



# Stoke Mandeville Combined School

*Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together*

## Weekly Update Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March

### Year 3 and 4 Musical Extravaganza

The Musical Extravaganza really has been the highlight of the week. The performances by the children were a fabulous testament to the joy everyone feels when involved with music and the feedback from parents has been fantastic.

Thank you to all the Year 3 and 4 teams along with the ARP for working so hard to achieve such a high standard.



### Clubs

Please note that there will be **no external after school sports clubs** in the week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> April except for Netball, Football and ASC. Clubs will recommence on the following days for children who are signed up ahead of time:

Date	Club	Sign Up
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Netball Club	Invite only
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Football Club	Invite only
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Handball Club	Email School Office to sign your child up
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Premier Gymnastics	<a href="#">Click here</a> to sign your child up
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	ZKT Dance	Email School Office to sign your child up

### Signing Choir to Fremantle Care Home

On Wednesday morning some members of our Signing Choir went along to Fremantle Care Home to share Easter and Spring songs. The residents love to listen and watch, they even joined in with

some of the signs towards the end of the performance!

We hope to be returning with another choir group later in the year. Thank you to all of our singers and signers!



## Dodgeball

On **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** ten children from Year 5 and 6 went to The Grange School to take part in a dodgeball tournament. They played three rounds of dodgeball with new game rules each round.

The children who accompanied Mrs Walker and Miss Sims represented our school brilliantly and they also managed to win 8 out of 13 of their games!



## Netball Match v Haydon Abbey

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026, me, Isabella, Evie, Eloise, Caity and Keeley went to Haydon Abbey School to play a netball match.

In the first quarter, we were amazing with our passing and defending. However, we hadn't scored any goals yet.

In the second quarter I scored a brilliant goal within the first few minutes of the game. And amazingly scored again in the same quarter putting us 2-0 up.

In the third quarter, Haydon Abbey had many great attempts at scoring but were unlucky. As for us, we continued to pass and defend well.



Finally, in the last quarter, Haydon Abbey tried their best to score but we managed to block the goals and keep the score where it was.

We would like to thank Miss Telfer for taking us on the minibus and the overall score was 2-0 to us. And the player of the match decided by the other team was Isabella.

**Report by Isabella**

## Park Away Day

Thank you to everyone who joined in with our Park Away Day this morning. Thankfully the weather was good to us and it was a nice morning for a walk, scoot or ride to school!

We would like to encourage our school community to do this more often than once a month and would invite families to try and leave their car at home at least one day each week for their school journey to and from school!



## Premier Gymnastics

A reminder for parents that bookings for Gymnastics Club with Premier Education went live this week. If your child is in Years 2 to 4 and would like to join this club then please head to <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/869-948730/?back=1&location=stoke%20mandeville> to reserve your place. The club is charged at £4 per lesson across 10 sessions (£40 for the summer term).



## Stir Food

Don't forget to place your food orders for hot school meals from Stir Food via your Swift Kitchen app before we return to school on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

With a new menu for the summer term and three new theme days on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July we want to ensure you're not missing out on some exciting new dishes!



## After School Club

As a reminder to parents of children who attend ASC, the final collection time is **5.20pm** after which time late pickups are charged at £5 per child for the first 15 minutes and then £5 per child per 15 minutes thereafter. If there is any reason why you are running late to collect your child then please dial the school number 01296 612371 and select Option 4 to speak to an ASC Playworker.

## Nut-Free School

Please can we remind parents that we are a 'nut-free school' and as such children must not bring in snacks or packed lunches with products containing nut ingredients e.g. Nutella, Kinder Bueno, granola bars etc. We have a number of children with severe nut allergies and any products found will be removed by staff for the safety of other children.



## River Dart - Payment Reminder

A gentle reminder to the parents of Year 6 children going to the River Dart. The final installment of **£149** is due for payment by **tomorrow - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**.

## Year 5-6 Dance Club

We still have a couple of spaces available in our Wednesday Dance Club so if you would be interested in registering your child for this then please email [office@smcs.org.uk](mailto:office@smcs.org.uk).

## ZKT Dance Showcase

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March, several members of our Dance Club took part in the annual ZKT Show at the Centenary Theatre in Berkhamsted.

We've had some lovely feedback about how well the children performed and were lucky enough to be sent some photos from the performance. Well done to everyone who took part on Saturday and also good luck to all of the performers who will be taking part in the Honeycomb Festival at the Aylesbury Waterside Theatre on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April!**



## An Update from The Friends of SMCS

### Easter Activity Bingo Challenge

This week all children will have come home with an Easter Activity bingo card. On this card will be several challenges to get your children active over the holidays.

From riding their bike to building an obstacle course, there is lots to keep them occupied. There is even a space for their own custom ideas! As your child completes an activity, get them to mark it off - can you complete all of them? Return the bingo cards by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April**, along with a minimum £1 entry. All returned entries (no matter how many activities have been completed) will help contribute to the House competition. The House with the most returned entries will receive 100hp, with the other Houses receiving 80hp, 50hp or 25hp. All entries with a 'full house' (they have a completely full activity grid) will be entered into a draw to win a **FREE** ticket to the Summer Disco for KS1 or KS2.



### Big Family Challenge

We're excited to announce our first **Big Family Challenge**, taking place on **26 April in the afternoon!** This brand-new event is designed for the whole family to take part together in a series of fun challenges - with trophies up for grabs.

We're keeping most of the challenges a surprise for now... but we *can* reveal that one of them will be a Stoke Mandeville themed **Escape Room!**

Booking details will be shared early next term. Be quick when they arrive, as tickets will be limited!

### Clothing Collection

We will be having a clothing collection on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April** so please get collecting unwanted, but good quality, clothes over the holidays. We are unable to accept uniforms, towels and linen or items such as toys and bric-a-brac. Please

put all donations in a tied bag and leave them on the green outside the school by 9am on the 15th. We get a better amount per kg if our collection weighs over 200kg so please ask friends and family if they have any items for donation too.

### **Communications Home**

Whole school: School finishing 3.20pm today

Whole school: Easter Activity Bingo Sheet

Whole school: Park Away Day

Years 2 to 4: BOOKINGS NOW LIVE – Premier Gymnastics – Summer 2026

Year 3: Year 3 Google Classroom

Honeycomb Performers: Honeycomb Festival 2025 – Final Details

Football Club: Football Club Today

Netball Individuals: SMCS Netball vs Halton Community Combined School (Away)

ARP Members: ARP to the Park

MAC/ASC Individuals: MAC/ASC Booking Reminder Summer Term 1

### **Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway**

**MAC Users:** MAC 2025/26

**ASC Users:** ASC 2025/26

**Year 3 and 4:** Y3 & Y4 Verulamium Trip (*deadline 01/05/2026*)

**Years 3 to 6:** Year 3 to 6 – Handball Club – Summer Term (*deadline 13/04/2026*)

**Year 4:** Year 4 Swimming – Spring Term 2026 (*deadline extended to 31/03/2026*)

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

**Dance Club:** ZKT Street Dance – Summer 2026 (*deadline 02/04/2026*)

**Netball Individuals:** SMCS Netball vs Halton Community Combined School (Away)

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

Date	Time	Event
Thu 26 Mar		Spring 2 term ends
Fri 27 Mar		Staff Inset Day
Mon 13 Apr		Summer 1 term starts
Mon 13 Apr		Netball Club starts
Mon 13 Apr		No Handball Club
Tue 14 Apr		Friends of SMCS – Clothing Collection
Tue 14 Apr		No Premier Gymnastics
Wed 15 Apr		Tempest Class and Group Photographs
Wed 15 Apr		Year 4 – Swimming Lessons to start
Wed 15 Apr		No ZKT Dance Club
Thu 15 Apr		Football Club starts

## **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.*