



# Sonning Common Primary School

Grove Road, Sonning Common, Reading, RG4 9RJ  
office@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk  
0118 972 2105

Headteacher: Mrs R Salmons

## Weekly Newsletter 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### Happy News and Stars of the Week

**Kites** have loved learning facts all about Sir David Attenborough and celebrating with a tea party today!

Star of the Week is Jenson B.

**Year 1** have been exploring the school grounds identifying deciduous and ever green trees!

Star of the Week is Ronnie D.

**Year 2** have had a great time creating bug hotels out of recycled boxes and toilet roll tubes. They filled each section with grass, stones, sticks and pinecones to hopefully invite some minibeasts into their 5-star habitats!

Star of the week is Leo V.

**Year 3** have enjoyed making abstract sculptures in art.

Stars of the Week are Riley B and Mika F.

**Year 4** have enjoyed reading Michael Morpugo's version of the legend of Beowulf and Grendel.

Stars of the Week are Eliza E and Miles R.

**Year 5** have been designing their Mayan masks and are ready to make them next week.

Stars of the Week are Leo B and Toby R.

**Year 6** are heading into SATs week with resilience, positive minds (goodbye ANTs!) and a "we've got this" attitude. We are proud of each and every one of them.

Stars of the Week are Elsie Y and Sonny M.

### Speak Up! Conversation corner

- What's the best thing about being in our family?
- If you opened a shop tomorrow, what would you sell? Why?

### Word of the Week

This week's word has been **humdrum**, meaning something that is boring, dull or exactly the same every day.

### Performance Evening

A recording of the Performance Evening is available to watch here:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/blog/2026/04/30/poetry-performance-evening/>

### **On Your Bike, Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

For more information and to register, please visit: [www.onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk](http://www.onyourbikesonningcommon.co.uk)  
Volunteers needed! Please complete the following form if you are able to help us marshal the event:  
<https://forms.gle/mNEArpA19X1FR0m79>

### **Sir David Attenborough's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday concert**

Look out for Ella Y's grandfather, Francisco, who will be performing at the Royal Albert Hall tonight. In one of Attenborough's early television series, Zoo Quest, Francisco's version of traditional Pajaro Campana (Bell Bird), became a favourite piece of Sir David's. This was one of the pieces that he played when he visited our school.

**Sports Day 23<sup>rd</sup> June** – As usual, we would like all children to wear a t-shirt that is the colour of the house they are in (Air = Yellow, Fire = Red, Earth = Green, Water = Blue).

### **Parental Consents - MCAS**

Please review the current parental consents that are recorded for your child on MCAS and amend if necessary.

### **Summer Fair Raffle**

Our annual summer fair will be held this year on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 12-3pm. It proves to be a very exciting day with lots planned around our theme of the seaside. In order to help support the school's OPAL project goals, the Summer Fair will be raising money for extra play equipment including the tonnes and tonnes of sand required for our new large sandpit.

As well as our stalls, games, performances, live band (Dr Loader's band - Within the Blood!), BBQ and bar we will be holding a raffle. We are hoping parents can help us with some more prizes. If you run a local business or know someone who does, we'd really appreciate it if a donation could be made to our raffle. You may even have something in your own home that could be a raffle item. This could be vouchers for services or goods, large items to be raffled or smaller ones to be included in a hamper. Any companies that donate to the raffle will be mentioned in Summer Fair publicity. For example, our next donor to mention is Brambles and Botanicals who will be donating a sea-themed hamper for the raffle.

If you would like to make a donation for the raffle, please contact [pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk)

### **PTA Uniform Shed**

As we say goodbye to some families at the end of the school year, we are also losing some brilliant volunteers who have run the 2nd hand uniform shed for nearly 7 years! Thank you so much to Stephanie Atkinson and Kate Webb. From September we will be needing new volunteers to help at the uniform shed after school on Fridays (this day could be changed depending on availability of those volunteering). If you are interested, please contact [pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk)

### **Years 1, 2 & 3 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 and 3 we are asking for a contribution of £15 for Terms 5 & 6 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.

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

MAY	
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	On Your Bike
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> to Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	SATs week
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Drama4all workshop am
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Kites eye screening
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Quad Kids at MECE, 12.30pm - 2.30pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kites visit to Bucklebury Farm Park (£24)
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Half Term</b> – children not in school
JUNE	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Start of Term 6
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Science Oxford workshops for Years 2 & 3 (£5 & £4)
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Science Oxford workshops for Kites & Year 6 (£4)
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 1 Harcourt Arboretum visit (£21)
w/c Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Cotswold Wildlife Park visit
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Ufton Court visit
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Sports Day, KS2 9.15am & KS1 1.15pm
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	Scholastic Book Fair
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Fair
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sonning Common Village Day
JULY	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	New Kites induction session 2-3pm
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	New Kites induction session 10-11am
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Seaside Day
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Term, <b>school finishes at 1.15pm</b>

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