



Steam Mills Primary

11.09.2026



Dear Parents/Carers

Parking

We are very lucky as a school to have the use of the main carpark which is loaned to us by Cinderford Town Council. Even though we have this space, it still is not enough for all staff and parents/carers at peak times. To help fit as many cars in as possible, please could you ensure that you park considerately, taking up just one space. It has been noted at the start of this term that several cars are parking too far away from the car next to them, hence taking up enough space for 2 cars. Please be mindful of this going forward. Thank you.

5MPH

Please note that the approach to the car park, the car park and track area is **5MPH**. This is for everyone's safety and for the maintenance of the surface. Faster speeds kick up the gravel and exacerbate to the need for extra maintenance work which the school is keen to avoid. **The track is always strictly ONE-WAY**. Please also be aware of people accessing the Allotments and the Bowling Club when exiting. Thank you.

Tempest Photography - Wednesday 23rd September

All children will have their Individual portrait photos taken during the school morning and those that have siblings in school will also have a sibling photo taken (including Pre-school children). If you have a younger child who does not attend the setting or is not in Pre-school on this day and would like a sibling photo taken, please arrive at school between 8:30-8:45am and this can then be done.

Rags 2 Riches Collection – Wednesday 25th September (new date)

We have our next collection booked for 16th September so please do keep us in mind if you are having a sort out. This link tells you what is included in collections. Thank you!

<https://rags2riches4schools.co.uk/what-we-collect/>

European Day of Languages

On Monday 28th September, every class will be celebrating the European Day of Languages in school. Each class will represent a different country and take part in activities linked to that country.

Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform, wearing the colours of the flag of their class's assigned country. Please see the details below:

- Class 1 – Italy: Green, white and red
- Class 2 – France: Blue, white and red
- Class 3 – Spain: Red and yellow
- Class 4 – Greece: White and blue

Diary Dates

Term 1

1st September-23rd October

Term 2

2nd November-18th December

Term 3

4th January-12th February

Term 4

22nd February-25th March

Term 5

12th April-28th May

Term 6

7th June-21st July

Holidays and Half Terms

26th October-1st November

21st December-3rd January

15th February-21st February

26th March-11th April

31st May-6th June

INSET days:

1st September, 23rd October,

4th January, 28th May & 21st July

Diary Dates

September

1st Start of Term 1

23rd Tempest Photography –
Individual/Sibling Portraits

25th Rags to Riches collection
(new date)

28th European Day of Languages

October

19th Harvest Collection for Food
Bank

20th Nasal Flu Vaccinations –
whole school
C2 One Day Creative
Workshop

21st Harvest Festival Celebration –
parents welcome! 2:45pm

22nd Last day of Term 1 for children

23rd Inset Training Day

Throughout the day, each class will also have the opportunity to visit the other classrooms to experience and learn about the different countries being represented.

We look forward to a fun and exciting day of learning and celebrating the many languages and cultures across Europe!

Childhood Nasal Flu Programme – Reception to Year 6 – Tuesday 20th October

The NHS school vaccination team will be visiting on Tuesday 20th October. All parents/carers should now have received an email with information. Please let the school office know if you have not received this. **It is important for all parents/carers either accept or decline this offer via the on-line portal;** all nil responses will be followed up.

Class Snippets - (Article 28- children have the right to an education. Article 29- Education should develop a child's talents, personalities and beliefs)

Little Oaks - this week the children have initiated creating their own bus- using chairs and a flat drum for a 'steering wheel'. They have engaged in lots of bus roleplay, taking turns to be the driver and making lots of exciting journeys.... caves, McDonalds and the beach to name a few! This morning we have been sailing in our cardboard box 'boat' in the shark infested sea....!! We have also had some avid builders, making structures using the foam bricks and crates, managing space and tools, coordinating and mastering the wheelbarrows.

Class 1 – this week in Class 1 the children have been exploring Colour Monster and the different emotions we can all feel. We then explored Colour Monster going to school and identified the different emotions he felt throughout his first day. The children embraced the story, and we discussed our own experiences and feelings about starting school. We also explored a book called The Dot, about a character called Vashti and her artwork. The children engaged in their own pieces of work to represent 'the dot'.

Notice about mud kitchen

Mr Dickinson has very kindly started to build a mud kitchen for Class 1's outdoor area. Unfortunately, Class 1 doesn't have many resources to use in the mud kitchen and are asking for some generous donations of old/no longer used kitchen items/utensils. If you happen to come across any old bits and bobs that could enhance our mud kitchen area, the children and adults of Class 1 would be very grateful. Examples of items/utensils- cutlery, pots, pans, whisks, colander, making trays/tins, spatula, wok etc

Class 2 - have had a busy week! In science, they explored materials and their uses. We went on a material hunt around the classroom to find items and sorted them by their properties. In music, children used the glockenspiels to play a tune using notes GAC and they sang a song in two parts. The children have really impressed me with their listening skills today, when taking part in a book launch with Julia Donaldson for her new book 'The Gruffalo Granny'. Many children have had a go at drawing the new character and they really enjoyed hearing her read the book for the first time!

Class 3 have had a great first full week! In maths, we have started our place value topic, while in English we have revisited verbs and adjectives, explored synonyms and used thesauruses to help upscale our vocabulary. We have also begun our guided reading sessions, enjoying *Sulwe*. In science, we explored food labels and compared the sugar content of five different cereals. We also enjoyed our swimming lesson on Tuesday!



Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school

Theo - for recognising letters from both his and his daddy's name.

Maisie - for settling so beautifully into Preschool with great confidence.

Class 1

Willow and Ivy- for settling into their new school quickly and calmly.

Star reader: Harrison

Class 2

Layton - great contributions in class discussions.

Benjamin - for being an enthusiastic learner and exploring all areas of the classroom.

Class 3

Jacob - for showing kindness towards others.

Caiflin - for settling with confidence into Class 3.

Class 4

Harry - for embracing independence in year 6.

Alfie - for a positive attitude and resilience when starting year 5.

Class 4 - this week, Class 4 have continued their work on place value in Maths. Each year group has been exploring larger numbers than in previous years, with Year 5 working with five-digit numbers and Year 6 extending their understanding to seven-digit numbers. In English, we have begun reading *Goodnight Mister Tom*, which links closely with our History topic on World War II. The children are already intrigued by the story and have produced some fantastic setting descriptions. They have also demonstrated thoughtful inference and prediction skills based on what we have read so far. PE was a particular highlight this week as we learnt the Charleston, a dance made popular in the 1920s. It was wonderful to see every member of the class embracing the challenge, showing enthusiasm, resilience and a willingness to persevere, even when some of the dance moves proved tricky!

Mrs Crosby shared some lovely news with the class this week; she is expecting a baby! The school will be arranging suitable cover for Mrs Crosby due in February next year and will keep you informed.

School Debt Policy

A reminder that the school has a no debt policy. Please ensure that any Breakfast Club and After School Club bookings are paid for via ParentPay in advance. Many thanks

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.

Please book your place for one of our Open Mornings via Eventbrite:
Book Open Morning Places

* Booking for Open Evening is not required*

OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 11

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MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER – FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

NO DEVICES ALLOWED!

SPORTS & GAMES
CREATIVE ARTS & CRAFTS
HALLOWEEN THEMED ACTIVITIES EVERY DAY!
FUN CHALLENGES & TEAM GAMES
MAKE NEW FRIENDS

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Primrose Hill Primary School Lydney
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Berry Hill Primary School Coleford
Naunton Park Primary School Cheltenham
Walford Primary School Ross on Wye
Wydean School Chepstow

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ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE EMAIL: Jacob@prostars-fse.com

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OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 11

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FOREST VIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

JOIN US FOR OUR

OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB!

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- Get fit and socialise with racket sports



SCAN ME

IT'S PARTY TIME!

We have a great range of parties available

- Bouncy castle parties
- Pool parties



SCAN ME

Contact us:

Freedom Leisure Cinderford
01594 824008
www.freedom-leisure.co.uk



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