



Sonning Common Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Salmons

Weekly Newsletter 13th February 2026

Happy News and Stars of the Week

Kites have loved learning all about Chinese New Year, thinking about different traditions and trying some Chinese food.

Star of the week is Paige H.

Year 1 have enjoyed inventing their own animal riddles this week and also had a fabulous time yesterday building and testing rafts!

Star of the week is Aurora H.

Year 2 showed off their sewing skills this Friday, creating animal hand puppets. We enjoyed putting on puppet shows to make each other giggle!

Stars of the week are Olivia W and Busby H.

Year 3 loved getting out on the field on Thursday morning to participate in the Big Schools Bird Watch. Thanks to Newsround for the inspiration!

Stars of the week are Harvey W, Alexander C, Harry C and Rowan K.

Year 4 have enjoyed sharing their poetry with Year 5!

Stars of the week are Joey Q, Jayden B, William V and Ariel D.

Year 5 have loved being able to rehearse and perform their poems this week. We have also made some delicious Greek flatbreads!

Stars of the week are Robin B-M, Harvey B, Jacob N and India S-B.

Year 6 have had a fantastic final week of Term 3. They have learnt about online safety as part of Safer Internet Day, finished discussing pilgrimages in RE and designed and built bridge structures in DT.

Stars of the week are Sam-M-S, Freya H, Poppy C and Krisan J.

Speak Up! Conversation corner

On Tuesday, the school joined others nationwide to mark Safer Internet Day. This year's theme, 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI,' focused on teaching children and young people the skills to use AI technology safely and responsibly, and highlighted available support. As such, this week's questions focus on ways you can discuss these topics with your children:

- What's your favourite thing to do online?
- Have you ever used an AI tool? How did it make you feel?
- What advice would you give to your friends about using AI?
- Who would you talk to if you saw something worrying online?
- What more can I do to help you feel safe online?

Interhouse Challenge: Dragon's Den Challenge

This term, as part of our Interhouse Dragon's Den Challenge, every child in the school was invited to design something new for our playground. Their ideas had to cost as little as possible, benefit the greatest number of children, and help make our school an even happier place. We were incredibly impressed by the creativity and thoughtfulness shown, and four outstanding ideas have now been selected to present to Mrs Salmons and the leadership team. We look forward to seeing their designing prowess shine in the future.

These children's proposals have been shortlisted:

Year 2: Leo V (Air); Lily W and Alice N (Air); Bailey W (Earth) and Isaac C (Water)

Year 3: Harry C (Air), Alexander C (Air), Rowan K and Evie C (Fire); Albie R and Zack S (Fire)

Year 5: Darragh F (Earth); Jacob N (Air), Ellianna D (Fire), Jack S and Theo G (Air), Sam M (Earth), Poppy N (fire), Georgie E and Robin B-M (Water), Ryder (Earth)

Well done to Air for earning the most team points from this challenge!

KS1 Cake sale

Thank you for helping us to raise an impressive £258 at last week's KS1 cake sale.

Founders Day and Thinking Day

On 23rd February all children who are a member of Scouting or Guiding are welcome to wear their uniform to school. These children can join Mrs Murdoch and Miss Green in marking this important day in Guiding and Scouting. The children will have the opportunity to come together, say their promise and remind each other why Founders Day and Thinking Day are important. Squirrels, Rainbows, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Scouts and Guides are all welcome!

World Book Day

This year, World Book Day is being held on Thursday 5th March. We've got a full day of exciting activities planned, and we wanted to give you a heads-up that children will be invited to come to school in their bed clothes on the day. This means pyjamas, plus a dressing gowns or hoodie, please! However, we'd like to avoid onesies as they can make for tricky (and potentially unhygienic) toilet trips. Slippers are allowed but please arrive at school in normal outdoor shoes so that slippers can stay inside for the day.

Poetry Performance Showcase – Thursday 23rd April

We're extremely excited to announce a new event in our calendar that you are all invited to - the Poetry Performance Showcase. This will involve a wonderful evening of poetry recited and performed by children across our school. We are currently in the middle of our Poetry Fortnight, part of which is a series of recital competition across classes. From this, teachers will choose performers who they think would make perfect candidates for the showcase. In the meantime, though, please save the date!

PTA Easter Trail

On Friday 27th March we will be holding an Easter Trail for children to complete and win an Easter egg. It starts at 1.15pm on the KS1 playground (early finish that day as it's the end of term). Tickets are £4 and are available on MCAS until Friday 13th March. Non-dairy eggs will be available. Non-school siblings of pupils are welcome. Whilst the trail is on school grounds, children will need to be supervised by a parent/carers. Bridges Estate Agents have kindly sponsored this event.

Henley Youth Festival

New for this year, there's the opportunity to try fencing (Years 6-11), enter a mixed netball tournament with friends (Years 4-8) and The Creative Brick Challenge (Years 4-11). There's also the

chance to get up and close to animals at the Farmyard Fun Finale on 14 March. A photo competition (photos of your pets doing amazing things) and a chess tournament (Years 4-11). All the favourites are back - art, writing, film and film competitions as well as performing art shows at The Kenton. You can drop off your art at school. All the information and online entry forms are available at www.hyf.org.uk
 Deadline for entries is 24th February 2026

Widmore Park Restaurant and Café name reveal event

Thursday 19th February 11am to 1pm at Sonning Common Village Hall. All entries for the restaurant and café naming competition will be on display and the winner will also be announced. There will also be fun upcycling craft activities.

Community Noticeboard

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

NEW – SoCo Spring Clean 1st March

Rachel Salmons
 Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

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| FEBRUARY | |
| Mon 16 th to Fri 20 th | Half Term |
| Monday 23 rd | Author (Gareth Jones) workshops for all year groups (£2) |
| Thursday 26 th | Y6 Science Oxford workshop - Circuit Detectives (£4) |
| Thursday 26 th | Y4 Science Oxford workshop – Knex (£4) |
| Saturday 28 th | Cross Country at MECE 10am |
| MARCH | |
| Sunday 1 st | SoCo Spring Clean 10am-12.30pm |
| Tuesday 3 rd | Year 2 Castles Day (£19) – outfit needed |
| Tuesday 3 rd | Y5/6 Girls’ Football League Match v All Saints (home), 3.45pm |
| Thursday 5 th | World Book Day – wear your bedclothes! |
| Mon 9 th to Fri 13 th | STEM week |
| Tuesday 10 th | Y5/6 Girls’ Football South Oxon Finals at MECE 1pm – 4pm |
| Wednesday 11 th | Year 3, Miss Stone’s class to Hill End (£43) |
| Thursday 12 th | Year 3, Miss Green’s class to Hill End (£43) |
| Thursday 12 th | KS1 drama workshops |
| Friday 13 th | Village Quiz |
| Monday 16 th | Kites Earth Trust visit (£21) |
| Tuesday 17 th | Y5/6 Boys’ Football League match v Goring (away) 3.30pm |
| Friday 20 th | Red Nose Day |
| Tuesday 24 th | Parent Consultations, 4-5pm in person, 5.30-7pm online |
| Thursday 26 th | Parent Consultations, 4-5pm in person, 5.30-7pm online |
| Friday 27 th | PTA Easter Egg Trail, tickets £4 via MCAS |
| Friday 27 th | School finishes at 1.15pm |

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