



Sonning Common Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Salmons

Weekly Newsletter 20th March 2026

Happy News and Stars of the Week

Kites thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Earth Trust, and loved writing about what they saw!
Star of the week is Luca B.

Year 1 have enjoyed building different kinds of brick walls and looking for signs of Spring!
Rainbow Bands were awarded to Rory V and Florence P.

Year 2 took part in a funny sport's day to celebrate comic relief aka Tour De Farce. They especially enjoyed the Space Hopper race!
Rainbow Bands were awarded to Marlow P and Lyra P.

Year 3 have had a great week thinking about how to improve the world, thanks to Malala Yousafzai and her book "Malala's Magic Pencil" for the inspiration!
Rainbow Bands were awarded to Jasper B and Evie C.

Year 4 have been diving into the world of Teeth!
Rainbow Bands were awarded to Sophie B, Luke J, Daniel R and Phoebe H.

Year 5 have been working on planning and writing a formal letter.
Rainbow Bands were awarded to Dino D and Jack D.

Year 6 have worked incredibly hard on their recent reading and maths practice papers and have made fantastic progress. We're really proud of them!
Rainbow Bands were awarded to Saule B and Harrison E.

Speak Up! Conversation corner

As the sun is out for the first prolonged period of 2026, here are a couple of questions you might want to ask your children to start them talking about the Great Outdoors:

- Have a look at the clouds? What shapes can you see?
- Let's play a game! I want to find 10 things outside that are the same colour. Which colour shall I choose?

Word of the Week

This week's word has been **spellbinding**, meaning something so amazing, exciting or beautiful, you can't think about anything else.

OPAL, Outdoor Play and Learning

We are looking at our playtimes and thinking about how we can improve them by introducing the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) Primary Programme. In preparation, we want to know what you

think of playtimes now. Please help us by completing this [Parent's survey about playtime at school](#)
Thank you to those who have already completed it – it took an average time of 48 seconds so please can we encourage you to do so if you haven't already. A snapshot of responses so far show that you would like us to improve play by: having opportunities to climb (trees and frames); using junk for creative play; allowing ball games in addition to football and some music for dancing.

Red Nose Day

Thanks to your generous donations (both online and at the gate), we've raised an impressive £370 for Comic Relief. You can still donate using this [Just Giving link](#)

Y5/6 Mixed Netball Tournament

On Tuesday Miss Snowden took our netball team to Shiplake College. Follow the link to find out more:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/sport/2026/03/18/tuesday-17th-mar...tball-tournament/>

Y5/6 Boys' Football League Match v Goring

Also on Tuesday, our boys' football team travelled to Goring for our second league match of the season. Could we kickstart our season with a win? Click here to find out:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/sport/2026/03/18/tuesday-17th-mar...e-match-v-goring/>

Cross Country

We competed at Radley College this week in the Oxfordshire Games cross-country finals. Both boys' teams (Year 3/4 and Year 5/6) had qualified for this event and faced stiff competition from the best school teams across the county. Both teams came 7th place and should feel really proud of themselves as this competition was open to all 297 Oxfordshire schools. Good job boys!!

Thanks also to the Oratory School who kindly provided a minibus to transport us and two of their teachers to help cheer our boys on.

Year 3/4: Laurence H, Miles R, Myles S, Max C, Rhys H, Joey Q

Year 5/6: Oliver J, Jack S, Kit G, Jacob N, Ben N

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 **Monday 23rd 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.

Parent Consultations 24th & 26th March

Appointments are still available to book. Remember, if you've booked an appointment between 4pm and 5pm this will be in person at school. If your appointment is between 5.30pm and 7pm your appointment will be online. Joining codes will be emailed on the day of the meeting.

Mini Marathon!

Get ready for an active week! From Monday 13th–Friday 17th 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 17th 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.*

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.

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

MARCH	
Tuesday 24 th	Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics South Ox Final, Wheatley Park 11am-1.15pm
Tuesday 24 th	Parent Consultations, 4-5pm in person, 5.30-7pm online
Thursday 26 th	Y1/2 Football Tournament at Kidmore End
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
APRIL	
Monday 13 th	Start of Term 5
Thursday 16 th	Y5/6 Girls' Oxfordshire Football Final at Oxford City FC, 9.30am-12.30pm
Monday 20 th	Class Photos
Tuesday 21 st	Class Photos
Tuesday 21 st	Science Oxford Planetarium workshop for Years 3 & 4 (£4)
Wed 22 nd to Fri 24 th	Scholastic Book Fair (after school), Buy 2 get 1 free!
Thursday 23 rd	Year 5 Maidenhead Mosque visit (£9)
Thursday 23 rd	Poetry Performance Evening 6pm
MAY	
Monday 4 th	Bank Holiday
Sunday 10 th	On Your Bike
Mon 11 th to Thurs 14 th	SATS week
Monday 18 th	Kites eye screening
Friday 22 nd	Kites visit to Bucklebury Farm Park
Mon 25 th to Fri 29 th	Half Term

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