



# Sonning Common Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Salmons

## Weekly Newsletter 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Happy News

**Kites** have been exploring examples of technology for Safer Internet Day and designing shoe box sculptures.

Star of the week is Nicolas M-C.

**Year 1** have enjoyed learning about some different creation stories from around the world. Miss Snowden's class have enjoyed completing their Viking Longboats!

Star of the week is Robyn J.

**Year 2** have written non-chronological reports about their very own aliens and enjoyed making raps and poems about how to be safe online.

Stars of the week are Albie R and Mila B.

**Year 3** have learned so much about Ancient Egyptians that we have even started writing like them!

We practised writing our names and some full sentences using hieroglyphs.

Stars of the week are Sam P and Sam W.

**Year 4** have been working hard this week to finish their pop-up books, evaluate them and write some excellent persuasive leaflets to show how amazing our school is. Well done for continuing to put the effort in until the final day.

Stars of the week are Ethan T and Elodie D.

**Year 5** have enjoyed reading a range of texts this week and have found out all about the Trojan War.

Stars of the week are Albie H and Lucas S.

**Year 6** have impressed us with their knowledge of countries across the world as part of this term's inter-house competition. The Year 6 teachers would like to thank all the children for another hard-working term.

Stars of the week are Felix C and Jack B.

### School Dinners

School dinners must be paid for **in advance**. Please ensure that any outstanding debts are cleared and that there is sufficient credit on your child's account. School dinners are £2.60.

### Stocking up pencil cases

We have noticed that the stock in children's pencil cases is getting increasingly low. If possible, could you please help fill them up again over the half term holiday with stationery essentials, such as writing pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers and glue sticks.

## **World Book Day**

The school will be celebrating World Book Day, which is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March this year, with a day of exciting reading-based activities. We would like to ask that all children bring in a pair of slippers or something comfortable to wear on their feet on that day, along with something that they would really like to read: a favourite book, a comic, a football programme, a recipe book, a Guinness Book of Records or something else entirely, provided it can be read!

## **SCPS explained**

At parents' request we would like to explain what is expected for **HOME READING**. Children are expected to read 4 times each week, with their reading being recorded in their Reading Records/Planners. More often is great and they will be rewarded with team points for extra effort. If your child doesn't yet enjoy reading, we are happy that you find different ways to achieve 4 times: listening to an audio book, the parent reading to them, reading something online or trying an e-book all count! If you get desperate, you could even try putting the subtitles on your TV and getting your child to read them out! We want to develop our children as readers and ALL reading helps with this.

## **Y5/6 Boys' Football - County Finals**

Last Friday our Y5/6 Boys' football team travelled to Oxford Academy to compete in the Oxfordshire County Finals - could we return as champions? Find out below:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/sport/2025/02/07/y5-6-boys-football-county-finals/>

## **Y5/6 Football Competitions:**

On Thursday four of our Y5/6 football teams - two made up girls, and two made up of boys - visited Peppard for a football tournament. Click on the link to find out more about a successful afternoon:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/sport/2025/02/13/y5-6-boys-and-girls-football-tournament/>

## **Year 4, 5 & 6 Swimming Next Term**

During term 4 we will be offering swimming sessions to pupils in Y4, 5 and 6. These will be focusing on 'performing safe self-rescue in different water-based situations' as per the national curriculum guidelines for swimming.

Tuesdays – Year 4

Wednesdays – Year 5

Thursdays – Year 6

Classes will swim in 3-week blocks, with 4KG, 5TA and 6DF swimming for the first half of the term.

Children should bring their usual swimming kit plus pyjamas to wear in the water (please ensure these are lightweight and please do not bring onesies).

Years 1, 2 & 3 will not be swimming next term.

## **Term 3 Inter-house Challenge**

This term the children in school used their knowledge of the world to compete against each other. They had to list as many countries as they could within a certain time frame. Some year groups completed individually, whilst others competed in houses. The results are as follows:

2KS/NK: 1<sup>st</sup> Water, 2<sup>nd</sup> Air, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fire, 4<sup>th</sup> Earth

2LJ: 1<sup>st</sup> Rudi D-C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Charlie B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Rudi C, 4<sup>th</sup> Brody D

3JL/KC: 1<sup>st</sup> Flavia M, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jayden B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Miles R, 4<sup>th</sup> Sophie B

3RB: 1<sup>st</sup> Rhys H, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joey Q, 3<sup>rd</sup> Alexander W, 4<sup>th</sup> Sophie W

Year 4: 1<sup>st</sup> Air, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fire, 3<sup>rd</sup> Water, 4<sup>th</sup> Earth

5TA: 1<sup>st</sup> James B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Louie D, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jack A, 4<sup>th</sup> Albie H

5JM/RF: 1<sup>st</sup> Ben N, 2<sup>nd</sup> Adomas B and Anson M, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lyla N and Elsie Y, 4<sup>th</sup> Xander O-W, Millie B and Saule B

6DF: 1<sup>st</sup> Sebastian A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Teddy C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Zach S

6JW: 1<sup>st</sup> John SL, 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Albert C

Totals: 1<sup>st</sup> Air 310 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> Water 300 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earth 210 points, 4<sup>th</sup> Fire 130 points

### **School Council update**

School council have had a busy start to the year. They have:

- Selected our charity for the year - the RSPCA
- Decided to bring back our cake sales. Thank you, Year 2 for kickstarting the year off with some amazing treats and thank you for supporting our school. All proceeds will be split equally between school and our chosen charity (The RSPCA)
- Had our first shared meeting with Eco Council to build our relationship to collectively make our school a better place
- Teamed up with Mrs Fox, our resident art lead at SCPS, to share some of the amazing art competition entries with our local community
- Discussed computing in school with Mr Foley our Computing lead and collected feedback from their peers

### **PTA News**

#### **Wine Tasting Evening - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

Come join us on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March for a wine tasting evening starting at 7:30pm.

This event is about getting together with friends and meeting new ones and enjoying a fun, relaxed evening. We have secured some super wines to taste along with some yummy canapés! There will be a 'smell the aroma' team quiz and a chance to win some great prizes in our raffle. Scrap any ideas you have of your 'usual' wine tasting as this is designed to be enjoyable and we have a fantastic host, Madame Baillie, WSET DIP. Secure your tickets by e-mailing: [pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk) £20 a ticket and all proceeds go to our wonderful school.

### **Village Quiz**

This year's village quiz is due to take place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March, in the school hall, 7pm for a 7.30pm start. It is £5pp, with a maximum of 6 people per team/table. All proceeds go to the PTA.

Refreshments will be available, and there will be a raffle. Please register your team with Rosemary Dunstan: [rmdunstan@hotmail.com](mailto:rmdunstan@hotmail.com) - and we look forward to seeing you on 14<sup>th</sup>!

### **After school clubs and activities**

Information on current after school clubs and activities is on our website:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/parents/activities/>

This week is the **last week** for the Year **3&4 Basketball Club** – the club is for Years 5 & 6 next term.

This is also the **last week** for the current bookings of **JNR** clubs.

### **Community Noticeboard**

Remember to look at the [Community Noticeboard](#) for local events and activities.

**New** – Brick Building Club half term dates, Abbey RFC Minis are recruiting.

Rachel Salmons  
Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary

<b>FEBRUARY 2025</b>	
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Term 3
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	Half Term
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 to Maidenhead Mosque (9am to 12.30pm)
<b>MARCH 2025</b>	
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Cross Country Championship at MECE
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Young Shakespeare Company, Hamlet for Years 5 & 6
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Medieval Castle Day
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Wine Tasting Evening
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Henley Youth Festival Run
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 to Ufton Court
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Village Quiz, 7.30pm start
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	3RB to Hill End
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	3JL/KC to Hill End
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Red Nose Day
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>	STEM Week
<b>APRIL 2025</b>	
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term 4, school finishes at 1.15pm
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> to Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>	Easter Holidays
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Term 5 starts

Link to website calendar for further dates: <https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/parents/calendar/>