



Stoke Mandeville Combined School

Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together

Weekly Update Friday 5th October

Attendance

Well done to our Reception and Year 3 classes who have achieved 100% attendance this week, closely followed by Year 4 with 99.3% attendance. It is encouraging that our attendance has been excellent across the whole school this week.

Travel Plan

We are very proud to announce that we have been re-accredited with the Modeshift Stars Gold Travel Plan award for the third year running. This is a testament to the incredible work the school dedicates to safe travel, led by Mrs James to support safe and environmentally friendly travel to and from school. Initiatives such as 'Park Away Day', 'Bikeability' and 'Footsteps' training and 'Walk to School Week' all show our commitment to keep our children safe and healthy. Thank you to everyone who supports us with these events.

Sports Award

We are very proud that the school was nominated for the Primary School of the Year Award at the Bucks and Milton Keynes Sport Awards 2018. Unfortunately we were not successfully shortlisted but we were 'Highly Commended' by the panel and congratulated for our hard work and contribution to sport and physical activity in the county. A big thank you to Miss Daly for her tireless efforts to provide top quality sport opportunities in the school for all of our children.

Football Kit

We have been awarded a brand new football kit by the Premier League Primary Stars scheme! This week our football squad proudly wore their kit for the first time in a football tournament at The Mandeville School. Sadly they did not make the final but they certainly looked smart and were a credit to the school. A full sports report from the tournament is available on the 'Sports News' section of the website.



Inter-House Competitions

Maths Competition

On Wednesday 17th October we are holding our first inter-house maths competition. Information about this and how you can support your child will be coming home on Monday.

Conkers Competition

We will be holding an inter-house Conker competition on Friday 19th October. We will send out further details next week and if anyone would like to be involved they are welcome to go out and hunt for their conkers ready for the competition. We will be making this a fun activity open to all children, although we appreciate that some parents may not want their child to participate due to the risk of being hit by a conker!

Coffee Morning

We would like to invite as many parents and carers as possible to our coffee morning on Tuesday 13th November from 9am – 10am. This will be an opportunity to meet other parents, find out about the work of the School Friends and the Parents' Forum and to meet our School Council who will be helping with this event. We will send another reminder and a reply slip after half term so that we know how much cake will be needed!

Roving Bookshop

Thank you to everyone who visited the Roving Bookshop and bought books for their children – thanks to your purchases the school was gifted over £200 of books to use in school. This is a wonderful enhancement to the rich range of books we can offer to our children.

Harvest Festival

During our harvest celebrations we will be collecting for the Aylesbury Vineyard again this year. The needs of the food bank are always changing depending on their stock levels and they maintain a wishlist on their website. We would be grateful for any donations from Monday 8th October and if you are able to consider donations of toiletries such as toothpaste, toilet rolls and shower gel as well as non-perishable food items then this would help to vary the donations we provide to them.

Parents Evening Booking form

We are moving to an online booking system for our Parents' Evenings which will take place on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th of October. Appointments will be available from 6pm on Monday 8th October and we hope that you will find the new system efficient and easy to use and we would certainly appreciate your feedback once you have used the system.

Headlice

We need to inform you that there have been further cases of headlice in the school. We would like to urge all you to check your child and any other siblings over the weekend and treat your child/ren if necessary. It only takes one child who is not checked and treated to start the cycle all over again and we would appreciate your support to prevent this from happening. Information about what to look for and how to treat it is available here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Message from Friends

We've registered with 'easyfundraising' and we need your help! 'easyfundraising' is a great website where you can help Friends Of Stoke Mandeville Combined School raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 3,300 big name retailers like Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S. Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say 'thank you' and it's completely free too! We want raise as much as possible so please sign up and help us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fostokemcs/>

Also, don't forget that we have our Friends Family Bingo on Saturday 13th October, we look forward to seeing lots of you there! Doors open at 5.30pm with eyes down at 6pm. Free entry, bingo books are £2 each with a £1 bonus game and raffle tickets are £1 a strip.

Letters Sent Home

Choir invitation – Year 3

Younger sibling photo opportunity – whole school

Inter-school football festival – football team

AHS Maths Group letter – selected Year 5 children

Dates for the Diary

9 th October	Year 5 trip to Hazard Alley
11 th October	Harvest Festival
12 th October	School Photos
13 th October	Friends Family Bingo
17 th October	Inter-house maths competition Parents Evening 3.30pm-6pm
18 th October	Parents Evening 3.30pm-8pm
19 th October	Inter-house Conker Competition Half Term - School ends normal time
29 th October	School opens normal time
5 th – 7 th November	Bikeability Level 2 – Year 5
9 th November	Diwali Dance Workshop Yrs 3 & 5
13 th November	Coffee morning – all parents welcome Flu Vaccinations (Yrs R-5)
16 th November	INSET DAY
23 rd November	HI Music Workshop
6 th December	School choir to Friars Square
12 th December	Hot School Meals Christmas Lunch
14 th December	Whole School to the Pantomime
18 th December	Christmas Holiday – school closes 13.30pm
2 nd January 2019	INSET DAY
3 rd January 2019	School re-opens normal time