



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 11th September

A Huge Congratulations to Our Year 6 Pupils!

A huge well done to all our Year 6 pupils for completing their Secondary Transfer Test! We are incredibly proud of the effort, determination and resilience you have shown throughout the process. Whatever the outcome, remember that you have already achieved something to be proud of. Well done, Year 6!



School Access

Please note that for safety reasons, access to the playground will now be through the front pedestrian gates only. Parents and children must no longer enter or exit the school playground via the rear car park. The rear car park gates will remain closed at the usual pick up time and will only open for staff cars to exit at the end of the day.

Trophies home

If your child received a trophy at last year's Prizegiving Ceremony, please can we ask that this is now returned to the School Office. Thank you.

Term Dates

For holiday planning purposes, term dates up until July 2028 can be found on our school website <https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/news-and-events/term-dates>. School events will also be updated throughout the year under 'Upcoming Events' - <https://www.stokemandeville.bucks.sch.uk/upcoming-events>

Changes to Pupil Premium Eligibility

With changes to Free School Meal eligibility which have taken place this week, please can we ask parents to check their SwiftKitchen account to ensure meals that have been ordered are still on the system? With the changes in eligibility to Targeted, Expanded or no eligibility, the SwiftKitchen app appears to have wiped some orders in the process.

If you have previously paid for meals but are now entitled to Free School Meals, any money paid in advance will automatically be refunded to your SwiftKitchen wallet. Any reimbursements to your bank account will need to be requested directly from SwiftKitchen.

If your child is now entitled to Free School Meals through Targeted or Expanded Pupil Premium and you do not have an account with SwiftKitchen, then please contact the School Office for an activation code if you don't already have a copy of this.

Reception - Entry in September 2027

This Autumn Term 2026, Stoke Mandeville Combined School will be holding a series of Open Events for parents of children due to start Reception in September 2027.

Thursday 8th October 2pm

Wednesday 14th October 9.15am

Friday 6th November 9.15am



If you would be interested in attending one of these then please complete the following Google Form:

Click here to register: <https://forms.gle/TJypCdrLnPdKcCjR8>

Homework

As a reminder there will be no homework set until next week. Children are asked to continue with reading and recording this in their reading books. If they would like to continue with TTRS and practice their number bonds then they are also very welcome to do this.

Snacks Reminder

Parents are reminded that children from Year 3 to Year 6 are asked to bring in their own healthy fruit or vegetable snack from home (please note we are a nut free school). Fruit and vegetable snacks are provided free of charge for children in Reception and KS1.



Fidget Toys

Please can we ask parents not to send their children in with fidget toys unless this has been pre-agreed with the SENDCo. If you feel your child needs a fidget toy then please email your request to the office for the attention of Ms Hayden (SENDCo).

Unnamed Uniform

We have a number of unnamed jumpers and cardigans in classrooms and lost property drawers. Please can we remind parents to name all uniform so that we can easily reunite children with lost uniform. Please also remember to label lunchboxes and water bottles.

As a reminder we have a fundraising arrangement with Stikins and Stampstastic whereby The Friends of SMCS can earn vital funds for every set of stickers or name stamps that are purchased!

Stampstastic - Purchase name stamps through [Stampstastic](#) (Put in this code at checkout to earn us commission: **HP225XA**)

Stikins - Purchase name stickers through [Stikins](#) (Put in this code at checkout to earn us commission: **22409**)

Football

As a reminder the start of the football season has been delayed until the condition of the school field improves. A message will be sent out to the Football Club once a start date has been decided.

After School Clubs

For those children signed up to participate in clubs run by external providers (e.g. ZKT Dance, Handball, Multi-Sports) please can we request that these payments are made as soon as possible in order for us to pay their invoices. If you do not make payment by the deadline then your child may lose their place. A reminder of these deadlines can be found below under 'Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway'.

We still have some places available in our Handball Club (Years 3 to 6) and Multi-Sports Clubs (Years 1 & 2). Children can be signed up for these clubs on the School Gateway app so make sure to book your place as soon as possible if your child is keen to join!

Multi-Sports Club: For parents who have enquired as to what this club includes, we have been provided with the following information: :

- **Multi-skills & Ball Games:** Mastering the basics of throwing, catching, and passing through high-energy, playful games.
- **Mini Handball & Softball/Dodgeball:** Action-packed, age-appropriate team games designed to build confidence and teamwork.
- **Obstacle Courses & Fun Challenges:** Agility and balance activities that keep everyone moving, laughing, and learning.

Every session is wrapped up in fun, positive activities so the children can learn key movement skills, make friends, and end the school day on a real high.

Allotment Visits

After a productive spring and summer, and with excellent support and leadership from the Parent Allotment Group, it is time to clear, dig and weed ready for next year's bountiful harvest.

Each of the following year groups will spend an afternoon at the allotment in the week assigned. For that week, please provide your child with waterproof shoes (such as wellies), a change of clothes so that the children can keep their uniform clean and a waterproof coat. This will enable the children to fully partake in the experience.

Mrs Reed

Week beginning	Year group
14th September	Year 6
21st September	Year 3
28th September	Year 4
5th October	Year 2
12th October	Year 1
19th October	Year 5

Ice Pop Friday

Today we had our very first **Ice Pop Friday**, and it was a pleasure to celebrate so many children who have demonstrated our school values and worked hard throughout the week.

When I asked the children, “**Why do you think you were picked to come to Ice Pop Friday?**”, they had some brilliant answers:

- “Teamwork”
- “Being kind and having good manners”
- “Being good and working hard”
- “Great sitting and listening to our teacher”
- “Being on the Proud Cloud four times!”



It was wonderful to hear the children recognising the positive choices they had made and understanding how these link to our school values.

Of course, no Ice Pop Friday would be complete without some jokes! Here are this week’s favourites:



What do you call an American bee?

A USB!

Allen, Year 5

Why are fire engines so fast?

Because their engines are on fire!

Esme, Year 5

I don't know any letters in the alphabet.

I don't know Y!

Evangeline, Year 2

It was a real pleasure to spend time with the children, hear about their achievements and celebrate their hard work from across the week. We are already looking forward to next Friday!

Mrs Jones

Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2025/26

ASC Users: ASC 2025/26

Year 1 & 2: Years 1 to 2 – Multi-Sports Club – Autumn Term 2026

Year 3 to 6: Year 3 to 6 – Handball Club – Autumn Term 2026

Year 4: Year 4 Swimming – Autumn Term 2026 (*deadline 2/10/26*)

Year 5: Hazard Alley – October 2026

Year 5 & 6: Years 5 & 6 – Netball Club 2026-27

Dance Club: ZKT Street Dance – Autumn 2026

Communications Home

Year 1 to 6: Allotment Visits

Year 1: Year 1 - Seesaw

Year 1 & 2: Year 1 & 2 Multi-Sports Club

Year 3 to 6: Year 3 to 6 – Handball Club – Autumn Term 2026

Year 4: URGENT Year 4 Swimming Ability Form

Year 5: Hazard Alley – October 2026

Year 6: River Dart 2026 – Initial Meeting

Year 5 & 6: Dance Club 2026 – Sign Up Sheet

Year 5 & 6: ZKT Dance Club – 1 Place Remaining

Year 5 & 6: Football Club 2026-27 – Sign Up

Year 5 & 6: Netball Club 2026-27

Dance Club: PAYMENT SET UP ZKT Street Dance – Autumn 2026

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

Date	Time	Event
Mon 14 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	Netball Club to start
W/C Mon 14 Sep		Year 6 Allotment Week
Wed 16 Sep	3.30-4.30pm	ZKT Dance to start
Thu 17 Sep	3.30-4.15pm	Multi-Sports Club to start
Thu 17 Sep	6.30pm	Year 6: Zoom Call with CRS Adventures (River Dart 2027)
Fri 18 Sep	3.30-4.15pm	Handball Club to start
W/C Mon 21 Sep		Year 3 Allotment Week
Thu 24 Sep	AM	School Photo Day: Individuals and siblings (Tempest)
Fri 25 Sep		Park Away Day
Fri 25 Sep	9am	Parent Forum
W/C Mon 28 Sep		Year 4 Allotment Week

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.