



# Steam Mills Primary

27.02.2026



Dear Parents/Carers

### Mrs Evans (Class 1)

We would like to let you know that Mrs Evans has made the decision to take her retirement and will sadly be leaving Steam Mills Primary at the end of this term. Mrs Evans joined Steam Mills back in 2018, has worked predominantly in Class 1 and has also provided our amazing Forest School provision during her time with us. Mrs Evans will be sorely missed and we wish her all the best and a very happy retirement! We are currently looking into recruitment options and will keep you updated.

### FoSM Non-school Uniform Day

Thank you to those that donated on the last day of term, we raised **£87** which will go towards Easter gifts for the children.

### Pot Holes!

We are desperate for some help, yet again, with our potholes in the carpark and on the track. If you can help with the offer of time and any equipment, we would be most grateful. Please contact Miss Agg in the School Office. Thank you.

### Tesco Blue Token – New Play Equipment

You may remember that the school took part in this scheme last year and won! The children fed to the School Council a "wish list" and we have now purchased the equipment with storage using the funding received so far (we are expecting another small amount on completion of the project). There is an equipment store for KS1 and KS2 and the children are very much enjoying it all. Thank you so much!



### Diary Dates

#### Spring Term 2026

5<sup>th</sup> January-27<sup>th</sup> March

#### Summer Term 2026

13<sup>th</sup> April-20<sup>th</sup> July

#### Half Terms

25<sup>th</sup> May-29<sup>th</sup> May

**INSET days:** 22<sup>nd</sup> May & 20<sup>th</sup> July

**Diary Dates** (incl. Federation events)

#### February

#### March

5<sup>th</sup> World Book Day

18<sup>th</sup> In the Net – Y4's to St. Whites

20<sup>th</sup> Comic Relief – Red Nose Day

Y1&Y2 Trip to Slimbridge

24<sup>th</sup> Parents Evening

**Federation PE Morning Y1/2**

25<sup>th</sup> Parents Evening

27<sup>th</sup> FoSM Non-school Uniform Day –

bottles for Summer Fayre

Tombola

End of Term 4

#### April

13<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 5

15<sup>th</sup>- Class 4 Residential Trip

17<sup>th</sup>

#### May

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

11<sup>th</sup> SATS week

Rags 2 Riches

20<sup>th</sup> FoSM Non-school Uniform Day –

Tombola for Summer Fayre

21<sup>st</sup> Sponsored Walk

22<sup>nd</sup> Inset Training Day and last day of Term 5

#### June

1<sup>st</sup> Start of Term 6

12<sup>th</sup> Sports Morning

**18<sup>th</sup> Federation Day (Sports)**

**Y3/4am, Y5/6pm**

19<sup>th</sup> FoSM Non-school Uniform Day – Sweet Donations

26<sup>th</sup> FoSM Summer Fayre

#### July

15<sup>th</sup> Leavers Disco

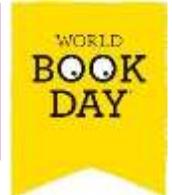
## School Sports Competition Kit

The school is hoping to purchase new Sports Kit, based on pupil feedback, for the competitions that the children attend from time to time. We are looking for any local companies that would be interested in sponsoring the kit. Please contact Miss Agg in the School Office if you know of anyone. Thank you.



## World Book Day – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

World book day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. To celebrate this year we will be wearing pyjamas to have a hot chocolate and story. We will also be running a book swap on this day. Please wrap a book up at home and write 3 clues on the front of the paper e.g. The Gruffalo - preschool/ EYFS book, animals, forest. Children will be able to bring these books into their classes and swap as a mystery book. They will then keep the book that they have chosen from the swap. Children will be completing other book themed activities during the school day.



## Red Nose Day for Comic Relief – Non-school Uniform Day - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Children are invited to wear something **red** on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March and we will also have a limited number of Red Noses (initially 1 per child) to sell from w/c 16<sup>th</sup> March. The noses are a “design your own nose” this year, having a white panel at front for decoration. Please could we ask that all noses are taken home for decoration, rather than children trying to do this in school. They will be sold from class each day and are £2 each; we are not asking for any other donation for this day. Please note that Class 2 and all Year 1 children will be on a school trip on Friday and will need to wear uniform as stated in the trip letter and will obviously not be able to purchase noses on the Friday. Thank you



## Parents Evenings – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

We are holding Parents Evenings on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Bookings for classes 1, 2, 3 & 4 are made via our eSchools system which is open for booking from 3:15pm today. The meetings are in 10 minute slots, please adhere to this time limit. Appointments start at 2:30pm (except for C2 on Tuesday due to Gymnastics) 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. The booking window closes on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 3:15pm**. 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.



## FoSM Non-School Uniform Day – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

FoSM are holding another non-school Uniform Day on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Please could Parents/Carers donate a bottle for the Summer Fayre Bottle Tombola. Thank you.

## 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.

## Water Bottles

Recently a few Parents/Carers have requested that the school remind children to drink throughout the day. We understand this can be a concern and we wanted to reassure parents that the teaching staff do their utmost to remind children to drink. Children have the opportunity at morning break and lunchtimes as well as having the ability to ask teaching staff during teaching times. As we head into warmer weather, this is going to be even more important and the school would also like to request the support of parents to ensure that; especially the older children, are aware how important this is and that it is their responsibility to hydrate throughout the day. Thank you.

## Class Snippets

**Pre-School** – The children have fully embraced celebrating Chinese New Year this week. They have enjoyed learning about the Great Race and how the twelve years of the zodiac were decided. We have watched a beautiful shadow puppet version of the story and talked about which animal we are, based on the year we are born. The children have created lovely red and gold lanterns and made blossom tree pictures using paint and pop bottles! We were very lucky... (and excited) to try on some traditional Chinese clothes, sent in by a lovely grandparent from Class 2. Thank you! We have also practised our cutting skills - making traditional red envelopes and used our hand prints to create dragons. The highlight of the week was food tasting - the children tried rice, noodles, sweet and sour sauce and prawn crackers and each had a fortune cookie.



**Class 1** – really lovely first week back in Class 1. We have been exploring lots of outdoor provision and enjoying the sunnier and warmer weather. We started a new book and the children have been exploring the character from Jasper's Beanstalk. In maths we have been comparing quantities and values of number using Number Blocks to compare which is greater and who can hide behind who. In phonics our sound this week is 'air' and HFW's are (like, when, by, little, what).

**Star readers: Layton, Ocean, Nori, Rosie, Harrison**

**Class 2** had a lovely first week back. They started gymnastics and had a brilliant time. They got to explore using a range of equipment- bean, rings, bars and did lots of activities to build core strength. I was really impressed with how they listened to the coach and followed the instructions. We have started a new book- Jim and the Beanstalk which is a sequel to Jack and the Beanstalk. The children have been working hard on thinking of links between the two books and making predictions based on what they already know. They celebrated Chinese New Year on Monday and got to experience different Chinese foods and writing.

**Class 3** have made an excellent start to the term and quickly settled back into their learning. In English, pupils have enthusiastically engaged with *The Lost Happy Endings*, writing detailed character descriptions of the witch with a focus on pronouns. In Mathematics, both year groups have begun their multiplication units, exploring formal written methods. In History, the children wrote diary entries as archaeologists discovering Sutton Hoo. Our dance unit in PE has started with inspiration from *The Carnival of the Animals*, and in RE we have begun learning about Islam and its key beliefs.

**Class 4** - this week Class 4 have completed their art work based on Henry Rousseau's painting Surprise! They have been really focused and committed to these pieces and it has shone through. We are very proud of what they have produced. In English, we have started to look at our book for this term 'Can we save the tiger?'. The children have engaged well with this text so far and the discussions around reasons for species being extinct or endangered. Children have many different viewpoints around how humans and animals impact each other and what is the right way to deal with this. In Maths, Year 5 are looking at multiplying decimals by a whole number and Year 6 have started to look at converting metric units.

## Attendance Snippet

If my child needs to be absent from school, what do I need to do?

You should contact their school as early as possible on the first day of absence to explain why. If you do not, your child's school will contact you on the first morning of their absence to find out why your child is not in school. All parents can request a 'leave of absence' for their child which gives them permission to be absent from school. Your child's school has the final say over whether to approve the request and for how long your child can be absent. Generally, a leave of absence would not be allowed for a holiday.

## 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
- No jewellery
- Reading book
- Correct uniform and coat – please ensure all uniform is worn correctly
- No personal/unnecessary items from home
- All medication to come to school office – no medication in children's bags
- Please ensure all uniform is named!



### 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.

Gloucestershire Gateway Trust  
Early Help  
YOUTH

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hl.ya@fvaf.org.uk

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**SATURDAY 28TH MARCH**  
**1:00-5:00PM**

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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**