



Sonning Common Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Salmons

Weekly Newsletter 19th December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

A huge thank you to our whole school community for supporting our Christmas events: the PTA for the Christmas Fair, Years 1 and 2 for the Nativity performances, Kites staff for pulling together the cutest of shows, the Carol Concert, Christingle and Christmas Jumper Day. Our gratitude for your kind words and the gifts that have been brought in for staff. As 2025 pulls to a close, we wish all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

Happy News

Kites have loved performing their Nativity to their KS1 friends, and their parents.

Year 1 did brilliantly in our KS1 Nativity and have enjoyed their Year 6 buddies reading their own personal story to them!

Year 2 have enjoyed using compasses to find their way around.

Year 3 have loved completing the Christmas Quiz, singing carols on stage at the Carol Concert and watching all the past SCPS Christmas films.

Year 4 have enjoyed watching the Iron Giant and presenting their research about Mountains.

Year 5 loved singing at the Christmas Carol Concert and are rightfully proud of their performance!

Year 6 Merry Christmas one and all! See you next year!

SCPS Explained

Headteacher's Awards: These are presented at the end of each big term, with three awards per class: one chosen by the teacher, one by other adults and one by the children. Those getting the award received a laminated certificate and a badge.

INSET days: Monday 5th January is an INSET day which means that teachers are in school, but the pupils aren't. We appreciate that these days can be difficult for parents to arrange childcare, but they are essential for us to keep staff trained and well-prepared. Schools are all expected to have the pupils in school for 190 days, alongside five INSET days. This is a legal requirement for all maintained schools (although there is more flexibility for academies). At SCPS, we have some of our INSET days at the start of terms - typically Terms 1 and 3 - with the other days dotted around the year. We hope this sometimes gives families an opportunity for a weekend away at a quieter time. This year, our final day in July is an INSET day so that families can benefit from finishing on Friday 17th July, rather than doing a half-day on Monday 20th July. On the INSET days so far this academic year, staff have: worked on developing our writing curriculum; been trained on de-escalation strategies; reviewed and renewed phonics resources; completed safeguarding training; worked through online training, including how to

identify and treat anaphylaxis. Unlike other jobs, we cannot easily undertake any staff training during the day, which is why our INSET days are so precious. We thank you for your understanding.

Headteacher's Awards:

Kites: Esme L-B, Oliwier S and Thea B.

Year 1: Isabelle E, Ronnie D and Penny F.

Year 2: Leo V, Nellie M and Ffion W.

Year 3: Lola D-C, Reuben C, Ronnie W, Megan T, Billy W and Jasper B.

Year 4: Lucas Y, Mia H, John S-B, Matin D, Anya C and Phoebe H.

Year 5: Nia B, Tilly H, Casper T, Ellianna D, Maleek J-W and Jacob N.

Year 6: Lyla N, Millie B, Adomas B, Louie D, Krisan J and Sonny M.

December's Big Thank You

Miss Jones is this month's worthy recipient for bringing out the best of Year 2, being incredibly patient, positive and kind and producing a fabulous Nativity that the children enjoyed and were proud to be a part of.

Charity collection

Thanks to your generous donations at the KS1 performances this week, we have raised £109 for ShelterBox.

MCAS Payments

Please check your child's account and clear all outstanding balances before the start of next term.

MCAS notifications

Text messages from school are automatically sent as MCAS messages if you have an active account. Please ensure that you have notifications turned on for MCAS in your phone settings.

Flu vaccinations

Does your child still need a Flu vaccination? Follow this link to complete consent for your child and make a [community clinic](#) appointment: [Flu vaccinations](#) . Please note that the vaccination team will NOT visit school again until Autumn 2026.

Community Noticeboard

Remember to look at the [Community Noticeboard](#) for events and activities that may be of interest.

Rachel Salmons
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

JANUARY 2026	
Monday 5 th	INSET day – no children in school
Tuesday 6 th	First day of Term 3
Thursday 8 th	Y4 Life in Roman Britain Day at school – outfit required
Monday 12 th	Young Voices
Thursday 15 th	Y3 Life in Ancient Egypt Day at school – outfit required
Monday 19 th	Kites & Y6 weighing and measuring
Wednesday 21 st	Y5 Ancient Greece Day at school – outfit required
Thursday 22 nd	Y5/6 Girls Football Tournament at The Oxford Academy, 10am

FEBRUARY	
Saturday 7 th	Cross Country at Shiplake College, 9am
Thursday 12 th	Y1 & Y6 Science Oxford workshops
Friday 13 th	Last day of Term 3
Mon 16 th to Fri 20 th	Half Term
Monday 23 rd	Author visit – Gareth Jones
Thursday 26 th	Y4 & Y6 Science Oxford workshops
Saturday 28 th	Cross Country at MECE 10am

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