



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 25th September

Pupil and Parent Park Away Day

Thank you to everyone who supported our Park Away Day today. We had a brilliant response, and we really appreciate your continued support in helping to make the area around our school safer for our children and helping to maintain our Outstanding achievement.

Sadly, there were a few occasions where cars were parked without sufficient consideration for children's safety. In one instance, children had to step back while attempting to cross the road because their view was obstructed by cars parked on a corner. Cars were also parked on the zig-zag markings down Marsh Lane.



Please could we ask everyone to be respectful and mindful of children when parking, particularly around crossing points and corners. Keeping clear visibility and ensuring that the zig-zag markings remain unobstructed makes a real difference to children being able to cross the road safely.

Thank you once again to everyone who supported Park Away Day today. Your cooperation and continued support are greatly appreciated.

Miss Telfer

GDPR Form and Parent Pledge

Today we have sent home a blank copy of our GDPR form for parents to complete. This also includes a QR code linking you to a new Parent Carer Pledge which can be found on our school website.

Please can all parents return a signed copy of the GDPR form as soon as possible to indicate you are happy to continue to receive notices via our communication system, and to confirm what your photo consent permissions are. Without receiving this your child cannot be featured in any internal or external photographs (which will include their class photograph later in the year), so it is imperative that we receive a record of this from all parents within the next week in order for us to update our records accurately.

Stir Food Theme Menu

Next Thursday Stir Food are having a special theme 'Stir Stars' theme day. Please don't forget to place your order ahead of time so your child does not miss out on this special menu.

Trophies

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.



Year 1 – Headlice

This week we have had a case of nits reported in Year 1. Please [click here](#) for NHS guidance on finding and treating headlice and nits. Don't forget that after the initial treatment this must then be followed up with **wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice**. You will then need to check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17. As a reminder some treatments need to be repeated after a week to kill any newly hatched lice.



Bikeability – Learn to Ride

This week we have written to parents who previously registered interest in their child taking part in a 'Learn to Ride' course early next year. We have now secured funding for this and would like to invite parents to sign up to this so that we can confirm numbers with Bikeability. The subsidised cost of this course will be £5 per child and will be payable via School Gateway.

Whilst this has initially gone out to the parents who filled in the expression of interest form, if your child is currently in Years 3 to 6 and you would like them to learn to ride their bike during school time, please email office@smcs.org.uk so that you can be placed on a waiting list should not all spaces be filled.

Please note that for children who can already ride their bikes there will be opportunities later in the year to gain experience riding on the road as part of our Bikeability Level 2 qualification.

Football Club – Update

Next **Friday 2nd October** Mr Lack would like to commence training with our Football Club members. Whilst we are still unable to use the school field due to its condition, club members will start training on the school playground. Please note therefore that they will only need trainers at this time rather than football boots. They should also bring sports kit to change into as well as shin pads and a named water bottle.

SEND Coffee Morning

Next week Ms Hayden is hosting a SEND Coffee Morning on **Thursday 1st October** from 9-10.30am with a visiting Educational Psychologist to lead the session. This will focus on '**Emotion Coaching – How can this help our relationships?**'.



This friendly and informal session will explore how an evidence-based approach called **Emotion Coaching** can help us better understand and support our children, while developing even stronger relationships at home. Our SENDCO, Ms Hayden, will also be available during the morning to answer any questions you may have.

We can accommodate **up to 20 people**, so places are limited. If you would like to attend, please email the School Office at office@smcs.org.uk to secure your place using the subject line 'EMOTION COACHING'.

Year 1 Parent Forum

We are currently looking for a representative to attend termly Parent Forum meeting from Year 1. If you feel you would be able to spare around 1.5 hours once a term for a meeting (this is usually held on a Friday morning) then please get in touch with the School Office.

Ice Pop Friday

It was another fantastic **Ice Pop Friday** this week! When I asked the children why they thought they had been chosen, they gave some brilliant reasons:



For following the school rules



For playing with everyone and including others



For looking after our play equipment



For helping Mr Lack with litter picking



For being well behaved



It was lovely to hear the children recognising that the little things they do every day make such a big difference to our school community. Well done to everyone who earned an ice pop this week!

We've had some brilliant jokes this week too!

When is a door not a door?

When it's ajar!  

Can I show you my stand-up comedy?

I've mastered the **stand-up bit**, just not the comedy!  

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

A cow. 

A cow who?

A cow says moo, not who! 

And finally...

What do you get if you cross a centipede and a parrot?

A walkie-talkie!  

Keep the jokes coming — we love hearing them!

Mrs Jones

An Update from the Friends



AGM

Please join us on **Friday 2nd October** for our AGM at 5pm. We would like to invite all our community members (which is you!) to join us for a short meeting to share what we did last year and vote in the new committee. We need at least about 2 people from each year group to attend to ensure that our voting process meets the requirements of our constitution so please do come along if you are able. While we always want to welcome new members, attendance at the AGM does not mean you have to join the committee.

Clothing Collection

We have another clothing collection booked for **Tuesday 6th October**. All donations need to be placed in tied bags and left on the green outside the school by 9am. All donations need to be in a clean, resalable condition. Please see the attached poster for full details of the items which are accepted.

Payments/Consent Forms Available on School Gateway

MAC Users: MAC 2025/26

ASC Users: ASC 2025/26

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

Year 5: Hazard Alley – October 2026 (*deadline 25/9/26*)

Year 5 & 6: Young Voices at the O2 – 19 Jan 27 (*deadline 23/9/26*)

Year 5 & 6: River Dart 2027 – Deposit (*deadline 31/10/26*)

Dance Club: ZKT Street Dance – Autumn 2026 (*deadline 16/9/26*)

Communications Home

Year 1: Year 1 – Head Lice

Year 1: Parent Forum – Year 1 Invite

Year 1 to 6: Data Collection and GDPR Consent

Individuals in Years 3 to 6: Bikeability 'Learn to Ride' – Years 3 to 6

Year 5: Year 5 – Anglo-Saxon Food

Year 6: Cereal Boxes Please

Young Voices Choir: Young Voices at the O2 – Confirmation

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

Date	Time	Event
W/C Mon 28 Sep		Year 4 Allotment Week
Thu 1 Oct		Autumn Census Day Stir Food Theme Day: Stir Stars
Thu 1 Oct	9am	SEND Coffee Morning: Emotion Coaching
Fri 2 Oct		Year 5 to Hazard Alley
Fri 2 Oct	3.20pm	Football Club to start
Fri 2 Oct	5pm	Friends of SMCS AGM
Mon 5 Oct		Year 2 Allotment Week
Tue 6 Oct		Harvest Festival
Tue 6 Oct	8-9am	The Little Recyclers Clothing Collection (Village Green)

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.