



# Sonning Common Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Salmons

## Weekly Newsletter 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

### Happy News and Stars of the Week

**Kites** have continued their learning about people who help us, meeting Dr Rockell to ask him questions about his job as a doctor, and meeting Mrs Fowler and finding out about her job as a vet. Star of the week is Oliwier S.

**Year 1** have enjoyed learning about recycling materials and making their own paper! Star of the week is Willow O-R.

**Year 2** have enjoyed learning about famous Kings and Queens this week and deciding what rules they would make if they were in power! Star of the week is Isabella R-H.

**Year 3** have been learning about the words *chronology* and *chronological* this week. They have ordered the events of Howard Carters Egyptian discovery to write a diary entry and ordered important events from the ancient Egyptian times. Stars of the week are Billy W and Zack S.

**Year 4** have enjoyed dancing like Romans this week! Stars of the week are Amelia C and Emir R.

**Year 5** loved their Ancient Greek Day on Wednesday! Stars of the week are Alfie F and Henry V.

**Year 6** have been enjoying learning about the events leading up to the start of WW2, including the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, the discontent in Germany, and the resulting popularity of the Nazi Party. Stars of the week are Josh G and Alice B.

### Speak Up! Conversation corner

- If you were the headteacher, what would you change about the school? Why?
- If we all lived in a zoo, what animals would we be?

### SCPS Explained

**Manners** – we are continuing to make this a priority: teaching and expecting children to have good manners in all situations. This week, we have been practising how to shake hands with someone you have just met for the first time, accompanied by, “Hello. My name is John, pleased to meet you.” I was delighted to hear Freddie in Year 2 greeting a school visitor using this language on Tuesday. Developing good manners in our children is a way to help them get on in life so thank you for your support with this.

### **Y5/6 Girls' Football - ESFA Oxfordshire County Final:**

On Thursday our girls travelled to the Oxford Academy. Our aim was to reach the South West Regional Finals in Bristol. Read on to find out what happened:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/sport/2026/01/22/year-5-6-girls-f...day-22nd-january/>

### **Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 Swimming Lessons Donations**

We offer high quality support to our pupils to learn to swim by offering swimming lessons throughout Years 1 to 6. This is significantly more than most other primary schools are able to do. We employ our own swimming teachers who know the children well. Pupils are taught in small groups of less than 10. We place a particular emphasis on water safety.

Our ability to offer this level of support for swimming is dependent on having access to our onsite pool. However, the costs of operating this facility have increased substantially in recent years due to price increases for electricity, water and pool chemicals – all the stuff you need to run a pool!

To help us continue to provide swimming lessons for pupils in Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 we are asking for a contribution of £15 for Terms 3 & 4 per pupil for those year groups. The payment for this donation can be made on MCAS, in the 'Clubs' area.

Thank you for supporting us to provide this opportunity for your child.

### **Pencil cases**

All children in KS2 need their own pencil case containing pencils, rubber, pencil sharpener, short ruler and a glue-stick. We currently have lots of children who can't even find a pencil! We run a STATIONERY SHOP at playtimes in Y6 classroom, where your child can buy all these items for a small amount of money (glue-sticks at £1 being the most expensive item).

### **PTA Disco 12<sup>th</sup> February**

The KS1 disco is from 4.15pm to 5.15pm and the KS2 disco is from 5.30pm to 6.45pm. Tickets are available to purchase on MCAS for £3. Tickets are available online until the 11<sup>th</sup> February and then cash only tickets will still be available on the door.

### **Sonning Common Swim School**

Spaces are available in adult and child, preschool, after-school and adult classes. Please email [swimming@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:swimming@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk) with any enquiries.

### **Clubs and Activities**

Information on after school clubs running this term are available on our website:

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

**JNR clubs booking link is working now.**

**New Y5/6 Netball Club**

### **Primary School Health Nursing newsletter**

[Term 3: Primary School Health Nursing Newsletter January 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

<b>JANUARY 2026</b>	
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Y5/6 Girls' Football League match v Fir Tree (away) 3.45pm
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sportshall Athletics at MECE, Y3/4 9.30-11.30am, Y5/6 12.30-3pm
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Y5/6 Boys' Football League match v Fir Tree (away) 3.45pm
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Cake Sale after school
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Cross Country at Shiplake College, 9am
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Y5/6 Boys' and Girls' Football Tournaments at MECE, 12.15-2.45pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 Science Oxford workshop – Floaty Boats (£3.75)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Science Oxford workshop – Active Evolution (£3.75)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Disco, KS1 4.15pm to 5.15pm, KS2 5.30pm to 6.45pm (£3)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Term 3
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Author (Gareth Jones) workshops for all year groups (£2)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Science Oxford workshop - Circuit Detectives (£4)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 Science Oxford workshop – Knex (£4)
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Cross Country at MECE 10am
<b>MARCH</b>	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 2 Castles Day (£19) – outfit needed
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Hill End - one class visiting
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Hill End – one class visiting
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 drama workshops
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Kites Earth Trust visit
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Y5/6 Boys' Football League match v Goring (away) 3.30pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	School finishes at 1.15pm

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