



Steam Mills Primary

24.04.2026



Dear Parents/Carers

Play Equipment

Please could children not play with the school play equipment before or after school. Equipment has not been used correctly, with a number of items broken and also not put away. **Equipment is for use under school staff supervision only.** Thank you.



Swimming for Y1 and Y2 – Monday 5th May

Just to let you know that Freedom Leisure have informed the school that they are having building works to the changing rooms during this week, there will be no swimming session on this day. Thank you.

Scholastic Book Fayre – Wednesday 6th May until Friday 8th May

We will be holding our annual Book Fayre again at the start of May, this will take place each day after school in the school hall. Payments are all via payment card please or via QR code.



DATE CHANGE Rags 2 Riches Collection – Tuesday 19th May

Our next Rags 2 Riches collection will be taking on Tuesday 19th May. Please keep this in mind if you are having a Spring clean during the holidays! Please could all bags be left in the playground opposite the main gate (weather permitting) between 7:45am and 9:00am on the day. Many thanks.



FoSM Non-School Uniform Day – Wednesday 20th May

Please note this is a fundraising non-school uniform day for the Summer Fayre. FoSM are asking for donations for the Tombola. Prizes could be toiletries, chocolate, sweets, toys, hair accessories etc. Thank you!

Sponsored Walk – Thursday 21st May (pm)

All children should have received a letter this week regarding the Sponsored Walk which is taking place on the last day of term. Please ensure that return slips are handed in by Friday 15th May so that school knows the arrangements for collection of your child/ren. Pre-school children will be staying in school, along with any Reception children not taking part. Details of the Just Giving Page for Sponsorship money will follow shortly. Many thanks



Class Snippets

Pre-School – the children have really embraced our current theme as we learn all about the transformation of caterpillar to butterfly. We are enjoying the song daily by **Mr R** on YouTube: **Butterfly Life cycle**. They have loved creating Butterfly suncatchers using real flowers and fingerprint caterpillars. The children have also been drawing



Diary Dates

Summer Term 2026

13th April-20th July

Half Terms

25th May-29th May

INSET days: 22nd May & 20th July

Diary Dates (incl. Federation events) May

6th – Scholastic Book Fayre – Card

8th Payment Only

6th Y1/2 Trip to Crickley Hill

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 (pm)

22nd Inset Training Day and **last day of Term 5**

June

1st **Start of Term 6**

1st Class 3 and 4 Trip to the Hindu Community Centre

2nd C3 start Gymnastics for 5 weeks

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

17th Leavers Assembly and **end of Term 6**


fruits and caterpillars independently, remembering features. The children are fascinated by the arrival of our real caterpillars today....we will watch and wait patiently as they grow and grow and turn into beautiful butterflies. We also loved Angling day!!

Class 1 – the children, this week, joined Pre-school to engage with the angling workshop. They practised skills such as using rods to reel in a 'fish', practised their hand eye coordination with magnetic fishing rods and used beanbags to practise throwing bait. In science the children successfully identified different everyday materials inside the classroom. We revisited the United Kingdom and the capital cities, and in History, the children enjoyed drawing and building Castles including defence features we have learnt about previously. Reception phonics this week was ccvc words and the recapping of last terms HFW's. In maths, we were exploring '5 and a bit' with Tens Frames.


Class 2 had a lovely week exploring plants. They made pictures of plants being creative using string for roots, pipe cleaners for stems and tissue paper for flowers. They sorted wild and garden plants into groups. In writing, we have been writing instructions for plants and describing seeds. The Y1 children have been sharing cubes into quarters and Y2s have been finding three quarters using bar models. At swimming some children were able to move up into the next group and impressed the adults with swimming on their front and back. **A big thank you to Reggie Brain's mum** at The Nursery, Little Drybrook for donating some lovely plants to Class 2. The children have enjoyed observing different types of plants and they have been interested in drawing them. We have planted lettuce, sweet peas, strawberries and pansies.

Class 3 – another fantastic week in Class 3! The children have enjoyed watching their bean plants begin to grow while learning about germination in Science. In Writing, they have been developing their persuasive skills using our "four strategies," producing some very impressive pieces—I would have bought anything they were selling! On Wednesday, we took part in an angling session with Pro Stars, where some future anglers certainly shone. In PSHE, we explored how to prevent the spread of germs and created catchy jingles to promote good hygiene. We also built on our musical skills in ukulele, learning a few new chords.

Class 4 - on Wednesday morning, Class 4 enjoyed an angling session provided by Prostars. This was an opportunity for the children to explore a different type of sport that they may not have tried before. There were a variety of stations, where the children had to use many existing skills such as hand-eye coordination and learn new ones. In Maths, Year 6 have been looking at how to find a percentage of a number whilst Year 5 have continued looking at decimals, extending into representing them as fractions. Our English text, The Sleeper and the Spindle, has continued to hook the children. With it being a modern twist on a familiar fairy tale the children are excited to see how it might end differently!



Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school
Theo- for settling so well into Preschool and with great confidence too!
Grayson- for mastering the fireman's pole independently.

Class 1
Benahim - for his care and attention when designing a Castle.
Aurora - for her independence when writing.
Star readers: Locke, Nori, Harrison, Reggie

Class 2
Joseph - for great effort at swimming.
Tate - for beautiful presentation of his work.

Class 3
Charlie - for great presentation in his written work.
Chester - for his fantastic persuasive advert.

Class 4
Star of the week was awarded to the whole of Class 4 this week for positively representing the school during residential.





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.

SPRING FOOD FESTIVAL
Sunday 24th May 2026
 The Speech House Hotel Grounds
 Forest of Dean Gloucestershire
 GL16 7EL

KIDS COOKERY SESSIONS
 Learn some simple cookery skills which can be replicated at home. You will be taught how to make the dishes by Harts Barn Cookery School & take home your food at the end of the workshop.
 More info: www.forestshowcase.org

Making dips, chopping veggie sticks & making either nettle veggie burgers or vietnamese spring rolls

FOREST OF DEAN SCHOOLS F.O.D.S.

MAY HALF TERM FOOTBALL CAMP

VENUES: Wyndean School / Freedom Lecture Lydney
 TIMES: 9:00am - 3:00pm
 AGES: 5 - 12 years
 PRICE: £20 per day and dinner for District & Wildcats players
 DATES: Tuesday 26th May - Wednesday 27th May - Thursday 28th May

WEDNESDAY THEME - STREET SOCCER

A fast-paced day of skills, flair & creativity

What to expect:

- Skills & Tricks
- 1v1 Battles
- Penalties & Freekicks
- Street Tournament

Prizes:

- Street King / Queen
- Best Skills
- Best Goal
- Best Celebration

Whether your child loves SKILLS, SCORING GOALS, or just playing with friends - this is a day not to miss!

BOOK NOW
Prostars.jpaaBookings.com
 07444 436637
mark@prostars-fse.com

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