



Steam Mills Primary

25.09.2026



Dear Parents/Carers

Pot Holes

We have received an enquiry regarding the carpark and track potholes and wanted to also pass this information on to all parents/carers. We are working closely with the council and community to ensure we keep the track safe. The school has purchased a bag of subbase, which is situated in the car park and anyone wanting to help when they see a pothole forming is welcome to use this supply. Please could you bring and use your own shovel. Thank you in advance.

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. Thank you.

Rags 2 Riches

Thank you to all those that donated to our Rags 2 Riches collection today, we raised £25.13.

As previously mentioned, this is likely to be out last Rags 2 Riches Collection as Friends of Steam Mills have sourced a new clothing bank.

Attendance Video

Here is an informative video for our new Reception/Nursery children parents/carers:
[Starting primary school and supporting your child's attendance](#)



European Day of Languages – Monday 28th September

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
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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!

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

28th European Day of Languages

October

7th Parents Evenings (bookings open today at 3:30pm)

14th Parents Evenings (bookings open today at 3:30pm)

19th Harvest Collection for Food Bank

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

21st Class 2 visit to Steam Mills Allotments
Harvest Festival Celebration – parents welcome! 2:45pm
Halloween Discos (Details to follow)

22nd Last day of Term 1 for children
FoSM Non-school Uniform

23rd Inset Training Day

Parents Evenings – Wednesday 7th October and Wednesday 14th October

You should all have received an email of this letter regarding our upcoming Parents Evenings:

Forest Federation
of Soudley, Steam Mills and Woodside Primary Schools



Steam Mills Primary School
Steam Mills, Cinderford, Gloucestershire GL14 3JD
Tel/Fax: 01594 822547 Email: admin@steammills.gloucs.sch.uk
Website: www.steammillsprimary.co.uk
Executive Head Teacher: Mrs A Mason

21st September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are still very early into the new school year, we would like to offer informal parents' meetings to provide an opportunity for you to have a brief check-in with your child's class teacher and chat about how your child has settled into their new class and the start of the year.

These are intended to be light-touch, informal meetings rather than a formal parents' evening. They are **optional** and simply provide an opportunity to have a quick chat, ask any questions or share anything that you feel would be helpful for us to know at this early stage of the year.

The meetings will take place on:
Wednesday 7th October
Wednesday 14th October

The timings are as follows:
• Class 1 and Class 2: from 2:30pm
• Pre-School, Class 3 and Class 4: from 3:30pm

Appointments will be available to book through the eSchools platform from Friday 25th September at 3:30pm. For Pre-school appointments, please ask Pre-school staff and they will add you to their list.

If your child has SEND and already has regular meetings in place, there is no need to book an appointment this time, as their progress and support will continue to be discussed through these existing meetings.

Our usual parents' evenings will take place during the Spring Term, when we will provide a more detailed update on your child's progress, attainment and targets. All parents are strongly encouraged to attend these meetings.

We hope these informal meetings will be a useful opportunity to touch base early in the school year, and we look forward to speaking with you.

Kind Regards,

Steam Mills Staff Team.

Skills for Learning, Learning for Life



Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school

Effie - For settling so beautifully into Preschool with great confidence.

Hayes - For coming back with such confidence after the holidays.

Class 1

Izaak - for trying his very best in handwriting.

Hadley - for making conscious choices to be kind and helpful.

Harrison - for using his words carefully when expressing himself.

Star readers: **Roffi and Alexander**

Class 2

Reggie T - for being a kind and helpful member of Class 2.

Penny - trying really hard with sounding out in writing.

Class 3

Brody - for super work when rounding in maths.

Harrison - for great focus in maths.

Class 4

Billy - for a brilliant effort in dance and being a good partner.

Harvest Festival Food Bank Collection w/c 19th October

As part of our Harvest Festival celebrations, we will once again be collecting donations for the Forest Food Bank. Please send donations into school w/c 19th October, the Food Bank find that the following items are particularly useful:

Tinned Tomatoes, UHT Fruit Juice, Smash, Sponge Puddings, Jelly, Angel Delight, Jam, Packet Soup, instant Noodles, Multipack Crisps, UHT Milk, Tinned Spaghetti and Pasta Sauce. Toiletries and household products such as Washing Powder, Toilet Rolls and Washing-up Liquid are also useful.



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.**

Harvest Festival Assembly – Wednesday 21st October

We will be holding a Harvest Festival Assembly on Wednesday 21st October at 2:45pm, all Parents/Carers are welcome. Collection of children will then be at the normal time (3:00pm for Pre-school and 3:15pm for C1-4) from your usual collection point.

Friends of Steam Mills Halloween School Discos!!! Wednesday 21st October

FoSM have set the date for the next school discos for **Wednesday 21st October.**

KS1 Disco 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm

(Pre-school, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

Pre-school and Reception parents to stay with their children please. Year 1 & 2 parents to drop

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children off and leave, please ensure you are back promptly to collect.

KS2 Disco 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

(Year 3 – Year 6)

Parents to drop children off and leave; please ensure you are back promptly to collect.

Tickets will be £1 on the door (please bring exact money). Tuckshop will be available; please no more than £2 per child to bring on the day.

Please can we ask, if you have siblings in the two different key stage groups that arrangements are made for them to be brought to their discos separately? We have very limited space in the school hall. Thank you

FoSM Non-school Uniform Day last school day of term – Thursday 22nd October

This day will also be a non-school uniform day and FoSM are asking for a donation of £1 to go towards fundraising please. Thank you.

Class Snippets

Little Oaks – this week the children have enjoyed collecting fallen leaves from the school garden, we discussed the different leaves we found and their colours. They have also practised their fine motor skills, threading beads onto pipe cleaners. This then led to making bracelets for themselves and friends.

We have been talking about our families and also drawing pictures of who makes our family. The children have loved the story One gorilla, spotting the different animals and counting them on each page. The nice weather saw us using the bikes and scooters on the playground and there has been lots of very convincing Doctors role play!



Class 1 – this week, Reception have been practising their counting and exploring different ways to make sure we count correctly each time. We worked out, that moving the objects into containers, or placing them in a line can be helpful to stop us counting objects more than once by mistake. We also discussed the importance of saying our numbers in the correct order. In phonics we have learnt 'i, n' and practised our HFW's (a, at, as, is, it, an, I). Lots of oral blending has supported the children in recognising the blending we do when reading, such as giving them an instruction of, "go and get your c, oa, t". Sounding out simple words for them to blend/hear, it's great practise for early reading. We have been discussing our goals and what we would like to be able to do next year and, who at home and in school can help take care of us.

Class 2 have enjoyed investigating in science this week. They explored how to change materials and tested if they can bend, stretch, twist and squash different objects. In PE children used the springboard to jump and land before making scenes of London with their bodies - Big Ben/ London eye/ Gherkin. I have been really impressed with their number knowledge in maths. The Y1s have been comparing numbers to 20 using dinosaurs to count and the Y2s have been playing lots of games to order 2-digit numbers. In phonics Y1s have learnt oi- boil, ay- say, oy- boy and Y2s have learnt gn- gnome and wr - wreck as silent letters.

Class 3 – another busy week in Class 3! In reading, we have continued to explore *Stone Age Boy*, making predictions, drawing inferences and answering a range of questions about the text. In maths, we have continued our work on place value, with Year 4 rounding three-digit numbers to the nearest 10 and Year 3 practising finding 10 more than a number. In writing, we have been learning about inverted commas and have enjoyed writing our own dialogue. In art, we have started our new topic on cave paintings, creating line drawings of local animals as inspiration for our own prehistoric artwork.

Class 4 – this week, Class 4 have been putting themselves in the shoes of evacuees through both their English and History lessons. In English, the children planned and wrote their own introductory chapter for *Goodnight Mister Tom*, using their imagination to explore how an evacuee might feel and behave in such challenging circumstances. They have drawn on these same skills in History, where they are preparing to write a letter from the perspective of an evacuee. In Maths, Year 6 have been learning about decimals, focusing on multiplying them by 10, 100 and 1,000. Year 5 have continued their work on number and place value, developing their understanding of comparing and ordering six-digit numbers.

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.



FOREST VIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL Stronger Brighter Together

prostars Forest Sports Education

Funded by UK Government

CRISIS & RESILIENCE FUND

Fun Active Inclusive Happier Holidays

CINDERFORD

FREE

FOREST VIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

OCTOBER HALF TERM

KIDS HOLIDAY CLUB

A limited number of completely FREE holiday club places are available through the Gloucestershire Crisis & Resilience Fund.

DATES - Monday 26th October - Tuesday 27th October - Wednesday 28th October - Thursday 29th October - Friday 30th October	TIME 9:00am – 3:00pm each day	AGES 5 – 11 years	VENUE Forest View Primary School, Cinderford	FOOD A healthy lunch and snacks provided each day
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COMPLETELY FREE PLACES AVAILABLE
If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, you can book their place for completely free of charge.

ONLY 10 FREE PLACES AVAILABLE EACH DAY
Places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

BOOKING OPENS MONDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER AT 12:30PM

HOW TO BOOK:

- 1 Visit the Gloucestershire Virtual Family Hub online.
- 2 In the search bar at the top, type 'October half term events'.
- 3 Look for 'Prostars'.
- 4 Select the Cinderford – Forest View Primary School holiday club and follow the booking instructions.

Visit the Gloucestershire Virtual Family Hub at: familyhubs.gloucestershire.gov.uk

Search: October half term events

Sports Arts & Crafts Teamwork Fun Games New Friends

For any questions please contact us on Jacob@prostars-fse.com

WHERE OPPORTUNITY MEETS POTENTIAL

Forest Music Centre

Restarts Tuesday 22nd September 6:30-8:30

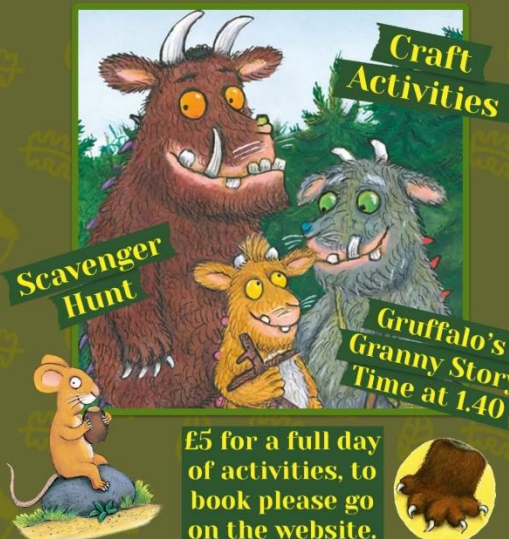
St Whites School Cinderford

www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk
glosmusic@gloucestershire.gov.uk
01452 427742

Gruffalo Day
At
Dean Heritage Centre

Saturday 26th September

10am – 3pm



Craft Activities

Gruffalo's Granny Story Time at 1.40

Scavenger Hunt

£5 for a full day of activities, to book please go on the website.



**DENMARK ROAD
HIGH SCHOOL**

**THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS
ABOUT THE FSCE ENTRANCE TEST FOR YEAR 7 ENTRY**

The Gloucestershire Grammar Schools Entrance Test for entry into Year 7 in September 2028 will take place on Saturday 3rd July 2027. If your child is currently in Year 5 and wishes to apply for a place at a Gloucestershire Grammar School, they must take this test.

Registration will open on Monday 8th February 2027 (12 noon) and close on Friday 19th March 2027 (12 noon).

Following the [Gloucestershire Grammar Schools announcement earlier this year](#) the test provider will be Future Stories Community Enterprise (FSCE). The admissions test will consist of three FSCE papers:

- Adventure Paper: English and Maths, with Multiple Choice Answer options;
- Beacon Paper: English and Maths, where you respond with Short Written Answers;
- Compass Paper: any of the following subjects you learn at school: Art & Design, Computing, Design & Technology, English, Geography, History, Languages, Maths, Music, Physical Education, Science, with Multiple Choice Answer options.



Contact
Ms Sarah Graves, G7 Admissions Manager
Email: enquiries@glosgrammars.com
Denmark Road High School Admissions
Email: admissions@denmarkroad.org

About Denmark Road High School
Denmark Road High School is a girls' grammar school for students aged 11-18, located on Denmark Road, Gloucester.

Get FREE meal plans

FREE! - ONLY IF YOU LIVE IN FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL AREA - SIGN UP TODAY!

Every week you get:

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- smart shopping list
- chef hotline for help

Stop thinking about:

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- what to buy
- how to eat healthier

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"It's such a relief not having to think what to feed the family!"
– Carly, mum of one



Usually £86 per year - but 100% FREE
if you live in Forest of Dean District Council area!
Sign up today!

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