



# Stoke Mandeville Combined School

*Caring, Inspiring and Achieving Together*

*Weekly Update Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November*

## **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

We have so many wonderful events in the diary for the lead-up to Christmas and we would love to see our School Community supporting the children by attending.

### **Coffee Morning – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

We would like to invite as many parents and carers as possible to our coffee morning on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> 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 would be grateful for donations of cakes or biscuits to be brought in on Tuesday morning. Parents will be able to park on the rear playground by the hall from 8.55am.

### **Energise – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

Some of our Year 5 and 6 children are taking part in the Energise Production on **Tuesday 13th November at the Waterside Theatre at 7pm**. This is an invitation event and we have been fortunate to be invited to present our own showcase of dance. Mrs Bushay and Mrs Twidale have been preparing the children and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to share this very special occasion. Tickets for the Waterside are on sale at £12 per person and can be ordered online.

<https://www.ents24.com/aylesbury-events/aylesbury-waterside-theatre/energize-festival/5419194>

### **Children In Need – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

As we have inset day next Friday we have decided to support Children In Need on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November. It is a normal school uniform day but children may wear a spotty or stripy accessory such as a badge or a headband. Children will also have an opportunity to visit the Pudsey Fair which is being organised by Year 6. Children should bring a donation (suggested £1-£2) in a named envelope – please can children from Year 2 and above bring this in change (10p's and 20p's) so that they can visit the different activities (the donation from Years R & 1 will allow them access to all of the games).

### **Parent Book Look - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

We are holding our next 'Book Look' on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 15.15pm – 16.00pm. This is an information opportunity to come and see your child's work and we would be very pleased to see as many of you as possible.

### **Performance at the Guttman Pamper Evening - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

The Signed Singing Choir will be supporting Wheelpower at the Guttman Pamper Evening with a performance between 6.30pm and 7.30pm. The event is open to all and the choir would be delighted to receive lots of support from the school community.

### **Florence Nightingale Festival of Lights - Sunday 2nd December**

The Signed Singing and School Choirs have the great honour of being the only school choirs invited to attend the switch on of the Christmas tree lights service at Florence Nightingale Hospice. Everyone is welcome to attend and the children would appreciate your support if you are able to join them.

### **Reception and Key Stage 1 Christmas Performances 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December**

The Reception and KS1 Christmas performances will take place on Wednesday 5th December in the afternoon and Thursday 6th December in the evening. More information regarding ticket sales and costumes will be sent out in due course.

### **Christmas Fayre Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

This year the Christmas Fayre is moving to the Friday evening straight after school. There will be singing and dancing and stalls for everyone to enjoy. This will be from 3.30pm until 5.00pm

### **Attendance**

A big well done to Years 1, 4 and 6 who have all achieved 99.3% attendance this week, despite the fact that we are seeing the usual coughs and colds that come with the change in weather.

### **Remembrance in School**

Today we held a Remembrance Assembly where we talked to the children about why we remember. The children used a moments silence to remember the fallen soldiers. We have also paid tribute to the ten soldiers from Stoke Mandeville who died during the First World War by displaying their names on poppies along the front railing of the school.



### **World Challenge**

One of our previous students, Zach Roberts, is now 16 years old and is in Year 12 at Aylesbury Grammar School. He is holding a Christmas Fayre at Stoke Mandeville Community Centre on Sunday 25th November in order to fundraise for a 3 week World Challenge expedition to Borneo next Summer. We have sent home a leaflet today with further information about this event.

## **Bikeability Level 2**

This week some of our Year 5 children have been taking part in the Bikeability Level 2 training. Everyone who participated received a certificate and those that demonstrated the ability to ride safely on the road were awarded a badge. Feedback from the BeSpokes team was "As always the children were polite, engaged and eager to take part, even in the rain!". Well done to everyone who took part in this important life skills training.



## **Safeguarding - Changes to email addresses and mobile numbers**

We understand that sometimes contact details such as email addresses and telephone numbers may change during the year, please can we ask that you always notify the School Office of any changes. This allows us to safeguard your children and contact you efficiently if an emergency was to arise.

## **Morning drop-off**

Please can we remind Parents and Carers that children must not be left on the school site unattended before a member of staff arrives for duty at 8.45am and the gates are opened. We are not responsible for your children until this time.

Please also remember that if your child arrives late to school they must be brought into school by their parent or carer and signed in via the late book in the office.

## **Remembrance Sunday in Aylesbury**

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 marks 100 years since the ending of World War One. Many events are being planned in local communities to mark this significant event. In Aylesbury a day of remembrance has been planned jointly between the county, district, town and parish councils together with the Royal British Legion and other partners.

During the afternoon on 11<sup>th</sup> November a special, free, thank You event will take place at The Gateway. Suitable for the whole family, the event will transport you back to the World War One era with live music and poetry readings, war time ration lunches and afternoon teas. The Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies will have displays and information from their archives and will be promoting their new website which details biographies of some of the many men and women from Buckinghamshire who fought in the war.

Although the Gateway event is free, tickets must be obtained in advance. Tickets can be booked online at: [www.buckscc.gov.uk/wwi-event](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/wwi-event). Alternatively you can pick them up from the Royal British Legion shop in Aylesbury High Street or from the Main Reception at the AVDC offices at the Gateway.

- 6am - a lone piper will sound out the tune of The Battle's O'er at the War Memorial in Market Square
- 11am - the usual Remembrance Day Service and Parade will take place
- 1pm to 4pm – Free thank You event at The Gateway
- 3pm - a special church service will take place at St Mary's Church
- 5pm - a bugler will perform The Last Post in Market Square
- 7pm - a Beacon of Light will be lit in Market Square
- 7.05pm - the bells at St Mary's Church will ring out for peace

## **Letters Sent Home**

2018 Pantomime letter (whole school)

Football vs. Bedgrove (football team)

Bisi Badminton (selected pupils only)

Change for Life (selected pupils only)

### **Dates for the Diary**

12 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Coffee morning – all parents welcome Flu Vaccinations (Yrs R-5) Energise Dance Festival, Waterside Theatre
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Pudsey Fayre during school
16 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET DAY
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 2 SATS Information Evening
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Netball match vs. Wendover
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Prospective Parent event 10am
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	HI Music Workshop
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Book Look 15.15pm – 16.00pm
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Signed Singing performance, Guttman Centre
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Signed Singing performance, Florence Nightingale, Walton Lodge
5 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Christmas Performance (afternoon)
6 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Christmas Performance (evening) School choir to Friars Square
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fayre
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Hot School Meals Christmas Lunch Jazzercise Workshops Years 4-6
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School to the Pantomime
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Holiday – school closes 13.30pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2019	INSET DAY
3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2019	School re-opens normal time