



Steam Mills Primary

27.10.2023



Dear Parents/Carers

Internet Safety & Behaviour

PC Greg Steer, our local School Beat Liaison Officer will be visiting Class 4 on 7th November after the half-term break. This first visit will be looking at Internet Safety, how to navigate safely and also looking at behaviour on-line. This will be a very timely visit as the school are still learning of incidents where children are not being respectful and kind to each other when communicating on-line. We would appreciate Parents/Carers monitoring their child and spot checking activity with them from time to time. Thank you.

School Discos

FoSM have set the date for the next school disco for **Thursday 9th November**.

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. **Year 1&2 parents to drop children off and leave, please ensure you are back promptly to collect.**

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.**

Tickets will be £1 on the door (please bring exact money). Tuckshop will be available; please no more than £2 per child to bring on the day. Please can we ask, if at all possible, if you have siblings in the two different age groups that arrangements are made for them to be brought to their discos separately? We have very limited space in the school hall. Thank you

Remembrance Day

We will mark Remembrance Day with the sale of Poppies and other Poppy Appeal merchandise again this year. There is no price list this year but could we please ask for a £1 minimum donation per item for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. There will be slap bands available but these must be put in book bags to take home and not used in school time. Items will be on sale from **Tuesday 7th November**. Thank you



Children in Need

We will be celebrating Children in Need on **Friday 17th November** by wearing something "SPOTacular"! Please do not worry if you do not have clothing with spots, any non-uniform will be



Term Dates 2023-24

Autumn Term

4th Sept — 22nd December
Half Term: 30th Oct — 3rd Nov

Spring term 2024

8th January — 22nd March
Half Term: 12th — 16th Feb

Summer Term 2024

8th April — 22nd July
Half Term: 27th — 31st May

INSET days:

6th November, 22nd December,
24th May and 22nd July

Diary Dates

October

30th Half-term Holiday

November

6th Inset Training Day

7th Start of Term 2

PC Steer visit to Class 4 –
Internet Safety

9th FoSM School Discos

11th Remembrance Day

15th Reading Cafe

17th Children in Need

23rd C3 Parent Grammar Session

24th FoSM Wreath Making Event

29th Panto Workshop Classes 1, 2
and 3

December

6th Pantomime – Classes 1-4

11th EYFS/KS1 Nativity Dress
Rehearsal

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

13th Pre-school Christmas Play Trip
(details to follow)

14th Christmas Dinner
Christmas Jumper Day

15th FoSM Christmas Fayre

21st Carol Service (details to
follow)

22nd Inset Training Day

25th Christmas Holidays

January

8th Start of Term 3

24th Rags 2 Riches Collection

25th Reception and Year 5 NHS
Health Screening

fine. We are not asking for any donations this year but we will have a limited amount of Pudsey Ears (£2.50) and Wristbands (£1) for sale on the day. Please send in correct money if your child would like to purchase any items. Thank you

Grammar Information Session for Parents – Class 3

Mrs Gibbs will be holding a grammar information session after school on **Thursday 23rd November** at 3:30pm-approx 4:15pm. This will provide parents with information on the grammar expectations for Y3 and Y4. There is no requirement to book, just come along, with or without your child is fine.

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 - we have continued to have a Halloween themed week at Pre-School! We have made 'witches' potions' using coloured water and plastic insects such as spiders, frogs and millipedes. We have scooped out the middle of a pumpkin and carved it, giving it a face with some added drawings! We have had Halloween shaped cutters at the playdough table and stampers to decorate and design our own pumpkins. We also made pumpkin marshmallow rice crispy cakes which went down a treat! The children have also enjoyed the story book 'What's in the Witches Kitchen?'

Class 1 – busy week in class 1! Year 1 have been punctuating their writing and Reception have been writing CVC words. We have almost finished our Geography topic, looking at where we live in more detail, alongside looking at and comparing the weather between England and Trinidad in preparation for our topic next term. We also had a visit from Harold the Giraffe, as we completed a workshop on resilience and what it means/looks like to be resilient. Reception sounds this week are (h, b) and our HFW's are (oh, put, mum, big, up, him, had).

Class 2 – this week, Class 2 have been working really hard! They finished off their wonderful stories based on our class book, Billy and the Beast. All of the children worked so hard to make their stories the best they could be. We had a fun afternoon on Wednesday when we were trying to see how high we could get a rocket to fly. The children experimented with different techniques when setting it off to see which would have a better impact. The children really enjoyed seeing Harold the Giraffe again. I heard some beautiful responses about what they should do when their friends are upset, they really helped Harold solve some of his problems.

Class 3 had an exciting day yesterday playing music and creating artwork. They have created relief prints in the style of Andy Warhol using printing ink and repeating patterns. In writing, we have been working on leaflets about bandits and discussed a range of non-fiction features. The children have all worked very hard this term and are well deserving of a half term break!



Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school

Leo - for having imaginative ideas within setting
All of **Pre-School** for having a wonderful first term.

Class 1

Elodie - for always working hard and trying her best.
Mason - for engaging well in phonics.
Toby - for showing the rest of Class 1 how to tidy up.
Star readers:
Tate, Theo & Brody

Class 2

Ariana, Evie W & Caitlin - for always trying your best and being fantastic in maths.
Freddie - for a lovely, descriptive story based on our Class book.

Class 3

Isla C- for excellent sounding out to write sentences in a leaflet about bandits.
Serenity- For a lovely use of vocabulary and carefully selected word choices in her writing.

Class 4

All of **Class 4** for exceptional behaviour on our class trip!

Class 4 had a brilliant trip to the Birmingham Think Tank; the day flew by and some of the children didn't even want to come home! The children loved the interactive exhibits there and were wowed in the Planetarium... We will let the pictures do the talking 😊. Thank you to the parents who gave up their time to come and help – it was much appreciated!



Reading Newsletter

Please find attached the Reading Newsletter for Term 1 from Mrs Gibbs.

Parent/Carer Survey

You should have all received an email this week requesting feedback via our Parent/Carer Survey, in case you missed this, here is the link again. We would really appreciate feedback following the recent parents' evenings. Thank you.

<https://forms.office.com/e/SNZuSwEsRJ>

Prostars Club, Term 2 – Change of Date

Thank you to those that have signed up for Prostars Clubs next term. We have had to make a slight change to the dates due to the Christmas Fayre on Friday 15th December. The clubs will still run for 5 weeks and the payment request is now on ParentPay, dates are as follows:

KS1 Mondays - Monday 13th November up to and including Monday 11th December
KS2 Fridays - Friday 10th November up to and including Friday 8th December

Forest Foodbank

Please find attached a flyer from the Forest Foodbank explaining what to expect should you need to access this service.

Lunchboxes

Please could we ask that all lunchboxes provided are healthy and low sugar where possible? Strawberry Laces and other sweets are not acceptable items and these will be kept in the lunchbox for the children to have at home. These types of items do cause problems with other children feeling that they too should have sweets! Appropriate sweet options are a small cake (eg. Mini Roll, a yogurt or a biscuit). Thank you



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.

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