



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 5th September

Welcome back to everyone after our summer break!

We have had an exciting couple of days in school with children getting to know their new classrooms and teachers, as well as being able to welcome our new hot school meal providers to Stoke Mandeville.

If you have not yet signed up for hot school meals with Stir Food (Swift Kitchen) and would like to, then please use the activation code that your child was sent home with at the end of term. If this has been mislaid then please email the School Office and a copy will be emailed to you on Monday. As a reminder please don't forget to 'Checkout' after placing your meal orders as this has been an issue for some parents this week resulting in no meals being ordered for their children.



If you experience any difficulties with the ordering process or have queries about allergens, then please contact Swift Kitchen directly on 0330 236 6859 and they will be happy to assist.



Medication in School

If your child has a new or existing condition and has the need for medication to be taken in school, then please collect a healthcare plan from the School Office to bring in together with the medication which should be in date, in its original packaging and clearly labelled with your child's name.

Please note that we are only able to administer prescription medication if it needs to be taken 4 times a day. Otherwise the expectation that medication will be taken in the morning, after school and before bedtime in line with our Managing Medicines policy.

Stanley Cups

As a reminder please can we ask that children do not bring Stanley Cups into school. These are susceptible to being knocked over and causing damage to schoolwork and carpets from the amount of water they hold! Children are able to refill normal size water bottles in their classrooms throughout the day if required.

PE Days

Please ensure your child brings in their PE kit at the start of the week so it is in school ready for PE lessons. Please find below a list of when PE days are timetabled for classes, however these can be subject to change on occasion:

Rec - Mon

Year 1 – Tue & Thu

Year 2 – Tue & Wed

Year 3 – Mon & Wed

Year 4 – Wed & Fri

Year 5 – Mon & Wed

Year 6 – Thu & Fri

Mr Lack needs help!!

If anyone has (or knows of) an outside rabbit hutch (preferably wood) that someone no longer needs, then he would be very grateful!

He is looking into an autumn term project that will hopefully excite the children greatly. Any suggestions or donations kindly received. Condition is not paramount but usable is preferable.



Contacting the School Office

Please can we remind parents to email the School Office where possible to give homework arrangements or update them on contact details etc. If you have an urgent message to give in the morning then please speak to your child's teacher at drop off or Office Staff directly. If you have a change to collection arrangements then these can be emailed up until 1pm, after which time we would recommend you calling the School Office on 01296 612371 to ensure the message can be delivered to class in time.

Homework

There has been no homework given this week. Further information will be coming out next week regarding how homework will be set for this year.

WE NEED YOU!

The Friends of SMCS play a vital role in supporting fundraising for many parts of the school. The Friends are now looking for a new Chairperson. This must be filled as without this role The Friends do not have a committee. The commitment includes attending meetings across the year and being part of the organisers for The Friends whole school events. Also you will meet with the school to discuss dates and plans ahead of sharing at meetings. You may already be doing much of this role by attending meetings.



You are cordially invited to our AGM*

*This gives you the opportunity to join a group of super friendly parents/carers who don't mind volunteering some time and energy at events & activities

Tuesday 30th September 2025

at 7pm

please email friends@smcs.org.uk if you'd like to attend

Make friends

Eat cake (sometimes)

Help us help your children!

If you would be interested in taking on this role or would like to find out more about what it entails then please email friends@smcs.org.uk and one of our committee members would be happy to talk you through it.

The Friends AGM has been scheduled for 7pm on Tuesday 30th September. All are welcome to attend (please email friends@smcs.org.uk to let them know if you be attending).

The Friends also have a Facebook group which is a useful source of information for upcoming school and fundraising events. Please [click here](#) to be taken to their group page which you can request to be a part of.

Communications Home

Reception: Reception 2025 – First and Second Week Timings

Year 3: Year 3 – Hot School Meals Update

Year 4: Year 4 Swimming

Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2025/26

ASC Users: ASC 2025/26

Year 4: Year 4 Swimming – Autumn Term 2025 (due 24/9/2025)

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

Date	Time	Event
Tue 9 Sep	AM	Year 6 – Practice 11+ Exam
Wed 10 Sep	AM	Year 4 – Swimming lessons to start
Thu 11 Sep	AM	Year 6 – 11+ Exam
Mon 15 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	Netball Club to start (<i>day to be confirmed</i>) – Years 5 & 6
Tue 16 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	Premier Gymnastics to start (<i>details to follow</i>) – Years 2 to 4
Wed 17 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	ZKT Dance to start (<i>details to follow</i>) – Years 5 & 6
Thu 18 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	Football trials (<i>details to follow</i>) – Years 5 & 6
Fri 19 Sep		Skipping Ninja Workshop (<i>details to follow</i>) All children to come to school in PE kit
Mon 22 Sep	AM	School Nursing Team: Flu Vaccinations
Wed 24 Sep	AM	School Photo Day: Individuals and siblings (Tempest)
Tue 30 Sep	7pm	The Friends of SMCS AGM (Meeting Room)

School Office

Opening hours: 8am to 3.40pm Monday to Friday

Email: 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.