

## OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Sonning Common Primary School  
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Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Salmons

### Weekly Newsletter 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

#### Happy News

**Kites** have loved exploring space and made shaving foam planets!

**Year 1** have loved writing stories about Supertato!

**Year 2** have loved art this week, making a storyboard book with their cartoon characters.

**Year 3** had an amazing Tuesday afternoon being brave and meeting lots of rainforest creatures close up. Even Miss Green faced her fear of spiders! Thank you ZooLab for coming to see us.

**Year 4** had a brilliant time this week, planning, developing, reviewing, making and most importantly eating flapjacks. We are proud of the way the year group worked together in small teams to perfect their recipes and make healthy choices about their ingredients.

**Year 5** have had a week of poetry writing, including some wonderful acrostics and some shape poems this morning to tie in with Black History Month. Year Five have also got really into the flyer distribution business! Thanks everyone!

**Year 6** have been using points of the compass to give directions and tried their best at some Maths assessments.

#### School Open Days

Thanks to all who helped distribute flyers last week. Two classes were delighted to find out that they had earned extra playtime on Wednesday! Your child may have brought home some more flyers as we were lucky enough to have another 2000 produced for free. The Open Days themselves went well and we hope to see many of these families joining us in September.

#### We are a values-driven school

It is always very sad to read emails from local residents where they are writing to inform me that parents of our school are parking inconsiderately and then giving large amount of verbal abuse to them, the resident. I have asked the police to be more present at drop-off and pick-up and they will investigate where they find laws are being broken. Unfortunately, this may result in fines being issued. This should not be necessary if we would all be more tolerant and considerate of each other.

***Our values are Respect - Politeness – Kindness – Truth – Doing-Your-Best***

#### Lea Road Gate

The Lea Road gate will now be locked from 8.50am as this is the time that pupils are required to be sitting in class at their desk.

#### Cross Country

Next event: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October at MECE. Years 1 to 6. Everyone welcome (please note no dogs allowed on site). Races start at 10am with Year 1.

#### Donations for Harvest

We will shortly be celebrating Harvest Festival and we will be collecting for the local Foodbank at Springwater Church in the village. We will be collecting goods until Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October. There will be a donations box in Reception.

Springwater Foodbank currently supports over 45 households in Sonning Common and surrounding areas, which they anticipate will only increase as winter approaches and families see their energy bills increasing. They are totally reliant on the generosity of the community to supply emergency food parcels fortnightly to those who are struggling. The items they are short of changes weekly, depending on what donations they have received.

All donations are welcome, but at the moment they are particularly short of:

Tinned vegetables & fruit, desserts, biscuits etc, sauces for pasta/rice, spreads, juices/squash, long life milk, cereal, toiletries, sanitary items and cleaning products.

### Young Climate Warriors

This week we're thinking 'APPLES' - choosing local fruit over imported fruit, and 'HARVESTS' - our reliance on nature's harvest to enable us to eat, and the unexpected curveballs that farmers are having to deal with as a result of human-induced climate change.

You may like to find out more about [British Apples](#), and older children may be interested in the annual report produced by the Met Office - '[The State of the UK Climate](#)'.

### The Oxford & Cambridge Singing School, Christmas Course 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December

The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School is for those aged 7-13 who love to sing. Established in 2013, the Singing School provides the opportunity to experience great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop confidence in singing and performing. This Christmas pupils will learn some beautiful seasonal music and at the same time learn about vocal technique, music theory and history. Children will also have a singing lesson in a small group with a dedicated vocal coach. Families are most welcome to come and listen to an informal concert at the end of the day. To book or to join the mailing list, please go to [www.oxbridgesingingschool.com](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.com)

### True Food Co-op

An ethical local supermarket: Convenient, organic, zero waste, refill stations and a full range of products. Open Tuesdays to Saturdays, 9am – 6pm at 61 Grove Road, **Emmer Green**, RG4 8LJ  
[www.truefood.coop](http://www.truefood.coop)

Your headteacher

Mr Chris Hirst

### Dates for your Diary

October 2023	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INSET DAY – School closed</b>
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Cross Country at MECE
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Cranford School Open Morning 9:30am (Booking required)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge Open Morning (Booking required)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge Open Morning (Booking required)
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Open Afternoon for new Kites 2024 1:30pm – 3pm</b>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Leighton Park Open Morning (Booking required)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Individual Pupil Photos
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Children's Disco
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Term 1 ends 3:15pm
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 History of Toys Day
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Term 2 starts

Space to learn Space to grow  
Space to be inspired

[www.sonningcommonprimary.co.uk](http://www.sonningcommonprimary.co.uk)