

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Sonning Common Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr Chris Hirst
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Salmons

Weekly Newsletter 26th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy News

Kites have loved exploring properties of materials this week; including testing absorbency of nappies, investigating the most 'dunkable' biscuit and which material is most suitable for making a boat. Stars of the Week are Wesley H and Albi R.

Year 1 have loved exploring the properties of different materials in science this week! Stars of the Week are Isaac F and Jared B.

Year 2 have enjoyed finding the correct money to buy ingredients from our class shop to decorate biscuits! Stars of the week are Forest G and Chloe C.

Year 3 enjoyed meeting Stephan Pass on Wednesday, the children showed off their creativity wonderfully. Stars of the Week are Mrs Goodwill (with the help of 3KG), Mia B and Jessica C.

Year 4 had a great week all round, especially improving our rugby skills in PE and testing out electrical circuits in Science. Stars of the Week are Harrison E and Ella Y.

Year 5 have enjoyed attempting to write humorous sentences using metaphors, similes and alliteration. A painful and only partly productive process! Stars of the Week are Leonardo D and Bella A.

Year 6 have written horror stories this week, thinking carefully about how to vary their writing to good effect. For homework, they wrote conversations between different members of school staff to show how well they know us and these were read out to great hilarity in assembly. Stars of the Week are Anushka T and Leo N.

Young Voices

On Monday morning, 51 children left Sonning Common for the NEC in Birmingham, to play their part in the astonishing Young Voices concert. They joined with nearly 200 other schools to make a choir of 6,039 children, supported by a professional band and guest stars. Having practised for six months, the afternoon rehearsal was a question of getting used to the venue, the music, the conductor and the potential for 8,500 parents and friends to join them later in the evening. They were an absolute delight to take, and seeing them so motivated and excited was fantastic. At 7.00pm the lights went down and the concert started. The guest stars came and went – the Urban Strides street dance crew, the wonderful Natalie Williams and an inspirational turn from Nandi Bushell – a thirteen-year-old drummer who has played with Brian May and the Foo Fighters! But of course the real stars of the show were your children – who performed and sang and danced their way through to 9.00pm. After a careful reuniting of children with

parents, we made our way back down the M40 to reach Sonning Common by 11.30pm. And everyone was in again the next day! Many thanks to the organisers – Miss Brakspear and Mrs Lowe, and to the staff – Dr Loader and Mrs Davis, and parents – Mrs Zyda and Mrs Edwards – who accompanied the group.

School Disco 8th February

£3 entrance to be paid on the door, this also includes a drink and snack. The KS1 disco is from 4:15pm – 5:45pm and the KS2 disco is from 6pm – 7:30pm.

On Your Bike

21st April 2024 – Save the date! More details to follow soon.

ABC to read

Do you have a couple of hours spare each week to be trained as a reading mentor? ABC to read are an award-winning local charity who support struggling readers in our school. Please contact info@abctoread.org.uk www.abctoread.org.uk 0118 9511336 for further information.

Shiplake Cross Country

Boys and girls in Years 1 to 6 are invited to the Shiplake College Schools' Cross-Country Competition on Saturday 3 February 2024. No pre-registration required (please arrive 15 minutes before race time). The first race (Year 1 boys) is at 9.00am, with the final race (Year 6 girls) at 10.15am. A full break down of race times and distances is at www.shiplake.org.uk/schoolscrosscountry. Hot drinks and refreshments available to purchase from 8.30am.

Young Climate Warriors

Keep up to date with their weekly challenges via our website:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/parents/eco-council/>

Community Noticeboard

Remember to look at Community Noticeboard for events and activities that may be of interest:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/community/community-noticeboard/>

JNR Half Term Holiday Camp

JNR are holding a holiday camp here at school over the February half term holiday. Further details can be found through their booking link: <https://www.buildarray.com/u/B0MX>. Their poster is also on our community noticeboard.

Your headteacher

Mr Chris Hirst

Dates for your Diary

January 2024	
Tuesday 30 th	Eco Council visit to Ardley Waster Recycling Centre
Tuesday 30 th	3:30pm Y5/6 Boys Football League Match v Fir Tree (home)
Wednesday 31 st	Year 5 Ancient Greek Day

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Space to be inspired

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February 2024	
Saturday 3 rd	9am Shiplake Cross Country
Wednesday 7 th	KS1 Chinese Workshop
Wednesday 7 th	Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics at MECE
Thursday 8 th	Y3/4 Sportshall Athletics at MECE
Thursday 8 th	PTA School Disco
Friday 9 th	Last day of Term 3 – school finishes at 3:20pm
Monday 19 th	First day of Term 4
Tuesday 20 th	Y5/6 Football Tournament at Peppard Primary
Saturday 24 th	10am Cross Country at MECE
Tuesday 27 th	Y5 Maidenhead Mosque Trip
Thursday 29 th	3:30pm Y5/6 Girls Football League Match v Goring (home)

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