



## Sonning Common Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Salmons

### Weekly Newsletter 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

#### Happy News and Stars of the Week

**Kites** have loved exploring how we can make different things melt!

Star of the week is Bella H.

**Year 1** have had a lovely week building moon buggies and investigating magnets!

Star of the week is Harry W.

**Year 2** have loved linking biscuits into many lessons this week including: a taste test, paint printing, iced houses covered in sweets, and a dunking test.

Star of the week is Robyn J.

**Year 3** had a fantastic day at Hill End, learning all about the Stone Age. The children also loved investigating the strength of birds' nests as part of our big STEM Week investigation.

Stars of the week are All of Year 3 for their wonderful behaviour at Hill End!

**Year 4** were curious about how lungs worked and enjoyed making their own models of lungs.

Stars of the week are Tristan M and Ellie P.

**Year 5** have enjoyed drawing with pegs and finding out if someone's age is related to their height.

Stars of the week are Georgie E and Vivienne R-H.

**Year 6** have enjoyed making rockets as part of STEM week.

#### SCPS Explained

**Toys in school:** Please can we remind you that we do not generally allow children to bring toys into school, especially anything precious or expensive. If you believe your child would benefit from a fiddle toy in class, this needs to be discussed with the class teacher.

#### Speak Up! Conversation corner

As it has been STEM week at school this week, here are a couple of questions you could ask your child to help develop their scientific thinking:

- If you had to measure your height in biscuits, how many biscuits tall do you think you would be?
- 100 years from now, what do you hope has been invented?

#### Word of the Week

This week's word has been **colossal** - something so large, it makes you say, "Whoa!"

## **Parent Consultations 24<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Appointments are now available to book via MCAS. In person (at school) appointments are between 4pm to 5pm. Online appointments are between 5.30pm to 7pm.

## **Recorder Performance**

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March our very talented Sonning Common Recorder players performed at Music Makers, at Rupert House School. Music Makers is a key event of the Henley Youth Festival (HYF) 2026. The event is for primary school-aged musicians to perform in a supportive setting and receive feedback from a specialist adviser (this year, the director of the Henley Music School).

Four different recorder groups from Y3-6 performed 8 different pieces including folk songs, waltzes and even a lullaby. All the players rose to the occasion, playing brilliantly in front of the large and unfamiliar audience, and receiving a huge round of applause after each piece. The specialist adviser was highly complimentary of the high standard that our players achieved, the enthusiasm with which they played and how well they listened to one another when performing as a group. Her only note was to smile more as they accepted their well-earned applause.

The recorder group then finished their performance by leading the whole room in an impromptu rendition of Happy Birthday for anyone in the audience celebrating that weekend. The choir from Valley Road Primary School in Henley joined in without prompting to lead the singing, which made the performance even more entertaining and provided the perfect opportunity for our musicians to collaborate with other local children. Brilliant!

Huge thanks, as always, go to Mr Marples our indomitable recorder teacher who accompanied our pupils to the event, providing the opportunity to play at Music Makers and for helping to inspire a love of music and performance in our pupils.

Players: Megan T; Maxime P; Sophie B; Phoebe H; Mia H; Sam P; Jessica C; Toby J; Anya C; Robin B-M; Isabella B-L; James B; Isabella dS.

## **Mini Marathon!**

Get ready for an active week! From Monday 13<sup>th</sup>–Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April, our pupils will be joining thousands of children across the country in the Mini London Marathon. Each class will run or walk 2 miles around the school grounds. We're asking for a small donation of £1 per child, with collection buckets at the school gate on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April, to help us raise the final funds needed for our brand-new running track. We're thrilled to be taking part and grateful for your continued support in helping us reach the finish line!

## **Illnesses**

Please follow the NHS guidance in relation to illnesses and if your child is well enough to attend school: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

To help limit the spread of vomiting and/or diarrhoea bugs, please follow the NHS guidelines: *Diarrhoea and vomiting can spread easily. Stay off school or work until you've not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 48 hours.*

## **PTA Easter Trail**

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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/carer. Bridges Estate Agents have kindly sponsored this event.

## **Costume donations**

If you have any costumes from Egyptian, Greek, Roman or Medieval Days that you no longer require, the PTA would like them! The PTA will then hold second hand costume sales later in the year. There is a box in reception for donations.

Space to learn, grow and be inspired

[www.sonningcommonprimary.co.uk](http://www.sonningcommonprimary.co.uk)

## 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>MARCH</b>	
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Kites Earth Trust visit (£21)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Y5/6 Netball Tournament, Shiplake College, 9am
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Y5/6 Boys' Football League match v Goring (away) 3.30pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics South Ox Final, Wheatley Park 11am-1.15pm
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations, 4-5pm in person, 5.30-7pm online
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Y1/2 Football Tournament at Kidmore End
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations, 4-5pm in person, 5.30-7pm online
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Easter Egg Trail, tickets £4 via MCAS
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	School finishes at 1.15pm
<b>APRIL</b>	
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Term 5
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Y5/6 Girls' Oxfordshire Football Final at Oxford City FC, 9.30am-12.30pm
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Class Photos
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Class Photos
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 5 Maidenhead Mosque visit (am)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Poetry Performance Evening 6pm
<b>MAY</b>	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Bank Holiday
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	On Your Bike
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> to Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	SATS week
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Kites eye screening
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kites to Bucklebury Farm Park
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term

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