



# Steam Mills Primary

24.11.2023



Dear Parents/Carers

## Christmas Wreaths with FoSM

For those that ordered Wreaths to be made by FoSM for £10 each. Please collect from the playground on Monday morning. Thank you



## Breakfast Club

Please could we remind parents/carers of EYFS and KS1 children that they must be walked around from the gate to the Breakfast Club door, where staff will meet you. The only exception to this would be if there is an older KS2 sibling to walk with them. This is a safeguarding issue and we will be monitoring this going forward. Thank you

## Start of the School Day – 8:45am

Thank you to those parents/carers who have managed the change to the start of the school day. There are however a significant number of children not arriving in time for school. This impacts all children's learning but particularly those who have extra learning interventions and catch up sessions starting at 8:45am. Parents/carers will be contacted if children are persistently late.

## End of the School Day

Please can we remind Parent/Carers to not park in front of the KS2 or KS1 gates. This is a safeguarding issue for all children exiting the playgrounds and also causes difficulties to cars turning in to find a parking space. Thank you

## Panto Trip – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

All parent/carer helpers have now been informed and we would like to thank everyone who put their name forward. There were a number of parents/carers who missed checking the snack box on the permission slips, so we are now going to provide this to all children unless parents/carers inform us that they **do not wish** their child to have this.

## After School Club – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

With the EYFS and KS1 Nativity performance on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, we would like After School Club to finish at **4:30pm** on this day, if possible. 4:30pm is also the time that children need to be in school to prepare for the performance at 5:00pm. Please could any parents requiring After School Club beyond 4:30pm on that day, contact Miss Agg.

### Term Dates 2023-24

#### Autumn Term

4<sup>th</sup> Sept —22nd December

Half Term: 30<sup>th</sup> Oct—3<sup>rd</sup> Nov

#### Spring term 2024

8<sup>th</sup> January—22nd March

Half Term: 12<sup>th</sup>—16<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Summer Term 2024

8<sup>th</sup> April—22nd July

Half Term: 27<sup>th</sup>—31<sup>st</sup> May

#### INSET days:

22<sup>nd</sup> December, 24<sup>th</sup> May and

22<sup>nd</sup> July

### Diary Dates

#### November

29<sup>th</sup> Panto Workshop Classes 1, 2 and 3

#### December

6<sup>th</sup> Pantomime – Classes 1-4

11<sup>th</sup> EYFS/KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal

12<sup>th</sup> EYFS/KS1 Nativity – 9:30am and 5:00pm

13<sup>th</sup> Pre-school Christmas Play Trip (details to follow)

14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner  
Christmas Jumper Day

15<sup>th</sup> FoSM Christmas Fayre

21<sup>st</sup> Christmas Party Day – non-school uniform.

Carol Service (details to follow)

22<sup>nd</sup> Inset Training Day

25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Holidays

#### January

8<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 3

24<sup>th</sup> Rags 2 Riches Collection

25<sup>th</sup> Reception and Year 5 NHS Health Screening

30<sup>th</sup> Reading Café

## Christmas Lunch – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Apologies for the issues with paying the 96p extra charge for Christmas Lunch. If you don't have credit on your Payer Account already, please could you upload £1 (which is the minimum ParentPay will allow) then pay the 96p to the Christmas Lunch payment item. 4p will remain on your Payer Account for future use.

### Pre-school Tree

We have an old, large tree stump in the Pre-school garden and are looking at options as its condition is deteriorating. Ideally we would love to have an animal carved and wondered if any parents/carers had a contact of anyone who undertakes such projects. Please contact Miss Agg if you can help.



**Class Snippets - (Article 28- children have the right to an education. Article 29- Education should develop a child's talents, personalities and beliefs)**

**Pre-school** – this week, Pre-School have been doing all things relating to the story 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'. We have read the book every day and have watched the programme. The children have enjoyed using black stickers, string and wax crayons to give the tiger his stripes. We have used water colours to paint tea pots and traced over the tigers stripes developing our fine motor skills. We have also written invitations to the Tiger to come for tea and at the start of next week we are going to have a tea party before we start doing all things Christmas!

**Class 1** – this week Class 1 have been looking at how to keep ourselves healthy. We discussed all the different ways to look after ourselves and then what effects exercise has on the human body. We have been writing super sentences in English, using adjectives to describe the Hare and Woolly Mammoth from Cave Baby.

Reception sounds (y, z, zz, qu) and HFW's (was, all, from, went, will, help). Reception maths- we have been looking at the composition of numbers 2 and 3 and how wholes are made up of different parts (1 is a part and another 1 is a part and the whole is 2).

**Class 2** – this week, class 2 have been writing a fact file all about their own alien sock puppet. We have been writing questions and statements to describe the way our aliens look, move and what they eat. In Geography, they have been recalling physical and human features. They asked questions about why places are different and created their own seaside map. We have started practicing for our nativity this week too!

**Class 3** - have been working really hard this week on play scripts. They have learnt about the features found in them and planned their own, which they have started to write today. We have been orally rehearsing the speech and I am impressed with the children's expression when acting as characters in their play. Thank you to the parents that attended the grammar session on Thursday after school, it was lovely to see you there. I was great to share a taster of how writing is taught in Class 3 and the content taught in each Year group. If you were unable to make it, packs with the slides and writing expectations have been sent home today.



### Star of the Week Certificates



#### Pre-school

**Zachary & Tobiasz** for their wonderful language and imaginative ideas during their role play.

#### Class 1

**Elodie** - for her wonderful knowledge of the human body.

**Caitlin** - for fantastic focus in maths.

Star readers - **Elliott, Theo & Texas**

#### Class 2

**Lily** - always asking questions to support your own learning.

**Sunneigh** - writing great questions in. Geography.

#### Class 3

**Alfie C** - trying his best in all areas of learning.

**Cole** - working hard in writing.

#### Class 4

**Eva** – for a great explanation of the Moon's movements.

**Corey** – for a great effort in maths.

**Class 4** – this week, Class 4 have had a busy week of learning. In English, the children have been exploring the differences between the active and passive voice and how this can be used effectively in our writing. They really impressed Mrs Thomas and Mrs Saunders at Gymnastics; there was a tricky challenge that meant the children had to try and climb a long, hanging rope – some children managed to hold their own body weight for a long time; some managed to climb to the target! Either way, the children tried really hard and impressed their coaches.

### **Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)**

Please find attached details of this scheme.

### **Pre-school Charge**

We are having to increase the cost per hour of the Pre-school setting to £5.50 per hour for all non-funded hours from **January 2024**. This is in-line with Gloucestershire County and the Steam Mills/Woodside Federation. We hope that you find this increase still offers excellent value for money and reflects the high level of provision that the school provides.

### **ParentPay Debt**

A reminder that the school has a no debt policy. Please manage your accounts by ensuring your ParentPay accounts are in credit at all times. Please load credit, use, then reload again before debt occurs.

**LOAD CREDIT TO CLUB → USE → LOAD CREDIT TO CLUB → USE →**



Can you swim 25m frontcrawl and backstroke?

Take your swimming to the next level

**JOIN US FOR FREE 2 WEEK TASTER SESSIONS**  
Monday 4 December – Monday 18 December

**with Cinderford & District  
Swimming Club**

Contact: [coach@cinderfordsc.com](mailto:coach@cinderfordsc.com)  
Find us on Facebook or at [www.cinderfordsc.com](http://www.cinderfordsc.com)

As always, please do let us know if you have any questions or queries. We do also encourage parents/carers to let us know if they have any suggestions of events or activities that you would like to see in school.

**Our Safeguarding, Behaviour, Complaints and other policies are available on our school website**