



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 6th March

World Book Day

On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day at Stoke Mandeville Combined School. We saw some fantastic costumes and were delighted to see so many exciting new books being shared by the children.

Next week we will be putting together an album of photographs taken during lessons which will be available in our [School Photo Gallery](#).



Reading Open Morning

Thank you to the parents who attended our Reading Open Morning this week and for supporting the sharing of how we are working to foster a love of reading across the school. Every class was fortunate enough to have some parents visit and be involved with the sessions. A huge thank you also goes to our English Leads for their work on the Reading Open Morning this week.

British Science week starts today!

From Monday, the whole school will become curious scientists, asking and solving questions throughout the week, on a range of scientific topics. Many classes will be visiting the allotment throughout the week or beginning to grow vegetables within the classroom. On Thursday, Years R, 1, 4, 5 and 6 will have workshops or presentations from Science Oxford whilst years 3 and 4 are visiting the Science Oxford site on Friday.

Suggestions for what to do at home are listed on the Science page of the school website. Explore your outside area or look out for special events in museums around the country.



End of the School Day

Please can all parents be reminded that school finishes at 3.20pm. Should you be running late for any reason then please contact the School Office as soon as possible so that we can let the class know. Any children remaining at the School Office by 3.30pm will be taken to After School Club and you will be charged (£8 per session).



Year 2 & 3 School Trip – Meal Cancellation

Please ensure that you cancel your child's meal selections with Stir Food if they are due to attend the Science Oxford Trip on **Friday 13th March**.



Please don't pick the daffodils!

Picking daffodils in public, council-maintained, or private spaces is discouraged and often illegal, carrying fines up to £5,000. Leaving them allows everyone to enjoy them, prevents damage to ecosystems, protects food sources for pollinators, and ensures they bloom again.

Library Book Amnesty

We have noticed that a number of books from our Library are overdue. Please can parents have a look at home for any unreturned books and either hand them in to the School Office or their child's class teacher.

STOP means STOP!

Buckinghamshire Council is reminding motorists to respect the essential work carried out by the county's school crossing patrollers as they help children and families reach school safely each day.



Often known as lollipop men and women, Buckinghamshire's 60 patrollers are out in all weathers, morning and afternoon during term time, using their STOP signs to ensure safe passage across busy roads. While most drivers stop as required, a minority continue to display abusive or dangerous behaviour, putting both patrollers and pedestrians at risk.

When patrollers do report issues to the police, witness evidence is often needed, so the council is urging parents and carers to come forward should they see unsafe behaviour.

Drivers are reminded to:

- Slow down when you see a patrol warning sign or flashing lights and be prepared to stop.
- Stop when the patroller displays the STOP sign.
- Be patient and do not move forward until instructed.
- Avoid parking on zigzag lines, bus stops or anywhere that obstructs the patroller's view or movements.

Reporting incidents:

To report any incidents involving School Crossing Patrollers, residents can contact: Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe (West): Corinne Randall – 01296 383432

Parking

We had reports last Friday of a car parked carelessly in the layby which caused an obstruction and delayed other vehicles travelling home. Please can we encourage all parents to park sensibly and where possible to park further away and walk the remaining journey to school. Please also take care to avoid the areas around the gates as our taxis struggle to turn out when there are cars parked immediately outside.

Handcreams and Lip Balms

Children should not have any of their own creams or lip balms in school due to a number of children with allergies. If children require these for use during the school day then they should be brought to the School Office by a parent and these will be given to the class teachers for supervised use when required.

ZKT Dance

We will shortly be contacting parents of our Dance Club with booking details for the summer term. We currently have a couple of spaces available at the club so if you would like to register your interest for your child to attend then please email the School Office (office@smcs.org.uk).



HAF Clubs over Easter Break

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals then you will shortly be receiving HAF Vouchers directly from the Council. If you would like more information about these and what clubs are available to book in the local area during the Easter break then please head to our website:

<https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/pupilpremium/haf>

Big Open Weekend

Stoke Mandeville Stadium are delighted to be hosting their **Big Open Weekend** on **Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th March**, offering a range of **FREE family-friendly activities**, including **FREE swimming lessons for children of all ages**.

This event is open to everyone and is part of their ongoing commitment to supporting healthy, active lives across our local area.

This weekend offers a fantastic opportunity for families to access resources that may otherwise be out of reach, particularly those who are under-privileged or who haven't yet had the chance to achieve the National Curriculum swimming standard.



<https://www.buckinghamshireleisure.com/aqua-vale-swimming-fitness-centre/>

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 jokes 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 for this week are...



Why does Darth Vader never fix a light bulb?

Because he's the Dark Lord
David in Year 3

What did the ghost put on his bagel?

Scream cheese
Charlie in Year 1

What's a ghost's favourite dessert?

Ice-scream
Harley in Year 4

What do cannibals call a man in a hammock?

Breakfast in bed
Maya in Year 4

What does a camel have after dinner?

A nice warm desert
Josh in Year 6

Housepoint Totals This Week

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

Chequers	Claydon	Hughenden	Waddesdon
8167	8275	8243	8162

The Values Award was given to Shekinah in Year 5 and the Tidy Award went to Year 1.

Football Training Player of the Session: Oscar in Year 5

Communications Home

iRock Club: iRock Concert – Friday 20th March

Dance Club Individuals: FINAL REMINDER Honeycomb Festival Sign Up

Reception: Reception – Communication Week

Year 4: Year 4 – Wellies for Allotment

Whole school: Headteacher Appointment

Whole school: URGENT Stir Food – World Book Day Theme Menu

Whole school: Items needed for School Allotment

Whole school: REMINDER Reading Open Morning

Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2025/26

ASC Users: ASC 2025/26

Year 2 and 3: Y2 & Y3 Science Oxford Centre trip **(extended to 09/03/2026)**

Year 3 and 4: Y3 & Y4 Musical Extravaganza – 4pm Mon 23 Mar 26 (deadline 20/03/2026)

Year 3 and 4: Y3 & Y4 Musical Extravaganza – 2pm Tue 24 Mar 26 (deadline 20/03/2026)

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
Wed 11 Mar	7.30pm	Friends of SMCS Meeting
Thu 12 Mar		Science Oxford Centre to visit school
Fri 13 Mar		Year 2 & 3 Trip to Science Oxford
Fri 20 Mar		iRock Concert – <i>information to follow</i>
Fri 20 Mar		Red Nose Day – <i>information to follow</i>
Mon 23 Mar	4pm	Year 3 & 4 Musical Extravaganza – <i>Tickets available on School Gateway</i>
Tue 24 Mar	2pm	Year 3 & 4 Musical Extravaganza – <i>Tickets available on School Gateway</i>
Wed 25 Mar		No Dance Club
Thu 26 Mar		Friends of SMCS: Easter Egg Raffle
Thu 26 Mar		Spring 2 term ends
Fri 27 Mar		Staff Inset Day
Mon 13 Apr		Summer 1 term starts

An Update from the Friends of SMCS

Family Quiz Night - Saturday 7th March

Come and join us for a fun family evening. Doors open 5:30pm with questions starting at 6pm. Bring your own food/snacks and drinks. Tickets cost £5 adult, £2.50 child (under 12 years), with children under school age free.

There are still a couple of tables left so please email friends@smcs.org.uk to book or just turn up on the night.

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 7th March
Doors open 5:30pm for 6pm start

£5 ADULT
£2.50 CHILD
(UNDER 12)

BRING YOUR OWN
FOOD AND DRINK

The Friends of
SMCS

Email us to book your table
(max teams of 8):
friends@smcs.org.uk

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

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.