**Weekly Newsletter – Thursday 9th November 2017**

Dear Parents,

**Health and safety**

Please can you ensure that your child brings a coat into school every day. We try to get the children outside at playtime and lunchtime even if the weather is unsettled. Whilst we would not expect them to go out in heavy rain, they would benefit from having a coat here in case there is light rain or drizzle.

New school gates by Year 2 : Please note that these are now locked until 3.10pm.

**Staff changes**

Mrs Fraser in Year 3 is starting her maternity leave before the end of this term, leaving on Friday 17th of November. We are pleased to let you know that Miss Katie Green will be starting on Monday 13th November to become familiar with the class.

We are also informing you we have appointed Mrs Lisa Baillie as Mrs Steele’s replacement teaching Modern Foreign Languages in the afternoons in Key Stage 2. I am sure that you will all wish her well and every success for the future. We have also appointed Mrs Tracy Withers to the staff as an inclusion teaching assistant. Mrs Withers joins us from Chiltern Edge and brings much experience of working with pupils and families.

**Piano Lessons**

There are a few places available for January start. Please contact Sandy if your child is interested.

email: hubble2@mail.com

**SCPS Nominated Charity at the Co op**

Sonning Common Primary School PTA has been chosen for the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund. The funding round will start on **12 November 2017** and will run for 11 months until the **27 October 2018.**

***How it works* -**Every time members shop at the Co-op, 1% of what they spend on selected own-brand products and services goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund.

The Co-op will also give SCPS PTA and the other causes in our community an equal share of the money they raise from sales of carrier bags. Members in our local community will be able to give their 1% from the **12 November**.

**Cross Country**

The November race at Chiltern Edge took place last weekend on a very wet Saturday morning. Our runners proved themselves a resilient bunch, especially those who were taking part for the first time. Thanks to the Ogston family for bringing a gazebo to keep our clothes and bags dry.

Y2: George H 6th, Dominic E 8th; Ruby E 3rd, May W 5th, Rose M 13th, Rosa L 18th, Lily G 21st

Y3 : Oliver S 7th, Oliver M 17th

Y4 : Joshua H 4th; Jemimah O 3rd, Sophie W 4th, Emily E 9th, Emily D 17th, Violet M 18th; Girls Team finished joint 1st

Y5 : Charlie A 6th, Devon S 7th, Joe A 12th, Louie S 14th, Ben W 15th, Freddie H 16th; Kimberley E 16th, Emma G 20th, Alice B 24th, Kacie S 28th

Next race : Saturday 2nd December at Chiltern Edge. Races start at 10am. Years 1- 6. All welcome (you don’t have to come to Run Club) and we are especially keen to get some more children in Years 1 and 2 to come along.

**Opportunity to have your very own designer fruit tree**
This year's grafting season I would like to provide an opportunity for SCPS staff and parents to choose their own, desired fruit trees.
The easy bit! Make your choice of rootstock ( the bottom bit) and scion (the top bit) combinations from
[www.gb-online.co.uk/prestashop](http://www.gb-online.co.uk/prestashop)/
All payments will go to SCPS with a deadline of 5th January. Completed orders will be placed in the second week of January.
After payment deadline you can still use my grafting service, providing you supply your own plant materials.
Price list:
£12 is the price for my grafting service plus your order value. Unfortunately I cannot give a warranty but as a reference, my last year's pears’ success rate was 15 out 16 grafted trees.
Alternatively you can buy a one-year-old, grafted pear tree, pot grown, 60-70cm, rootstock quince A, one of each variety available (Akca, Beurre Hardy, Onward, Nobili) for £14.
Collection from SCPS. You will be notified about the date at the end of February.
Please note that you are getting a very wide range but trees will be considerably smaller and younger than mass-produced stock. Big advantage of buying young trees is that they can be pruned and trained to any shape and style. Contact Nesko Simic, school caretaker, at knes17-d@yahoo.co.uk

Your head teacher,

Mr Chris Hirst

**Diary Dates**

Please see below dates for your diary up to the end of December 2017.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY               (*Amendments and new dates in italics*)**

**NOVEMBER 2017**

Wednesday 15th                               Young Shakespeare for Years 5 & 6

Friday 17th                                          Children In Need – Bake Off and After school cake sale

Wednesday 22nd                               3:15pm Christmas Book Fair

Thursday 23rd                                     3:15pm Christmas Book Fair

Friday 24th                                           3:15pm Christmas Book Fair

                                                                Non Uniform Day

Saturday 25th                                      12noon – 3pm Christmas Fair

*Monday 27th NO AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB*

Thursday 30th                                     Pantomime for the whole school

**DECEMBER 2017**

Friday 1stChristingle for KS1

Saturday 2nd                                       10am Cross Country

*Monday 4th NO AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB*

Tuesday 5th                                         Victorian Christmas – Year 5

Thursday 7th                                       4:30 – 7:30pm Parent Consultations

Friday 8th                                              INSET DAY – Parent Consultations 8am – 1pm

Monday 11th                                       Nativity Dress Rehearsal

Tuesday 12th                                       2pm Years 1 & 2 Nativity Play for parents

Wednesday 13th                               9:30am Years 1 & 2 Nativity Play for parents

Thursday 14th                                     2:30pm Kites sing to parents

                                                                6 – 7pm Carol Concert in the KS2 playground

Friday 15th                                           Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 19th                                       Term 2 ends at 1:15pm