intended to connect gamers from around

the world  and it is immensely important for parents and educators to understand these concerns and help young players address them. This handy guide has been put together to, break down the most prevalent issues associated with in-game chat and to let you know how to keep youngsters as safe as possible if or when they're exposed to this feature.





## 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...



### Did you hear about the cheese factory explosion?

There was de-brie everywhere!

*Alfie in Year 5*

### Why does cheese look sane on a plate?

Because everything else is crackers!

*Florence in Year 5*

### Why did the golfer wear two pairs of pants?

In case he got a hole in one!

*Madiha in Year 3*

### What position does a ghost play in football?

The goulie!

*James in Year 4*

## Housepoint Totals this Week

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

Chequers	Claydon	Hughenden	Waddesdon
3555	3566	3572	3645

Well done also to Year 3 who won the Tidy Award for this week and to Georgia in Year 3 who was the recipient of the Values Cup!

## Communications Home

**Whole school:** Park and Stride

**Whole school:** REMINDER Zones of Regulation Information Session – Today

**Whole school:** REMINDER Flu Immunisations – Tomorrow

**Whole school:** Tempest Photographs

**Reception and Year 6:** Reception & Year 6 – Height and Weight Screening

**Year 2:** Year 2 – Popper the Reading Dog

**Year 3:** Skipping Rope Festival

**Years 3 to 6:** KS2 Author Visit – Matt Brown

**Year 5:** Year 5 Hazard Alley

**Year 6:** Letter from Mrs Stewart

**Year 6:** River Dart 2025 - Deposit

**Young Voices Choir:** FINAL REMINDER Young Voices 2025 – Audience Tickets & T-Shirts

**Young Voices Choir:** Young Voices – Copy of original letter

## Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2024-2025

ASC Users: ASC 2024-25

Year 2: Year 2 – Popper the Reading Dog (consent deadline 4/10/24)

Year 4: Swimming – Autumn Term 2024 (**extended to 11/10/24**)

Year 5: Hazard Alley – October 2024

Year 6: River Dart 2025 - Deposit

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

Date	Time	Event
Mon 7 Oct		Harvest Festival
<b>Wed 9 Oct</b>		<b>KS2 Visit by author Matt Brown</b>
<b>Wed 9 Oct</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Friends of SMCS Committee Meeting – all are welcome</b>
<b>Thu 10 Oct</b>		<b>World Mental Health Day – wear yellow accessories with normal school uniform</b>
<b>Thu 10 Oct</b>		<b>Skipping Rope Festival at The Mandeville School (Year 3 only)</b>
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
Thu 17 Oct	3.45-4.30pm	Phonics Information Session
<b>Fri 18 Oct</b>		<b>Show Racism the Red Card Day – wear red accessories with normal school uniform</b>
<b>Mon 21 Oct</b>	<b>AM</b>	<b>Reception &amp; Year 6 - Height and Weight Screening by School Nursing Team</b>

## 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@smcs.org.uk](mailto:office@smcs.org.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.*