



# Steam Mills Primary

07.02.2025



Dear Parents/Carers

## Look Who's Talking 2025

Well done to Bertie from Class 4 who represented Steam Mills in the last round of the Look Who's Talking Schools competition. This was for the UKS2 section and Bertie did such a wonderful job! His speech was about drums and his joke went down very well with the audience! Well done Bertie, we are very proud of you 😊



## Bikeability Training – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Just to remind those children taking part in the training from Monday to bring their bikes in first thing on Monday. Please could you ensure you have warm gloves, a warm coat and your helmet as the forecast is chilly. Children will be expected to put bikes in the library area at the end of each school day and we will confirm when they need to be collected. Many thanks

## FoSM Valentines Disco's

Our next FoSM Disco's will be on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

**KS1 Disco** 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm  
(Pre-school, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)  
Pre-school and Reception parents to stay with their children please.

**KS2 Disco** 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm (Year 3 – Year 6)  
Parents to drop children off and leave; please ensure you are back promptly to collect.

Admission will be **£1 per child (on the door)**. Tuckshop will be available, please no more than £2 per child to bring on the day. **Please bring correct money if possible.** All proceeds will go towards the next Pantomime Trip.

## FoSM Non-school Uniform Day

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** will be a non-school uniform day for FoSM. Please could all children bring in a **£1 donation** which will go towards the next events and Pantomime trip. Thank you.

## World Book Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March

For World Book Day this year, we are very lucky to have local author Charlotte L Taylor to run poetry workshops with the whole school. She will be working with each class and selling her books/ signing books after school. There will be more information to follow, regarding prices for these.

## Diary Dates

**Spring term 2025**  
6<sup>th</sup> January-11<sup>th</sup> April

**Half Term**  
17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> February

**Summer Term 2025**  
28<sup>th</sup> April-21<sup>st</sup> July

**Half Term**  
26<sup>th</sup> May - 30<sup>th</sup> May

**INSET days:**  
11<sup>th</sup> April and 21<sup>st</sup> July

## Diary Dates (incl. Federation activities)

### February

- 10<sup>th</sup> Bikeability Week for Y5's
- 13<sup>th</sup> FoSM Valentine's Disco  
Class 3 Trip
- 14<sup>th</sup> FoSM Non-school Uniform - £1  
End of Term 3
- 24<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 4
- 25<sup>th</sup> Class 1 start Gym sessions
- 26<sup>th</sup> Young Voices Trip

### March

- 6<sup>th</sup> World Book Day – Pyjamas!  
Poetry Workshops for all classes Author Booksale after school (C Taylor)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Red Nose Day
- 31<sup>st</sup> Parents Evenings from 3:30pm

### April

- 7<sup>th</sup> Parents Evenings from 3:30pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> End of Term 4  
FoSM Non-school Uniform TBC
- 11<sup>th</sup> Inset Training Day
- 28<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 5

### May

- 8<sup>th</sup> Tempest Photography – Class photos and leavers photos

### June

- 13<sup>th</sup> Sports Morning
- 27<sup>th</sup> Summer Fayre



Children are welcome to wear **pyjamas** on this day to enjoy a 'bedtime' story and hot chocolate in their classes during the day.

Following our successful book swaps over the past few years, this year we are asking children to create a 'mystery book' to donate. If you have a book at home that is no longer wanted, please wrap it up in wrapping paper and attach some clues to the front of it e.g. If the book was Fantastic Mr Fox the clues could be - chapter book ages 6-9, animal story and adventurous. Children will then swap these in classes by reading the clues and deciding which book they are drawn to.

As always, World Book Day tokens will be handed out and they can be exchanged for a book or £1 off a book in all good bookshops and some supermarkets. If you have any questions, please ask class teachers or Mrs Gibbs.

### Red Nose Day for Comic Relief

We will be celebrating Red Nose Day again this year. Children are invited to wear something **red**; we will also have a limited number of Red Noses to sell on the day.

Noses are £2 each; we are not asking for any other donation for this day. Thank you.



### Lawn Bowls for 10-11 year olds

Our neighbours at the Bowling Club are keen to encourage our Y5/6 children to try bowling and possibly join a youth league. If you are interested, please contact the number on this flyer. We envisage that the club will run straight from school and the school may be able to arrange to take children over on the allocated day.

### 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** – after reading the stories of *Matisse's Magical trail* and *Snail Trail* the children have busily made their own versions of Henri Matisse's famous artwork The Snail. Some beautiful masterpieces have been created using ripped up and cut up pieces of coloured paper. Through activities we have also looked at spirals and patterns in the environment. The children were extremely lucky to be visited by Herbie, as part of the Music project we are involved in. We have been listening to and learning about Brass instruments and Herbie played lots of songs we recognised on his cornet! The children also got to march to The Great Escape and conduct Herbie using sticks and moving up and down in hoops.

**Class 1** – this week we have been reading and retelling the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Linked to this we have started to explore what plants are and how they might grow. We also had the pleasure of enjoying some live music this week from a fantastic cornett player, with children taking turns to conduct. Then for mental health week we took some time to consider what makes us unique and how these differences make each of us super. In phonics our sound was 'or' with the sound cue 'corn on a fork' and our hfw were it's, so, do.



### Star of the Week Certificates



#### Pre-school

**Cooper** - great recall of his recent visit to Australia.  
**Freddie** - Being a kind friend.

#### Class 1

**Lockie** - for being super kind and helpful.  
**Joseph** - for joining in with all class discussions and giving everything a go.

#### Class 2

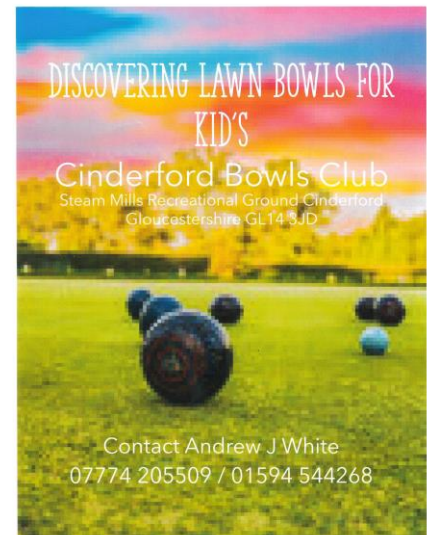
**Brody** - wonderful attitude and effort in everything you do; especially your phonics and writing.  
**Daphne** - beautiful use of adjectives to describe events from our class book.

#### Class 3

**Piper** - for being kind and sharing her delicious baking.  
**Isla D** - for a positive attitude and good progress in all areas.

#### Class 4

**Kryspin** – for attending to his Art work with enthusiasm and joy.  
**Corey** – for good contribution in PHSE.



**Class 2** - this week Class 2 have been continuing our work on Grandads Camper. They have been focusing on using adjectives to describe events in the story and wrote a postcard about their own holidays (real or imagined). The year 2s have been continuing their work on multiplication and division, looking at the 2 times table in depth. The year 1s have worked with Miss Chandler in maths this week, following the sequence of number patterns. In phonics, the Y1s were taught au and recapped air; while the Y2s recapped the tricky c making an s sound.

**Class 3** - this week, Class 3 have been working hard in all areas. In maths, the Y3s have amazed me with their work on addition using column method and Y4s have started multiplication using the formal method. They made their own story books in writing to write a sequel for the book Wisp. The children should be really proud of their work and I could see speech in their stories. In geography, there was some great teamwork to research a country in Europe and in rugby the children enjoyed the passing game to warm up. We are looking forward to our trip to We the Curious next Thursday.

**Class 4** have had a great week. In Science, they really enjoyed experimenting with different prisms to see which produced the best spectrum of colour - they asked some great questions and made some interesting predictions beforehand. In English they have been utilising their skills with description and producing short snippets of narrative to reflect the story of The Highwayman; they will be writing their alternative endings next week. Young Minds Matter provided a workshop with all the Y5s and Y6s of the Federation to discuss wellbeing; our children showed great autonomy and agency, making the staff very proud.

### Icepacks

When a child has a bump at school we always ensure they have an ice-pack to reduce bruising. Please could we request that any ice-packs that find their way home, are returned to school. Thank you.

### Parent/Carer Checklist

It would be helpful if Parents/Carers could run through a daily checklist before school, to ensure that your child/ren are ready for the school day. This would reduce the amount of phone calls home the school has to make and also reduce anxieties for your child/ren. The school expects the older children to start taking responsibility for some of these things themselves. As an example:

- **Lunch booked or packed lunch from home**
- **Drink bottle**
- **PE kit or swimming kit when needed**
- **Homework**
- **Reading book**
- **Correct uniform and coat**

**FEB HALF TERM FOOTBALL CAMP**  
**FEB 18TH - FEB 20TH**

- ✓ Skills & ball techniques
- ✓ Tournaments
- ✓ Technical/Tactical Sessions
- ✓ Inflatable football pitch and dartboard

**PRICE & TIME**  
 £18 PER DAY  
 9:00am - 3:00pm

**WHO CAN JOIN?**  
 Boys & girls  
 Age 5 - 13  
 All Skill Levels Welcome

Freedom Leisure, Lydney

Booking Link: [prostars.ipalbookings.com](http://prostars.ipalbookings.com)  
 Contact Mark on: 01444336837 / Mark@prostars-FSE.com

**ATTENTION ALL GIRL FOOTBALLERS!!!**  
 Come & join our football camp this Half Term!!  
**Message Mark to receive 15% OFF!**  
**FEB 18TH - FEB 20TH**

**PRICE & TIME**  
 £18 PER DAY  
 9:00am - 3:00pm

**WHO CAN JOIN?**  
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**KIDS HALF TERM CAMP**  
**AGES 5-11**  
**17TH-21ST FEB**  
 8:30AM - 4:30PM  
 Prices from **£22.50** a day!

**FUN & CREATIVE SPORTS ACTIVITIES AND ARTS AND CRAFTS FOR EVERYONE!**

**Locations:**

- ▶ Berry Hill Primary School, Coleford
- ▶ Primrose Hill CoE Academy, Lydney
- ▶ Bishops Cleeve Primary Academy, Cheltenham
- ▶ Naunton Park Primary School, Cheltenham

Book now: [prostars.ipalbookings.com](http://prostars.ipalbookings.com)  
 facebook.com/prostars-fse



## We want to hear from you!

### What makes the Forest of Dean unique?

Task: Year 5 and Year 6 students who attend school within the Forest of Dean District are invited to create a poster identifying why the Forest of Dean is so unique. We are conducting research into what people identify as the special and unique characteristics of the Forest of Dean. The poster can highlight environmental elements such as the ancient woodland and endangered species, as well as the people and their rich cultural history. Students can choose to do a poster that is either environmental or socially focused, or combine and cover both topics. The poster should be no larger than A3 size and should contain pictures and written information.

Prize: The winning school will receive £500 which can be put towards an appropriate school trip or an environmental or climate action project of your choice which will need to be agreed with the Council in the event that your school wins. The closing date is the 27 February 2025. Submissions can be emailed or posted.

Submissions: you can either email [communications@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:communications@fdean.gov.uk) or via post to Forest of Dean District Council Offices, High Street, Coleford, Glos, GL16 8HG. For the attention of Sustainable Environmental Research and Development Officer. Please include the school's name on any submissions.



**DRYBROOK RUGBY CLUB**

**Rugby Half term Camp**

Fun filled rugby, for all primary school ages of any ability

February 17th-20th  
**Book 3 days get the 4th FREE**

**CM Coaching**  
Mannings Ground, High St, Drybrook GL17 9EU  
@drybrook rugby  
email: [cammillscoaching@gmail.com](mailto:cammillscoaching@gmail.com)

07484 767754

**PLAY GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S PLAY RANGERS**

**February Half Term at The Recreation Ground, Ruspidge, GL14 3AE**  
**Tuesday 18th February**  
**10am to 4pm**

With thanks to CM Coaching who funded this session with local back better funding

Our Play Ranger activities take place outdoors in all weathers and are open access. This means there is no registration, children are free to come and go as they please.

Our Activities are aimed at school aged children. Under 8's are welcome and should be accompanied by an adult.

We believe all children have the right to play. Please talk to us if your child needs additional mobility or other support to enjoy Play Rangers.

Play Gloucestershire  
Transforming lives through the power of play  
[www.playgloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.playgloucestershire.org.uk)  
@play\_glos playgloucestershire



### Things you need to know about Play Gloucestershire

Play Gloucestershire - a registered charity - is the leading provider of free, outdoor, active play in the county. Our Activities are aimed at school aged children. Under 8's are welcome and should be accompanied by a parent or carer. We have it when the whole household joins us at our sessions.

Our Play Ranger activities are open access. This means there is no registration - children can leave the site at any time. Our Play Rangers will not stop them and may not know that they have left.

We encourage children to take responsibilities for their own actions. We think this is good for them. They will be encouraged to resolve disagreements amongst themselves. We will intervene if absolutely necessary.

Play Gloucestershire believe that children need and want to take risks when they play. Our Play Rangers aim to respond to these needs by offering children stimulating, challenging environments for exploring and developing their abilities. In doing this we aim to manage the level of risk so that children are not exposed to unacceptable risks. Our experience tells us that whilst children play outdoors they are likely to have accidents. If this causes concern please come along and speak to us about it.

All our activities are outdoors and include den building, fires, arts and crafts, sports and a range of playful games. We encourage children to play freely and choose what they do. They do not have to do anything if they don't want to. Children will get wet, hot, cold, smelly and dirty and need to wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Better to wear old play clothes than ruin your best!

Our Play Rangers will provide drinking water at all sessions. We promote healthy eating and sometimes will provide free fruit.

We believe all children have the right to play. Please talk to us if your child needs additional mobility or other support to enjoy Play Rangers.

For further information:  
Visit us at [www.playgloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.playgloucestershire.org.uk)  
Email [info@playgloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:info@playgloucestershire.org.uk)  
Phone 01452 505548  
Play Gloucestershire is a registered charity (1126562)

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.**