### OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Sonning Common Primary School

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Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Salmons

# Weekly Newsletter 8th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Welcome back

We are pleased to see everyone back looking so happy and healthy and we are working hard to settle children quickly into their new classes. Teachers and PTA have planned some great events and activities for the year ahead, which we look forward to telling you more about in the coming weeks.

# Happy News and Stars of the Week

**Kites**: Kites have had a great week getting to know each other and enjoying lots of water play in the sunny weather!

**Year 1** have loved exploring the human body, learning how to use glue to label the different parts! Stars of the Week are Maxime and Gracie B.

**Year 2** have had a lovely first week back to school. We have been experimenting with charcoal and planting seeds.

Stars of the week are Noah J and Bailey B.

**Year 3** have shown a great interest in our first topic the rainforest, from early optional homework to reading lots of facts in the classroom.

Stars of the Week are Gracie B and Alfie F.

**Year 4** have made an incredible start to the term! We have been testing our place value knowledge in maths, started looking at poems as a way to tell stories and have set off on the very exciting topic of natural disasters. Finding out what lies under our feet surprised a few of us! Stars of the Week are Oliver and Kian

**Year 5** have made a great start to the year. They particularly enjoyed debating the role of the judge and the lawyers in the UK justice system this afternoon.

Stars of the Week are Scarlett A-C and Georgie G.

**Year 6** have had a great start to the year. They completed their first piece of writing and have enjoyed bread tasting on Friday afternoon.

Stars of the Week are Evie Q and Maria B.

### **School Events**

Please come along to our school Colour Run on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September and enjoy getting covered in paint for a good cause!

The first running of the SoCo 10k is taking place on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The race will start and finish at school and is another brilliant fundraiser for us. Please encourage friends and family to enter online at https://www.soco10k.co.uk/ Entries close on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September (or earlier if full).

### **Swimming**

When running a school there are frequently difficult decisions to be made. Budget cuts, higher wages and very high utility bills have meant that we have had to take a very hard look at our swimming provision. For this year we will be running our Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 swimming lessons in our own pool, over 5 terms, as normal. In addition we will be providing personal survival and lifesaving skill sessions for pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 during term 4, again in our own pool. This is not our preferred option, but budget constraints and the rising cost of transport means we have to save by postponing our external swimming provision this year.

# Cycling and scooting to school

We expect all pupils to wear cycle helmets if they are cycling or scooting to school.

#### Year 4 Recorder Club

This will take place on Tuesdays 3:30pm to 4:00pm, please contact Mrs Ash if your child is interested in joining or for further information.

# Friends of SC Library Quiz Night

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September FoSCL (Friends of Sonning Common Library) is holding a fundraising quiz in the school hall, and is looking for more teams to take part. It is £30 per team of 6, and there will be a bar and refreshments available. Please contact Rosemary Dunstan at the library to register a team.

### **PE T-shirts**

Supplier issues with Earth Uniform should hopefully be rectified near the end of the month and then orders can be placed via their website. We have a small supply of age 3-4 and 5-6 ONLY in the school office, payment can be made via MCAS.

Your headteacher

Mr Chris Hirst

#### **Dates for your Diary**

SEPTEMBER 2023	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Term 1
	5pm Kites Curriculum Sharing Meeting
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	5:45pm Y3 Curriculum Sharing Meeting
	6:30pm Y6 Curriculum Sharing Meeting
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	6pm Y2 Curriculum Sharing Meeting
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Bikeability Course
	5pm Y5 Curriculum Sharing Meeting
	Y5 & Y6 Junior Actice Leaders Course (all week)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Bikeability Course
	5:30pm Y4 Curriculum Sharing Meeting
	6:30pm Y1 Curriculum Sharing Meeting
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm Friends of SC Library Quiz NIght
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9am Greys Court Cross Country
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	PTA Colour Run
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> to	Y6 Woodlands trip
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	