

# Steam Mills Primary

09.09.22

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the start of the school year and a very warm welcome to new families who have joined us. All of the children have really impressed us; they look happy, smart and ready for an exciting term ahead!

Mrs Fawkes joins Steam Mills as Executive Deputy Head Teacher, she is also Executive Deputy Head Teacher at Soudley and Woodside; she has been at Woodside for nearly ten years with specialism in leadership, Early Years, Key Stage One and Phonics. Mrs Thomas is now Deputy Head Teacher at Steam Mills and will manage the Curriculum at the three schools as well as day to day management issues.

Mrs Fawkes and I are working closely together on the strategic leadership and management of the three schools. The three schools will share good practice, while keeping their individuality. All staff are focused on providing a great education and school experience for your children. There is so much goodwill to ensure this new partnership is beneficial for the children at all three schools and we will be embracing all the positive benefits!

Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any queries, so that staff can help.

**Mrs Davis**  
**Executive Head Teacher**

## **Class Snippets**

**Pre-school** – Pre-School have enjoyed exploring the setting and settling in. They have independently created houses and other structures using Lego and foam bricks, to develop their small world play ideas.

We have also had great fun picking plums off our tree, working together and problem solving to reach them. The children have used lots of mathematical language such as big, higher, not tall enough and of course, we have tasted them at snack time!!

**Class 1** - Class 1 have had a brilliant week this week. They have all settled beautifully and the Class 1 Team are very proud of all of the children. We look forward to having them all in together from next week!

## **School Calendar 22/23**

### Term 1

5th Sept to 21st Oct

### Term 2

1st Nov to 16th Dec

### Term 3

3rd Jan to 17th Feb

### Term 4

27th Feb to 31st March

### Term 5

17th April to 26th May

### Term 6

5th June to 25th July

### **Inset Days:**

5th Sept

21st Oct

3rd Jan

24th and 25th July

### **Diary Dates**

21<sup>st</sup> Rags to Riches

26<sup>th</sup> C4 visit to Bletchley Park

28<sup>th</sup> C3 visit to Cheddar Caves

30<sup>th</sup> Reception-Year 6 Nasal Flu

Immunisations

MacMillan Coffee

Morning – 10am

### **October**

5<sup>th</sup> Tempest Individual and sibling photos (a.m)  
In the Net Production for Y5 pupils (p.m)

12<sup>th</sup> Konflux Theatre Company visit Y3/4 – diversity within Black History month

21<sup>st</sup> Inset Training Day

24<sup>th</sup> Half Term Holiday

31<sup>st</sup> Start of Term 2

**Class 2** – This week, Class 2 have been amazing! They have come back from the summer holidays with great stories and even better attitudes! We have been using the Colour Monster book to think about feelings and emotions; we have made artwork based on this book and our feelings. We have spent lots of time getting to know each other and playing games as a class.

**Class 3** – have had an amazing first week! They enjoyed swimming and we behaved incredibly well. The children were like little fish in the pool! They also had a fantastic experience exploring Stone Age- Iron Age artefacts to explore what life was like in the prehistory period.

**Class 4** – have had a great start this year with recreating Henry Moore's wartime wax resistant drawings and the children have been investigating circuits so they can send a Morse Code. The children have settled in brilliantly and are adapting well to their new Y5 and Y6 roles.

### **All Classes – HRH Queen Elizabeth II**

To mark the passing of Queen Elizabeth and for the school to show our respects, the whole school held a 1 minute silence in the playground at midday today. The end of the minute was marked with the ringing of the school bell, seven times, one ring for every decade that Queen Elizabeth served her country.

### **RRSA- Poster competition**

Rights Respecting is an important part of our learning at Steam Mills. To start off the school year, we are holding a poster competition. Choose one of the Articles (list attached) and create a poster with the article name and illustrate what that means to you. For example, Article 29- Education should promote children's talents and personality. You could draw children taking part in lots of activities such as: swimming, gymnastics, forest school and art. Entries need to be handed to your class teacher by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September and posters will be displayed around the school.

### **Walks to the Church**

Class 2 and Class 4 are planning to walk to the local Church on a day during September (day to be confirmed). As part of the RE topic they will be walking to the local church this term to find out more about Christianity and meet Reverend Clare. This will give them a chance to ask any questions and help to give children an opportunity to understand others who may have different beliefs to them.

This local trip is covered under the generic trip permissions that parents signed when children join Steam Mills but we just wanted to highlight that this will be happening.

### **Rags to Riches – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

Our next collection for Rags to Riches is on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September, please bring bags in between 8am and 9:00am (not before). Please could you bear us in mind if you have any items that you could possibly donate? The school is paid 40p per kilo and all proceeds go to FoSM. Here is a list of acceptable items: <https://rags2riches4schools.co.uk/what-we-collect/>  
Many thanks.

### **Nasal Flu Immunisations – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

Letters were sent out this week for you, please contact Miss Agg for another copy if necessary. Please ensure all forms are returned as soon as possible and before Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you

### **December**

8<sup>th</sup> Visitor: Harold the Giraffe– Life Education

### **January 2023**

25<sup>th</sup> Young Voices Concert, Birmingham.

### **MacMillan Coffee Morning – 10am Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

We are holding a MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September. All parents/carers are welcome to join us in the school hall. Please could we ask for donations of cakes and any left-over we will plan to arrange a little cake sale for the children. Donations for the coffee and cake to MacMillan would be greatly appreciated.

### **Uniform**

It has been great to see children return to school looking so smart in their uniform. We will be reminding children of the uniform expectations this term as we will be monitoring it more closely after Christmas.

The only earrings that are acceptable are plain studs, one pair please. Make-up is not allowed. Hair should be tied back if long, to help minimise the spread of head lice. We do not approve of shaved designs or hair coloring, in line with rules in secondary schools.

The school uniform consists of the following items:- Burgundy sweatshirt or cardigan, white or burgundy polo shirt or white shirts, black or grey trousers/shorts, skirts/pinafores, burgundy checked summer dresses and sensible black shoes.

All children from Reception to Year 6 are expected to have a P.E. kit. This consists of: - Burgundy or white t-shirt, shorts and daps (preferably slip-on).

We would be grateful for your support in maintaining standards as we believe it helps children prepare for secondary school where the consequences for not wearing the correct uniform can be missing free time. Consistency of uniform will also reduce competition between children (brands etc.) and support the DFEs recent focus on reducing uniform costs for parents. Supermarket brands are a great way to reduce costs, we do not insist of uniform including our school logo.

We expect all children to be wearing the correct uniform after Christmas and you will be contacted if our policy is not being followed.

### **School Lunches – Parentpay**

Apologies if you have experienced issues with booking your child's school lunches for this term on ParentPay. Parentpay have assured us that these technical difficulties have now been resolved but please do let Miss Agg know if you experiences any further issues. Please also ensure that you select a dessert to go with each main meal as the system may remove the booking as incomplete. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Ruardean Hill Brownies**

Wednesday evening 6 - 7.30 pm at Woodside Primary School for girls aged 7 - 11 years to find out more about Brownies <https://url6.mailanyone.net/scanner?m=1oWb06-0001sW-6H&d=4%7Cmail%2F14%2F1662718200%2F1oWb06-0001sW-6H%7Cin6m%7C57e1b682%7C28220857%7C13691377%7C631B119A9A328B8154B85E04E815FE12&s=6UgwH0-u3s6KoQPPUzV1KgjDIQg&o=l.wwwuirgwgrnid..ogignbukeowi%2Frs>  
Register your daughter at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)/join us or call 0881 695901

### **Families Gloucestershire Magazine**

Here is the **link** to the next issue of [Families Gloucestershire Magazine](#)

This '**Back to School**' issue is loaded with really useful information and articles for parents including:

- Getting school support for a child with SEN
- Why education begins at home
- Road safety for children
- Chapter books that encourage kindness

- New term teething problems
- Brilliant first chapter books for early readers
- Screen free rainy day activities
- Enjoying Autumn outside
- Family friendly walks for Autumn

### Adult Education Gloucestershire

Details of courses available attached and below:

\* Upgrade Your Maths is a 5 week course which is designed for people who are anxious about maths. The group is kept small so that parents can get individual support. The course builds parents confidence so that they can support their children effectively. Recently parents have progressed from this course to achieve a Functional Skills Maths Qualification.

This course runs on Thursdays from 10-12 starting on 22 September. Parents can apply to this course online by clicking [here<https://courses.glosglobal.net/CourseDetailsView.asp?CODE=GL0055899&NAME=Upgrade+Your+Maths&ID1=2500&ID2=55899&ID3=1>](https://courses.glosglobal.net/CourseDetailsView.asp?CODE=GL0055899&NAME=Upgrade+Your+Maths&ID1=2500&ID2=55899&ID3=1) and then on the Enrol Now button

\* Help Your Child at School for ESOL Parents is an online English course who use English as a Second Language. The course builds parents English skills and focuses on how they can help children learn in school.

This course runs on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30 or 12:30-2:30. Parents should contact me if they are interested in joining this course. Fay Tucker ESOL Learning Coordinator, Adult Education in Gloucestershire, Telephone: 07760 171477

### Community Event – Steam Mills



*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.*