



Steam Mills Primary  
02.12.2022

Dear Parents/Carers

What a wonderful time the children experienced at the Everyman Theatre yesterday. Thank you to FoSM for organising this whole school event and thank you to all parents and carers that help support FoSM and therefore the school. Particular thanks also go to those parents/carers that helped with the trip yesterday and the wonderful staff from Steam Mills.



### Help!

We have a parent of a Year 6 child who is hoping to find a willing parent to help with transport for their child. It would be home-time only from Monday-Thursday and both morning and home-time on Friday's. The child lives on the High Street in Cinderford and the parent is happy to contribute towards fuel costs. If you are able to offer assistance please contact Miss Agg.

### Pupil Short Reports

Each child will be receiving a progress report and an attendance overview w/c 5<sup>th</sup> December. Please contact Miss Agg if you do not receive this in your child's bag.

### Christmas Wreaths – 5<sup>th</sup> December

Just to remind you if you have ordered a Christmas Wreath, they will be available to collect on Monday morning from school. There might be a limited number of extra ones for sale if anyone forgot to order.

### School Calendar 22/23

#### Term 2

31<sup>st</sup> Oct to 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

#### Term 3

3<sup>rd</sup> Jan to 17<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Term 4

27<sup>th</sup> Feb to 31<sup>st</sup> March

#### Term 5

17<sup>th</sup> April to 26<sup>th</sup> May

#### Term 6

5<sup>th</sup> June to 25<sup>th</sup> July

#### Inset Days:

3<sup>rd</sup> Jan, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July

### Diary Dates

#### December

2<sup>nd</sup> & Christmas Jumper Bring &

5<sup>th</sup> Buy sales

5<sup>th</sup> FoSM Wreath Collection Day

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

9<sup>th</sup> Christmas Fayre – 2pm

12<sup>th</sup> Pre-school Pantomime Trip

13<sup>th</sup> Pre-school, Class 1 and Class 2 Nativity Performances (9:30am and 5:00pm)

15<sup>th</sup> Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

16<sup>th</sup> Christmas Parties & Carol Service – 1:30pm

#### January 2023

3<sup>rd</sup> Inset Day

18<sup>th</sup> Reception & Y6 Screening Vision & Measuring height & weight

25<sup>th</sup> Young Voices Concert, Birmingham.  
Rags to Riches Collection



### Christmas Jumper Sale – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Don't forget the FoSM Christmas Jumper Bring and Buy sale which will be taking place after school on the above date. Please bring jumpers in up to the sale dates and we can add them into the sale. Thank you!



### Cakes and Biscuits

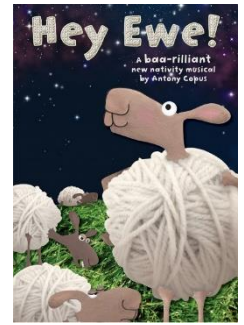
FoSM have asked for donations of cakes or biscuits etc. next Friday please for the Christmas Fayre. Please drop donations into the school office. Thank you.

### Christmas Cards

The Christmas Post Box will be put out for the children to post their Christmas Cards to each other at the start of the Christmas week on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December**. Please ensure that names are clearly marked with the class number. Many thanks

### **Pre-school, Class 1 and Class 2 Nativity – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Tickets will be issued next week, w/c 5<sup>th</sup> December. Please look out for these coming home in your child's bag and ensure you bring these with you for the performances. Please contact Miss Agg with any queries.



### **Star Costumes**

Please could we ask if you have any spare Star costumes at home? Pre-school would be very grateful if they could borrow any extras. Thank you!

### **Christmas Dinner – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

We have ordered all of the Christmas dinners from our caterers, AiP and look forward to a very festive meal! Please could you ensure that you make payment via ParentPay, the extra charge applies to all children except those in receipt of free school meals. Many thanks

### **Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Don't forget that this day is also our Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children. Christmas Jumper to be worn instead of school jumper, other clothing as per school uniform please. £1 donation is requested please. Thank you.

*Linked to : Articles 38/ 22- Protection from war/ refugee children*

### **Christmas Party Day – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

Children are welcome to come to school in their party wear, no collection for this day.

### **Inhalers/Medication in School**

Please could we remind parents that any medicines, including inhalers must under the supervision of staff when in school. No medication is to be left in children's bags. If you need any medication administered during school hours, please complete a medication form at the school office. Please note that we only administer prescribed medication including antibiotics that are needed more than 3 times a day.

### **Prostars Club**

A new Prostars letter was sent home yesterday for the term 3 club. Also to remind those who are attending this terms club that there are **no Prostars Clubs** w/c 12<sup>th</sup> December as per your original letter. We have also made the decision to cancel Prostars Club for KS2 on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December due to the Christmas Fayre, Miss Agg will issue a refund for 1 lesson to your ParentPay account.

### **Snow Plan**

Please find attached a copy of our Snow Plan, please refer to this in case of bad weather.

### **School Uniform**

We have lots of school uniform at the moment. We are hoping to have a table at the Christmas Fayre, so please do take a look - £1 an item! Miss Agg will sort what is left and list on the Uniformly website over the Christmas holidays. Please look out for a message on eSchools and Our School App about this. If you have some spare time and are able to take this task on please contact Miss Agg, all proceeds go to FoSM.

### **School Pickup**

Please could parents waiting for collection from school ensure that the car engines are switched off. We sometimes have children walking or waiting and want to ensure that any emissions are kept to a minimum around the school. Thank you.

### **RRSA: Article of the week!**

Human Rights Day - Articles 4 and 41

Article 4: The implementation of the convention for Children's rights.

Article 41: Governments must adhere to the articles set out.



At Steam Mills, we promote children's rights by including them in our planning, linking texts to rights and discussing in assemblies. Children are able to talk confidently about rights and British Values.

### Class Snippets

**Pre-school** – Christmas has arrived at Pre-school. Buddy the Elf has been sent from Santa to keep an eye on the children. We have also started our Christmas crafts and have been very busy learning our songs for the Christmas play.

**Class 1** children have made the Class 1 grown-ups incredibly proud for their fantastic behaviour during the trip to the pantomime. We all had a fantastic time and are very grateful for the parent helpers for helping us stay safe. This week we have started to make our Christmas crafts for the Christmas Fayre and have been doing lots of nativity practise. This week's sounds have all been digraphs (ch, sh, th, ng), and the children have been working hard on remembering that a digraph is two letters together, that make 1 sound and they have all done a fantastic job!

**Class 2** - This week, we have been thinking carefully about the events which lead to the Fire of London. The children have used great adjectives to describe the fire, the smoke and the houses in London at this time. The children have been working really hard with their writing, the year 2s have tried very hard with editing their work to make it better.

**Class 3** have had a fantastic morning weaving willow wreaths. They used willow, hazel and decorated with flowers and ribbon. The children listened very well to our visitor and enjoyed making their wreaths.



**Class 4** have been enjoying getting into the festive spirit by making their Christmas lanterns for the Christmas fayre and Christmas cards. They have also been writing a balanced argument based on our class book this term 'Friend or Foe'.

### Young Voices

All parent tickets and children's t-shirts have been ordered and Miss Agg will inform you when these are ready for collection from the school office. **Please ensure that you go onto ParentPay to pay for your child's contribution to the cost of the coach, £12.50.** Please contact Miss Agg if you have any questions.

Here is also a link for the songs for children to practice at home if they wish and we have attached further instructions:

**Head Teacher Certificates**

**Pre-school**  
**Daphne** – writing a fabulous letter to the Tiger.  
**Luca** – forming letter of his name.

**Class 1**  
**Billy** - for working hard on his spellings and phonics.  
**Zakiyah** - for her beautiful handwriting and her creativity.

**Class 2**  
**Harper** - great use of mathematical language!  
**Ariana** - brilliant attitude to learning - always trying her best!

**Class 3**  
**Betsy** - always working hard in maths and great reasoning.  
**Maeve** - being a super classroom helper!

**Class 4**  
**Max** – for excellent focus in writing tasks.  
**Oscar (Y6)** - for being a brilliant learning.

<https://myclassmate.ai/parentRegisterReferral?code=MYgpp4E5pCRbTFiG>

You can also pre-order a DVD of the children's performance using these details :

**Discount code **SCHOOLS23****

**Pre-order your concert video today!**

Web address [yv23film.co.uk](http://yv23film.co.uk) and the discount code **SCHOOLS23** (which makes makes the video price discounted to £9.99).

The YV concert film is a great souvenir of your special night and you can watch them at home the day after your concert! You and your family can re-live the concert for years to come. Don't forget to apply your special \*discount code **SCHOOLS23** on purchase.

Featuring edited footage from your concert, some of the children and coaches arriving in the morning and a peek at the rehearsals and backstage interviews!

Here is your [link](#) to pre-order your concert video, then the very next day after the concert you will receive an email so you can watch it straight away.

Check out this link <https://youtu.be/1y89gG29bkk> to see a taste of the films we made in 2022!



*\* concert films are normally £12.99 and the discount code applies until 1st January 2023*

### **FoSM Parent Coach – Young Voices**

FoSM are looking into booking a coach for the parents to travel up to the Young Voices concert. Please could you contact Louise Bent if you are interested in taking up this offer, the cost would be £8.50 each.

Email: [mikerbent@btinternet.com](mailto:mikerbent@btinternet.com)

### **Holiday Free School Meals Scheme**

This winter holiday period, Gloucestershire County Council are providing vouchers to eligible families who have signed up to our Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of our commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. The vouchers are funded through grant funding we have received and they are separate to that of term time free school meals.

The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. We are unable to consider children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from reception to year 2), as they are not eligible for this scheme.

Families who have signed up to the scheme will receive £15 per child, per week for the holiday period. We will be distributing 2 weeks of vouchers for the winter holiday period.

We have attached details, to find out more about the scheme and to apply, parents can visit our Holiday free school meal vouchers webpage:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/meals-during-school-holidays/holiday-free-school-meal-vouchers/holiday-free-school-meal-vouchers/#main>

Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register, they will already have been included. To ensure we reach all those who are eligible, we are encouraging parents that have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

For any parents wishing to update details of an existing application, please ask them to email [childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk) so we can update their account, as this not an automatic process.

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal vouchers for the winter holiday period are now open until the 6 December. Voucher emails will be sent out on 13 December. Please check your junk/spam email folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there. If parents have not received their vouchers by the 14 December please email [childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk).

### **Winter HAF 2022 is coming!**

The Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF) will be returning this December to provide you with exciting, festive holiday fun for your family. See below for all the information you need to know. Click here to watch our latest HAF video! <https://youtu.be/4Fk3OI8zuSc>

What is HAF?

The Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF) is a Department for Education funded initiative to provide free activities and food for children in reception to year 11 who are eligible for pupil premium free school meals.

When is HAF happening?

HAF will be running for 4 days between 19-22 December.

When will bookings go live?

HAF bookings will go live from 1 December

What do I need to do in the meantime?

To make sure you're ready to book your activities this December, you need to need to do the following things:

1. Make sure you're registered on our Children's Activity Booking Site (CABS). This is important as this is the booking system you will use to book your HAF activities. You can register by clicking [here](https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf/register-for-our-childrens-activities-booking-system/) and completing your

2. If you're already registered to CABS, make sure all details are up to date on your account. This is important as it helps us to make sure we are providing appropriate activities for children attending HAF, and that any additional needs are catered for. We want to ensure children and young people have the best experience possible.

Will food hampers be available?

Food hampers are not available this December, but we will share more details about the Holiday Free School Meal Voucher scheme with you soon.

How can I find out more information?

For more information, you can visit our website at

[www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf)<<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf>>

For general queries, you can email us at

[HAFPParentEnquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:HAFPParentEnquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk)<<mailto:HAFPParentEnquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk>>

Families who receive free school meals can also subscribe to our seasonal, bi-weekly newsletter by clicking

here.<[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKGLOUCESTERSHIRE/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=UKGLOUCESTERSHIRE\\_287](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKGLOUCESTERSHIRE/subscriber/new?topic_id=UKGLOUCESTERSHIRE_287)>

### **Furniture**

We still have a couple of chairs and some tables which are excess to requirement. Please contact Miss Agg if you are interested in giving them a home.

*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.*