



# Steam Mills Primary

07.03.2025



Dear Parents/Carers

## World Book Day/National Poetry Week

This week, we have celebrated National Poetry week and World Book Day. The children enjoyed coming to school in pyjamas and having a hot chocolate and bedtime story.

They also enjoyed swapping their mystery books. The children had a visit from local author Charlotte L Taylor and all accessed poetry workshops. The younger children read 'Time for Bed Sleepy Head' and the older children wrote their own poetry based on the book 'The Unicorn's Horn'. The children all gave great ideas to write their poems and shared them in their classes. A big thank you to Charlotte L Taylor for coming to give this wonderful experience to each of the schools in our federation this week.



## 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 events)

#### March

- 18<sup>th</sup> Reading café – invite only
- 19<sup>th</sup> Class 2 Trip to Bristol Zoo Project  
Class 4 Trip to National Waterways Museum
- 21<sup>st</sup> Red Nose Day

#### April

- 1<sup>st</sup> Parents Evenings  
From 2:30pm - Classes 2-4  
From 3:30pm - Pre-School/C1
- 4<sup>th</sup> C2 Art Afternoon with Parents
- 4<sup>th</sup>, Scholastic Book Fayre -
- 7<sup>th</sup>&9<sup>th</sup> after school – card payments only

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Parents Evenings

- From 2:30pm - Classes 2-4
- From 3:30pm - Pre-School/C1

#### 10<sup>th</sup> End of Term 4

- FoSM Non-school Uniform TBC
- Easter Service – 2:30pm

#### 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
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Sponsored Walk – pm only (collection from Beechenhurst) Details to follow

#### June

- 10<sup>th</sup> Federation Trip to Houses of Parliament
- 13<sup>th</sup> Sports Morning
- 27<sup>th</sup> Summer Fayre

## Red Nose Day for Comic Relief – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March

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.



## Parents Evenings – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> & Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April

We are holding Parents Evenings on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April. Bookings for classes 1, 2, 3 & 4 are made via our eSchools system which will be open for booking from 3:15pm. The meetings are in 10 minute slots, please adhere to this time limit. Classes 2, 3 and 4 have more slots this time, with appointments starting at 2:30pm on both days; this is to ensure there are enough slots for all parents to attend. If you do not book on the parent evening days, please do not assume an appointment will be available on another day as this will not be possible before the end of term. Please let Miss Agg know if you would like to see Miss Barber (SENCO) or if you are experiencing any difficulties making bookings. Pre-school Parents Evenings will be on the same days and bookings can be made with the Pre-school staff.

## Class Snippets

**Pre-school** - since the start of term, the children have been looking at recycling and ways we can help in our environment. We have read books; Litterbug Doug and There's an Elephant in my kitchen to inspire and prompt the children's experiences, thoughts and ideas. Every day we are taking our story's superhero Michael Recycle to lunch, to collect rubbish from our lunchboxes. The warm weather this week has allowed us to enjoy lots of lovely play outdoors, the school field and climbing equipment.



**Class 1** - this week we have been very busy. We have enjoyed our second gymnastic session, learnt all about the life cycle of a bean plant and thought about what we can do that makes us extraordinary. For world book day we enjoyed many stories and exploring rhyming words in a poetry workshop. In phonics our sound this week was 'igh' and our HFW (like, little).

**Class 2** - we have had such a lovely week this week! The children are really enjoying our writing unit - Lost and Found. They worked hard this week to create some similes to describe a wave. We had some beautiful ones - as huge as a mountain, as transparent as a window, as dark as the night moon! We enjoyed some pancakes on Tuesday and read Mr Wolf's Pancakes from our book vote. The year 1s have finished learning all the new phonics sounds so will now just be recapping for the rest of the year! Class 2 have also been enjoying some measuring over the past two weeks. We have been using CM to measure the length and height of objects, with the year 2s beginning to use metres too!

**Class 3** - this week, Class 3 have had a busy week working on multiplication and division in maths. We have also looked at TTRocks to remind children about this great resource to develop multiplication fluency. In writing, the children are excited about reading our new book 'Leon and the Place Between' and have used their senses to describe a circus. We were very lucky to have a poetry workshop for World Book Day and the children enjoyed listening to a bedtime story about the magic of reading. The children are really looking forward to making volcanoes next week in DT and have been busy designing them today.



## Star of the Week Certificates



### Pre-school

**Sienna** - Labelling her work with an S.

**Jude** - Showing a 'can do' attitude.

### Class 1

**Rosie** - for great effort and beautiful singing in music.

**Tilly** - for showing bravery and perseverance in gymnastics and play.

### Class 2

**Caitlin** - always having a positive, 'can do' attitude.

**Isla** - beautiful use of similes in your writing!

### Class 3

**Billy** - for showing a love of learning and being kind.

**Blake** - for making good links in his guided reading answers.

### Class 4

**Isabelle** - for showing enthusiasm at Young Voices and being a great role model to others.

**Olivia** - for showing resilience when learning long multiplication.

**Class 4** - have had a busy week. In geography, they got outside in this lovely weather to create key features of a river and they were keen to show their creations to our judge - thank you for taking part Mrs Rodway! The children have nearly finished their Monet-inspired artwork and are very proud of their results. Additionally, we have started our new Science topic this week - Living Things and their Habitats - and the children recalled some of their prior learning to help them. They thoroughly enjoyed World Book Day and were excited to unwrap the book parcels they swapped.

### Houses of Parliament Federation Trip

As part of our Rights Respecting, we have been fortunate enough to secure a booking to the Palace of Westminster, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The children that are on the school councils have been invited as they have shown a keen interest and passion to make changes at our schools, however, each school will have an allocation of extra spaces and we would like to offer more children the opportunity to attend. These should be children that a) have previously been on the school council, b) put themselves forwards as candidates for the school council previously, or c) have a known interest in politics. The trip is heavily subsidised but there would be a small contribution required of £12 for this trip. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, there may be funding available to subsidise further.



If you wish for your child to be considered, please communicate with your school office directly by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March. We will then put your child's name in a ballot and then communicate if you have been successful or not, before the Easter Holidays.

### Lost Property

We are finding there is an increase in the amount of unnamed lost property being handed in. Please could we remind parents to name all items clearly. We have a lovely Joules Navy Girls Padded Coat, age 9-10, which somebody must be missing!



### Breakfast Club/After School Club

Please could we remind parents to keep their Parentpay accounts in credit at all times. Please check that you have credited upon making your booking. Regular debt could result in your child being refused these important services. 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
- No personal/unnecessary items from home.



### Coolmilk

Did you know that your child could be receiving a free or subsidised drink of milk each day? This is the link to register your child or if they are entitled to Free School Meals, please contact the school office and we can register for you.

<https://www.coolmilk.com/parents/>



### School Trends Uniform Offer – Fleece

School Trends have a March promotion, offering - £5 off each fleece, the promotion code is FIVEOFF to be input at checkout, thank you.

[School Trends](#)



Hop on over for our  
**PROSTARS**  
Half Term Activity Camp

Join us on  
14th-17th April + 22nd-25th April  
for some egg-citing fun at:

Ages 5-11

Open Venues:  
• Berry Hill, Coleford  
• Primrose Hill, Lydney  
• Naunton Park, Cheltenham  
• Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham

8:30 am-  
4:30 pm

from  
£22.50  
a day

Basic info: [prostars.fsfc.com](mailto:info@prostars.fsfc.com) [info@prostars.fsfc.com](mailto:info@prostars.fsfc.com)



I AM  
I AM  
I AM

LEARN ABOUT JESUS  
BRING MATES  
FUN + GAMES  
Music  
AGES 7-11

Scripture  
Forest of Dean

Saturday 15th  
March 2025 5pm-  
7pm St James  
Church Centre  
Small snack

Parents/Carers you  
are welcome to  
stay for a  
fellowship session  
just for you



JAMES HOPKINS  
TRUST

**Easter Extravaganza**

SATURDAY 12TH APRIL  
1-5PM

ABBEYDALE  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

STALLS, GAMES, FACE  
PAINTING, SPECIAL GUESTS,  
RAFFLE AND MORE!

CHILDREN  
FREE ENTRY  
ADULTS £3

### Contact with School/Class Teacher

If you have a class-based query, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance via the school office. Please be assured that teachers will respond, but not necessarily on the same day. Teachers are not expected to respond whilst they are teaching or beyond 5pm; your patience is appreciated.

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.**