



Sonning Common Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs R Salmons

Weekly Newsletter 8th October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy News

Kites have been exploring Harvest this week- they have been singing songs, trying interesting fruits and exploring where their favourite foods come from.

Year 1 have finally all finished their printing and are ready to display their vegetable-printing prowess to the world!

Year 2 have enjoyed reading our new class book, *The Day the Crayons Quit*.

Year 3 have been busy with their Rain Forest topic.

Year 4 have been learning about tornadoes and enjoyed watching a tornado simulator.

Year 5 have enjoyed becoming journalists and writing a newspaper article!

Year 6 have enjoyed discussing and reflecting on the excitement of their week away in Wales.

SCPS explained

From the Parent Survey this summer, we can see that there were several queries over how teams are selected and communicated to parents. For clarity, when it comes to competitions (sports, Maths etc), we try to field our strongest teams. Whenever possible, we always request to take a second or even third team so that as many children as possible are able to represent our school. Children training in a squad are helped to understand how and when teams are chosen. We understand how disappointing it can be for children who do not get chosen and try hard to address this by communicating to parents about which children are on teams and who will be the reserves. We are always happy to speak to any individual children about what they need to improve to make it to future competitions.

When we are offered the chance for non-competitive, enrichment activities, we either choose children who have participated in relevant clubs (e.g. children in the Choir went to a singing day at Shiplake College; Eco-Council went to an event organised by Greener Henley) or we do our very best to share out these opportunities by taking children who have not represented school in other ways.

Sonning Common Primary Shout Outs!

- **Samuel W** in Year 5 recently won Gold in his age category for the South Region Men's Artist Gymnastics grades. This also qualified him for Nationals in Telford in half term!

If your child has recently done something fantastic outside of school, please click on the link [HERE!](#) to let us know about it and we will add it to a newsletter soon.

SoCo10k

Thank you so much to those who came along to the Sonning Common 10k on Sunday. We appreciate your support of our event – whether you ran, marshalled on the course, provided home-made cakes or helped in any way to make this event happen. It was wonderful to see runners warming up on the very track that the race has paid for. The work was only completed on Friday, using funds from the four years this race has been going. The children are excited to be able to “run like real athletes” – they gain so much from seeing such positive role models of all ages participating in this lovely local run. We hope we are growing the next generation of runners and volunteers!

OPAL

This week in OPAL, we have expanded our OPAL Army of children who help direct tidy-up time. They look great in purple hi-vis! Most children managed to come in with wellies and a coat when it rained this week. There were a few soggy socks so it is worth checking that they have brought these home for drying!

Sport in Mind '100k Your Way' Challenge

Sport in Mind are running their annual '100k Your Way' virtual challenge fundraiser throughout October. The concept is really simple - complete 100k in any way you can in ten days, starting from World Mental Health Day on Saturday 10th October. If you would like to take part, please follow this link: <https://sportinmind.enthuse.com/cf/100km-your-way-virtual-challenge>

Nits

We've received reports of unwelcome visitors in some year groups. Please check and treat, if necessary, your child's hair.

After school activity clubs

Information on all after school activity clubs are available on the website:

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

Year group website “News” posts

If you would like to receive an email each time your child's year group's "News" page is updated, you can sign-up for this here:

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/parents/email-updates/>

These emails come from the webmaster@sonning-common.oxon.sch.uk with the heading SCPS- Year X – News.

Please note these automated emails, sent at 7pm, just tell you the website page has been updated that day, if you prefer not to subscribe you can still look for the information on the school website news page for your child's year group at any time.

Vacancy

We are looking for a Forest Camp assistant. Details are on our school website

<https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/our-school/vacancies/>

Donations for Springwater Foodbank

We have recently celebrated Harvest Festival during an assembly and are collecting donations for the local foodbank at Springwater Church in Sonning Common. We will be collecting goods until Monday 12th October. Please leave any donations in reception.

Springwater Foodbank currently supports 45 households, which includes over 50 children, in Sonning Common and surrounding areas. They are totally reliant on the generosity of the community to supply emergency food parcels fortnightly to those who are struggling. The items they are short of changes weekly, depending on what donations they have received.

All donations are welcome, but at the moment they are particularly short of:

Tinned vegetables/fruit/soup, baked beans/tinned spaghetti, pasta, rice, long life milk (dairy), squash/juice, cakes/biscuits, cereals and toilet rolls.

PTA News

The PTA disco is on Thursday 22nd October. Tickets are £4 and are available now on MCAS in the PTA Shop. KS1 4.15pm to 5.15pm and then KS2 5.30pm to 6.45pm.

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

OCTOBER 2026	
Friday 9 th	INSET day – children not in school
Monday 12 th	Flu vaccinations (consent forms emailed to parents 18 th Sept)
Tuesday 13 th	School photos (individual and siblings)
Thursday 15 th	Open morning for prospective Kites pupils 9.30am to 11am
Saturday 17 th	Cross Country at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge 1pm
Thursday 22 nd	PTA Disco, KS1 4.15pm to 5.15pm, KS2 5.30pm to 6.45pm
Friday 23 rd	Last day of Term 1
Mon 26 th to Fri 30 th	Half Term
NOVEMBER 2026	
Saturday 7 th	Cross Country at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge 1pm
Tuesday 10 th	Year 1 Toys Day (in school)
Thursday 12 th	Open morning for prospective Kites pupils 9.30am to 11am
Friday 13 th	Year 5 Milestone Museum visit
Friday 13 th	Children in Need
Wednesday 18 th	Year 3 visit from a Rabbi
Wed 25 th to Fri 27 th	Scholastic Book Fair after school
Saturday 28 th	PTA Christmas Fair

Further dates are available on the website: <https://sonningcommonprimary.co.uk/parents/calendar/>