



Steam Mills Primary

13.03.2026



Dear Parents/Carers

Parking

Please could we remind Parents/Carers to park diagonally (nose to grass verge) when parking in the layby area. This way more cars can fit into the available space – please do not park lengthways along the grass verge. Thank you.

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

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.



Red Nose Day for Comic Relief – Non-Uniform Day - Friday 20th March

Children are invited to wear something red on Friday 20th March and we will also have a limited number of Red Noses (initially 1 per child) to sell from w/c 16th 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.



Diary Dates

Spring Term 2026

5th January-27th March

Summer Term 2026

13th April-20th July

Half Terms

25th May-29th May

INSET days: 22nd May & 20th July

Diary Dates (incl. Federation events)

March

18th In the Net – Y4's to St. Whites

20th Comic Relief – Red Nose Day

Y1 & Y2 Trip to Slimbridge

23rd C3 Trip to Dean Heritage Centre

24th Parents Evening

Federation PE Morning Y1/2

25th Parents Evening

26th Preloved Uniform Sale – 2:00pm-4:00pm

26th Easter Service – 2:30pm

27th FoSM Non-school Uniform Day – bottles for Summer Fayre Tombola
End of Term 4

April

13th Start of Term 5

15th- Class 4 Residential Trip

17th

May

7th Tempest Photography – Class photos and leavers photos

11th SATS week
Rags 2 Riches

20th FoSM Non-school Uniform Day – Tombola for Summer Fayre

21st Sponsored Walk

22nd Inset Training Day and last day of Term 5

June

1st Start of Term 6

12th Sports Morning

18th Federation Day (Sports)
Y3/4am, Y5/6pm

19th FoSM Non-school Uniform Day – Sweet Donations

26th FoSM Summer Fayre

July

15th Leavers Disco



Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school

Ella - being a superstar at tidying up in both Preschool & Class 1!
Sienna - for always being so kind and including her friends in her play.

Class 1

Tilly - for her focus in science.
Nori - for her growing independence when writing.
Star readers: Cooper, Harrison, Layton

Class 2

Ava-Gracie - for trying new things at gymnastics.
Harper - excellent participation during class discussions.

Class 3

Piper - for writing an amazing alternative ending to *The Lost Happy Endings*.
Billy - for showing great motivation during our writing lessons.

Class 4

Fergie - for being a good role model.
Isla-Mae - for a brilliant speech in English.

Parents Evenings – Tuesday 24th March and Wednesday 25th March

We are holding Parents Evenings on Tuesday 24th March and Wednesday 25th March. Bookings for classes 1, 2, 3 & 4 are made via our eSchools system which is now open for booking. 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 20th 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.

Easter Service – Thursday 26th March at 2:30pm

There will be an Easter Service on the Thursday of the last week of term. Parents are welcome to join the children in the School Hall at 2:30pm. Children will return to class after the service and this day will be normal pick-up day at 3:15pm (3:00pm for Pre-school).



Preloved Uniform Sale – Thursday 26th March – 2:00pm until 4:00pm

We will be holding a uniform sale on this day in the playground (or Library area depending on the weather); all items are £1 and money raised goes to FoSM towards their fundraising.



FoSM Non-School Uniform Day – Friday 27th March

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

After School Club - Friday 27th March

We are looking to gauge interest in the ASC on the last day of term. Historically this day has not been viable for the club to run, with so little demand. Please let Miss Agg know if you require ASC on this day. Thank you.

Class Snippets

Pre-School – we have talked about the special mummies, nannies and ladies in our lives, sharing reasons why they are very important to us and have also been very busy creating Mother's Day cards. This week we have focused on the story of The Three little pigs and the Big Bad Wolf, recreating the story with props and play, retelling the story, and building houses for the Big Bad Wolf (hairdryer) to huff and puff and blow down!!

We were very lucky to be invited to view the new Preschool building, the space is looking amazing and everything is on track. The children have enjoyed watching the progress and we have created a book with photos to mark this very exciting chapter!



Class 1 – this week, the children have been finishing off their sequencing of Jasper's Beanstalk and have thought of ideas of what could happen next. We've had some enthusiastic ideas of Jasper finding Spiderman, a cowboy, and a golden unicorn. This week's reception sound is 'ear' and HFW's day, play, away and children. In maths we have been exploring doubles within 10.

Class 2 have been busy exploring Ramadan this week. They have handled a range of artefacts including the Qur'an, prayer mats and prayer caps. They have read some lovely books about Ramadan and Eid, widening their knowledge of the Muslim faith. In maths, the Y1s have impressed me with their addition to 17 and 18. They have made caterpillars with bingo dabbers to develop their addition skills and the Y2s have been working on comparing measures. All of the assessments have been completed and the children all tried their best - well done! In science, we have explored lifecycles and compared similarities and differences between humans at different stages of life. We are looking forwards to our class trip to Slimbridge next Friday.

Class 3 - It has been assessment week in Class 3, and the children have worked incredibly hard. They completed reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling assessments, as well as three maths tests. I am very proud of the resilience they showed and the positive attitude they maintained throughout the week. In writing, the children created their own alternative endings to *The Lost Happy Endings*, using their creativity and imagination to think about how the story might finish differently. We also completed our judging for the Royal Society competition and submitted our results. We are looking forward to finding out the outcome when the results are announced in April. In PSHE, we discussed ways we can take care of our school environment and how our actions can help keep our school a positive place for everyone.

Class 4 - in Maths, Year 6 have been working on the order of operations; they have been building their understanding of when to do operations, and in which order, as they are presented in an equation. Year 5 have started a new unit based on 3D shapes - they have been learning to visualise the nets and the different ways they can be presented. As a class, they worked well to deliver their persuasive speeches, with the aim of convincing the audience to save a particular animal - children assessed each other's speech, noting positives in their delivery and what they could improve next time. In PSHE, the children have considered what makes a good friend and the characteristics and virtues they need to consider of themselves as a friend, and then of others - we referred to our rights respecting ethos, as well as our class charter.

Attendance Snippet

What action can you take if your child's current school place is not suitable for their needs?

If you have applied for a place at a school and it does not offer your child a place, you have the right to appeal this decision. See Advice for parents and guardians on school admission appeals – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

Mainstream education isn't working for my child. Can I get help with an alternative provision?

Your first step is to discuss with your child's school to see if extra support can be given.

If you are still having problems you should discuss them with your local council. In many cases additional support can be provided to help a child remain in mainstream school. In a small number of cases where a child would not receive a suitable, full-time education without alternative provision, your local council is responsible for putting that in place.

Free School Meal Vouchers issued for school holiday periods is changing.

Free School Meal vouchers provided during school holidays which have been funded by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) through the Household Support Fund are coming to an end. This is because the Household Support Fund is ending, and Free School Meal Vouchers for the spring school holidays will be the last vouchers available under this scheme. A different fund, the Crisis and Resilience Fund is starting from Wednesday 1 April 2026.

We know food vouchers during school holidays have been important for many families and that's why we're working hard to ensure those who need support the most can still access it through the new Crisis and Resilience Fund and other support that we are putting in place across Gloucestershire.

To find out more, please:

- Visit Gloucestershire's [Family Hubs website](#) to learn about the support available for families, including the Holiday Activities and Food Programme, which provides great activities and nutritious food for children and young people during the school holidays.
- Look out for information about the incoming Crisis and Resilience Grant Funding, which will offer support for children and young people who are eligible for Free School Meals. Details on what you can expect and how to apply will be shared soon on the Family Hubs website.

Spring holiday 2026

This Spring holiday, Gloucestershire County Council will provide families in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM), who sign up to this offer, with vouchers to assist with food costs during the school holidays. The vouchers are funded through grant funding we have received, and they are separate to that of term time free school meals.

Applications for holiday FSM vouchers for the spring holiday 2026 will be open from Tuesday 3 March until Friday 13 March. Voucher emails will be sent from week commencing Monday 23 March. We hope that you will be able to pass these messages on to families within your schools. Please encourage families to check their junk/spam folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there. If parents have not received their vouchers by Monday 30 March, please encourage them to submit a query by contacting childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk

The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive Pupil Premium (benefits-related) free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. We are unable to consider college and sixth form students, nor children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from reception to year 2) - they are not eligible for this scheme.

Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of £15 per child for one week. To find out more about the scheme, eligibility and to apply, please visit our holiday free school meal voucher webpage here: [Holiday free school meal vouchers | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

Families who have signed up previously do not need to re-register for the spring holiday vouchers - they will already have been included. Families that have previously signed up will need to contact us with any changes to their circumstances (e.g. if the number of children eligible increases or decreases). To ensure we reach all those who are eligible, we are encouraging parents and carers who have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

Please note we check eligibility for the scheme by cross-referencing with the term-time free school meal register, so please make sure parents and carers are registered beforehand. They can register by visiting the [apply for free school meals](#) page. If your school does not currently use this method, we will require confirmation from the relevant school for the child's eligibility for Free School Meals. You can find more information on what schools these are on the link above.

Using vouchers – vouchers will only be awarded once the parent/carer has registered for the scheme and cannot be backdated. Vouchers should be used in the holiday period in which they are awarded. If vouchers are not claimed and have expired, they cannot be re-issued. Vouchers that were expected but were not received should be queried by contacting childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk

For any parents/carers wishing to update details of an existing application, please ask them to submit an update existing details request by contacting childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk so we can update their account, as details are not automatically updated.

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.

PROSTARS EASTER HOLIDAY CAMPS

**ALL VENUES NOW LIVE!
BOOK YOUR SPOT TODAY!**

HOLIDAY CLUB - SCHOOL VENUES

- Lift Off's Mead - Chipping
- Peterrose Hill - Lydney
- Berry Hill - Coleford
- Rosary - Stroud
- Naunton Park - Cheltenham
- Ashfield Park - Bass-on-Wye

**FOOTBALL CAMP
FREEDOM LEISURE VENUES**

- Wydean - Chipping
- Dean Academy - Lydney

Tiered Pricing

- Tier 1: £15
- Tier 2: £20
- Tier 3: £25

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Spring Themed Crafts
- Variety of Sports & Games
- DBS Checked
- Fully Insured
- First Aid Trained
- Safeguarding Trained

AGES: 5-11

CONTACT: info@prostars-fse.com
BOOK ONLINE: PROSTARS.IPALBOOKINGS.COM

EASTER FOOTBALL CAMP

WEEK ONE

- MARCH 31ST
- APRIL 1ST
- CHAMPIONS LEAGUE THEME DAY!
- APRIL 2ND

WEEK TWO

- APRIL 7TH
- APRIL 8TH
- ENGLISH FOOTBALL LEAGUES THEME DAY!
- APRIL 9TH

AGES 5-14
£18 PER DAY

DISTRICT PLAYERS DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

FUN GAMES

SKILLS & DRILLS

MATCHES & TOURNAMENTS

QUALIFIED COACHES

FREEDOM LEISURE LYDNEY & FREEDOM LEISURE WYDEAN (WYDEAN ONLY AVAILABLE ON WEDNESDAYS)
EXTENDED HOURS AVAILABLE WITH KIDS CLUB
CONTACT MARK: 07444 436637 mark@prostars-fse.com
prostars.ipalbookings.com

HAF Spring 2026 is coming!

Make sure you're signed up and ready to book!

Bookings open 16 March

Scan the QR code and press 'start onboarding' to begin your sign-up process. Visit <https://familyhub.gloucestershire.gov.uk>

Department for Education | HAF Family Activities Fund | Gloucestershire

Join us for some outdoor fun at Wild Explorers

ES off when booking all three sessions

31/03 | 01/04 | 02/04 | 8:45am-3:00pm

taking place @ Bream CofE Primary School

for children aged 5-13 years

£25 per session

Bookings must be made by Friday 20th March

wildexplorersfs@gmail.com | 07535737926

Wild Explorers - Forest School and Outdoor Activities

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust | intact

Waterscapes Week

30th March - 2nd April

Water and wildlife activities for everyone!

free events!

How to book: Scan the QR code, or ask at reception

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

Nature Nurture Family Fun Day

April 7, 10am - 2pm

Robinwood Hill Country Park, Gloucester, GL4 6SX

Activities for the whole family to enjoy, including:

- crafts
- nature walks
- mindfulness

A chance for families to connect, slow down and explore nature together. This event is being run as a relaxed drop-in session so families can come and go at their own pace.

scan me!

JAMES HOPKINS TRUST

Easter Appeal 2026

Many of our children are unable to eat orally, so we are asking for a £1 donation to fund Easter activities and respite during the Easter Half Term instead.

Scan to Donate

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.