



# Stoke Mandeville Combined School

*Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together*

## *Weekly Update Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February*

### **KS2 Gymnastics Competition**

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, Emily, Charlotte, Elsie, Madison, Georgia, Ivy and Isabelle from Year 3 and 4 and Freya, Molly, Caity, Emily, Katie, Keeley and Isla from Year 5 and 6 all went to the Guttman Centre to compete in a gymnastics competition. We competed on floor and vault. On floor we had to do a floor routine and a body management routine. On vault we got 1 practice and 2 chances to be judged. On floor and body management we also got to practice before the judges judged us. The scores were in! Year 3 and 4 came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools and Year 5 and 6 came 6<sup>th</sup>. We all had a lot of fun and would like to thank Miss Telfer, Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Danel for taking us to compete.

*Charlotte and Emily, Year 3*



### **Building Work**

You will have noticed there have been some builders on site starting to work on the cladding on the Library. Next week they are due to increase the amount of scaffolding to then complete a check and repaint of the Bell tower. Once this has been completed perhaps we can get back to being able to ring the bell at the end of the school day again!

This week we have also met with representatives from the Council and contractors who will be working on a remodel of the KS2 boys toilets. This is long overdue, but we are hopeful this will be completed within



3 weeks. It does mean for the 2 weeks after half term that KS2 boys will need to use KS1 toilets which all children will be made aware of. We will continue to campaign to have the KS2 girls also refurbished before the end of this academic year.



### Djembe Drumming Workshops

On Wednesday, all of the children took part in an exciting drumming workshop funded by the school. 'Hartbeats' visited our school, bringing at least 50 different djembe drums with them. All the children from Reception to Year 6 were able to take part in a workshop where they learned to mimic rhythmic patterns and played as part of a class group. The drumming teachers commented on how incredibly focussed and well-behaved all the children were! It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience and the staff had fun joining in too.

### REMINDER No Netball

This is a reminder that on our first day back to school (**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**) there will be no Netball Club. Netball will continue from 2<sup>nd</sup> March onwards.

### Food ordering

Please can we encourage as many parents as possible not to rely on ordering their child's food on the day that they require it and to instead order the night before wherever possible. If you need to order on the day for any reason then please can this be done by 9am at the latest in order to give the kitchen enough notice to prepare the food and deliver it to school. All menus are on the SwiftKitchen app (including theme days) up until the Easter break so can be ordered all at once to save you time.



### Year 2 and 3 Science Oxford Trip

Please ensure that you cancel your child's meal selection with Stir Food for this date (**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**) as all Year 2 and Year 3 children will need to bring a packed lunch with them on the day.

### Living Streets WOW Badge Design

This week an email was sent to all parents regarding a WOW Badge Design Competition for pupils.

This year's theme is **Walk the Senses** – Living Streets want you to show them what you see, hear, smell, taste or feel as you walk or wheel to school! Have you spotted a fluffy cloud in the sky or a cute dog passing by? Maybe you like the sound of feet walking. Or do you like the smell of flowers or



wild garlic on the journey to school? Maybe it's the taste of your favourite yummy snack or it could be feeling the rain on your skin. Whatever makes you happy, grab your crayons or pencils and draw it!

The badge competition deadline for our school will be **Tuesday 3rd March**. If you do not have a printer at home then a paper copies can be requested from the School Office.

### **River Dart 2026 – Payment 3**

This is a gentle reminder that the third instalment for children going on the River Dart residential is due by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February**.

### **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! The entries from last week and this week are...



#### **Last Week...**

#### **What did they say when the burger ran away?**

Wow that's fast food

*Evangeline in Year 1*

#### **What do you call a £1000 door?**

A grand entrance

*Jack in Year 6*

#### **What do you get if you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?**

A hot cross bunny

*Isla in Year 4*

#### **This Week...**

#### **Why are fishes so smart?**

They live in schools!

*Georgia in Year 4*

#### **What's red and bad for your teeth?**

A house brick

*Elowyn in Year 1*

#### **Why did the fish go to the bank?**

To get his goldfish

*Sebastian in Year 5*

### How do fish know the weight of things?

They have scales on their back

*Freddie in Year 2*

### What's orange and sounds like a parrot?

A carrot

*Lillie-Grace in Year 3*

### Where do snow leopards sleep?

Mount Ever Rest

*Lillie-Grace in Year 3*

### Housepoint Totals This Week

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

<b>Chequers</b>	<b>Claydon</b>	<b>Hughenden</b>	<b>Waddesdon</b>
5639	5634	5653	5696

The Values Award was given to Max in Year 5 and the Tidy Award went to Year 4.

### Communications Home

Whole school: Book Looks – Today and Tomorrow

Whole school: REMINDER – MHST Coffee Morning

Whole school: Living Streets WOW Badge Design

Year 2 & 3: Y2 & Y3 Science Oxford Centre Trip

Year 5: Hazard Alley – March 2026

Individuals: Parents Evening – Video Calls

### Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

**MAC Users:** MAC 2025/26

**ASC Users:** ASC 2025/26

**Year 2 & 3:** Y2 & Y3 Science Oxford Centre Trip (*deadline 27/02/2026*)

**Year 4:** Year 4 Swimming – Spring Term 2026 (*deadline 14/02/2026*)

**Year 5:** Hazard Alley – March 2026 (*deadline 27/02/2026*)

**Year 6 Residential:** River Dart 2026 – Payment 3 (*deadline 27/02/2026*)

**Year 6 Residential:** River Dart 2026 – Payment 4 (*deadline 27/03/2026*)

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

Date	Time	Event
Mon 23 Feb		Spring 2 term starts
Mon 23 Feb		Stir Food Theme Day: Lunar New Year
Mon 23 Feb		Children from uniformed organisations ( <i>Rainbows, Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Guides</i> ) to come to school wearing their sash or full uniform in recognition of World Thinking Day (22 Feb)

Mon 23 Feb		No Netball Club
Thu 26 Feb		No Football Club
Fri 27 Feb		Park Away Day
Tue 3 Mar	9-10am	Reading Open Morning ( <i>information to follow</i> )
Wed 4 Mar		Year 5 Trip to Hazard Alley
Thu 5 Mar		World Book Day
Thu 5 Mar		Stir Food Theme Day: World Book Day
Thu 5 Mar	3.15pm	Friends Treat Sale: Popcorn and Candyfloss
Sat 7 Mar	5.30pm Doors open	Friends Quiz Night

### **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.*