

Steam Mills Primary

14.07.2023

Dear Parents/Carers

FoSM Summer Fayre

Thank you again for supporting the summer fayre last Friday; we raised an amazing £1270! This money will be put towards our annual pantomime visit and other FoSM events.



School Discos

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped at the School Discos yesterday evening. A great time was had by all and it was lovely to receive this extra special parent feedback this morning:

*I want to praise ALL the KS2 children especially the year 5 and 6 pupils for their impeccable manners and attitude this evening. It really was a pleasure to assist them and for some of them their final disco at Steam Mills! 😊
An absolute credit to their school, teachers and families.*

KS2 Performance letters for Classes 3 and 4

All tickets have now been sent home and the evening performance is fully booked. There are still tickets available for the morning performance, if you need any, please let the school office know.

Leavers Service – Friday 21st July

Year 6 parents/carers are welcome to join us on Friday to celebrate our wonderful Year 6 cohort and wish them well in their new schooling endeavours at secondary school. Please arrive for a 1:30pm start. You are welcome to take your child/ren after the service if you so wish.

Prostars Club – Friday 21st July

Due to the leavers service and a change in PE provision for the day. There will be **no Prostars** club for KS2 next Friday. Your ParentPay account will be credited (parents of leavers should then request this to be refunded to point of payment via Parentpay before the account is closed at the end of July).

School Calendar 22/23

Term 6

5th June to 25th July

Inset Days:

24th and 25th July

School Calendar 23/24

Attached FYI

Diary Dates

July

18th Class 2 Celebration

19th KS2 Leavers Dress rehearsal and Evening Performance -5pm

20th KS2 Leavers Morning Performance – 9:30am

21st Leavers Service 1:30pm

24th Inset Training Day

25th Inset Training Day

September

4th Inset Training Day

5th Start of Term 1

20th Rags 2 Riches collection

October

3rd Tempest Individual/Sibling photos

11th Konflux Theatre visiting C3

30th Half-term Holiday

November

6th Inset Training Day

7th Start of Term 2

December

6th Pantomime – Classes 1-4 (Article 29- develop a child's talents).

22nd Inset Training Day

25th Christmas Holidays

School Hours

To bring the school into line with current Government guidance of 32.5 hrs per week, the school start time will be changing from September 2023. The expectation will be for children to arrive in the school grounds from 8:40am (drop and go will also operate from this time) then children will be seated in their classrooms at **8:45am**. Pick-up time will remain at 3:15pm. Pre-school start time remains unchanged at **9:00am** and pick-up is 3:00pm.

The **KS1 and KS2 double gates will be locked at 8:45am**. Please could all Pre-school parents/carers park in the main car park and access Pre-school via the small gate.

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 at Pre-school we have engaged in logs of role-play; going on holiday, ice-cream shop and tea parties. We have matched numbers to quantity, 1-6, using a variety of loose parts and marks. We have also enjoyed solving lots of number problems. Today we had lots of fun in the “blue sea”; blue shaving foam, drawing pictures, writing letters and numbers and generally scooping and plopping!

Class 1 – this week has been a busy and exciting week! We have been learning about pirates, where they come from and what they did! The children had great fun making eye patches, telescopes and treasure maps; they were also made to walk the plank!! This week's HFWs are 'could' and 'people' and in maths we have been counting to and beyond 20.

Class 2 – this week Class 2 have finished their history topic. We learnt all about Mary Seacole and created a fact file about our knowledge. There were some really lovely pieces of work produced by the class. In English, they made a map of the route from Goldilocks' house to the three bear's cottage. They thought carefully about other traditional tales and included many details in their maps, like the three little pigs' houses and the glass slipper that Cinderella dropped.

Class 3 had a visitor this week - Bob the bat spent the day in Class 3. We worked very quietly to not disturb him during the day. The children have talked lots about nocturnal animals during guided reading, The Hodgeheg. We have been working on fluency recently and using choral reading to develop this skill and the children have progressed very well. In writing, we have written newspapers and explored the features to include.

Class 4 - this week has been a busy week continuing to practise and prepare for the play. Next week, the children need to be practising the play in school having memorised all of their lines so will not have scripts, ready for



Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school

Luca – labelling his work with the letters from his name.

Reggie – for being expressive during his play.

Class 1

Alfie P -for his amazing progress in swimming.

Joint recognition for **Brody, Texas, Joules, Calypso and Robert** - for looking after the younger children during bump up days.

Class 2

Jax - for creating lovely pieces of work in English using conjunctions.

Chester - amazing work in maths, showing great listening and careful work.

Class 3

Serenity- for settling in well to Steam Mills.

Cole- for focused work in maths.

Class 4

Jenson P – for excellent reasoning in Maths.

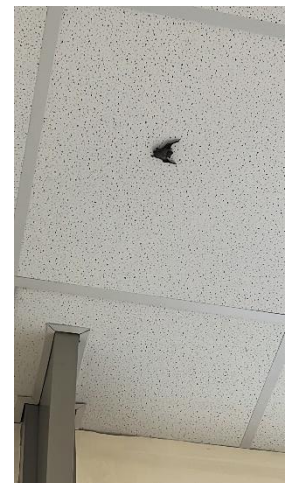
Finley – for a consistent effort and fizzazz in play rehearsals.

Reading Certificates

For completing Reading Challenges in class

Maddison (Class 1)

Ava (Class 2)



our performances. Keep supporting your child with this and the songs at home as this is really helping, thank you!

This has also been an exciting week in our History lessons as we had a box of Ancient Greek artefacts in class from a museum in Cheltenham. The children enjoyed being able to see these up close and trying to work out what some of their uses were. However, one of the 3 Ancient Greek coins went missing during the lesson, this has still not been found even after many extensive searches. Please could parents/carers have a look at home in case it has been brought home by mistake?

Prostars HAF Holiday Activities

Please find attached flyer for the HAF programme this summer with Prostars – they are running local activities during the holidays. There are limited free places for families who receive FSM (not universal), contact details are on the flyer.

Library challenge

This week, Holly from Gloucestershire Library Services visited to tell us about the brand new summer reading challenge. This year, the challenge is open from 22nd July to 15th September. There are 12 activities to complete with opportunities to earn bronze after 6 challenges, silver after 9 and gold after completing all 12. Every child who completes gold will earn a wooden laser cut medal and an escape room ticket for one adult and one child. The challenge this year includes a range of activities and there are opportunities for drumming sessions and silent discos at the Gloucestershire libraries so look out for exciting events!

Cinderford Town Band

Please find attached details of an upcoming Open Day on Saturday 2nd September 2023. The event is primarily aimed at children who have had some experience of brass playing all ready, although there will also be opportunities for those who have never played a brass instrument to try one out for the first time! The event is completely free of charge, and will take place at Foxes Bridge Day Centre in Cinderford. Registration is required prior to the event, with all contact details listed on the attached flyer.

Art with Artspace at Steam Mills Primary - Monday 17th July 2 - 4pm

'Come along and have a go at silk painting!

Explore patterns and symmetry, with lots of glorious colours and find out more about our new range of FREE, Multiply courses.

You'll also receive an 'Art pack' to take away with you which will include step-by-step activities sheets and all the materials you will need for some exciting activities you can do with the kids over the Summer.

The session will be broken into two parts with the first hour focussing on you having a go at the activity for yourself before picking up your child/ren at 3. You are then welcome to come back with your child/ren until 4 when you can share what you've learned with them and have a go at the activity with them. **Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place.**

GM Peripatetic Service 2023-24

Please see attached letter inviting any new prospective pupils to sign up for small group or individual tuition music lessons at school. The instrument(s) listed are those available to learn at Steam Mills. If interested, please follow the process on the letter.

Monster Phonics Webinar

There is a monster phonics parent webinar scheduled for parents on 4th October. If you are interested in learning more about how we teach phonics you can reserve a place by opening the link below:

[Monster Phonics a Guide for Parents Tickets, Wed 4 Oct 2023 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

School Lunches

Unfortunately the paid school meal price will be increasing again in **September to £2.54 per meal**. This increase is as a result of current food and energy costs. We have been able to minimise this increase with AiP so that it falls in-line with the current Gloucestershire County Schools price.

School Debt Policy – September 2023

New measures we are introducing from September are as follows.

- Bookings will only be accepted if Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club Accounts are in credit for each day booked.
- If your child is a “no show” or you have not given 24hrs notice, you will be still be charged for your child's place.
- If your child is not booked in for either service, you will be contacted and if we are oversubscribed, asked to collect your child.
- Accounts will be debited on the same day (BC) or next day (ASC) and not weekly.
- Childcare vouchers/tax free childcare payments should be **sent in advance** and your Parentpay account will then be credited ready for use.
- Breakfast club remains free of charge to those eligible for income/benefits based Free School Meals.

Updated regular booking forms will be sent home next week for regular users of the Breakfast Club and After School Club. Please could these be completed and returned before the end of the school year, where possible please, to reserve your places for September?

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