



# Steam Mills Primary

02.10.2026



Dear Parents/Carers

## Steam Mills Shine at Prostars Football Tournament!

Year 3 and 4 children from Steam Mills Primary School had the opportunity to take part in the Prostars Football Tournament at Cinderford Rugby Club on Friday 25th September, and what a fantastic morning they had! The team represented Steam Mills brilliantly, showing excellent teamwork, sportsmanship, enthusiasm and determination throughout the competition. They played four group-stage games and won all four, which resulted in finishing top of their group with an incredible 20 points — the highest points tally achieved by any team in the group stage!

The team then progressed through to the semi-finals, where they narrowly missed out on a place in the final after losing on penalties to eventual winners Ellwood. This resulted in a fantastic joint 3rd-place finish out of 12 teams. This is the best finish a Steam Mills Year 3/4 team has ever achieved at this competition, which is a fantastic achievement and something every child involved should be incredibly proud of. Although there were understandably some disappointed faces after the semi-final, the children should hold their heads high. It was fantastic to see them support one another, work together as a team and give their absolute best from start to finish. It was a pleasure to watch the children having so much fun and representing school so positively.

Well done to all of the children, you did yourselves and Steam Mills proud!

**Mr Knight**



## 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.

## Attendance Video

Why attending every day in Primary School matters:

[Why attending every day matters in primary school](#)



## Diary Dates

### Term 1

1<sup>st</sup> September-23<sup>rd</sup> October

### Term 2

2<sup>nd</sup> November-18<sup>th</sup> December

### Term 3

4<sup>th</sup> January-12<sup>th</sup> February

### Term 4

22<sup>nd</sup> February-25<sup>th</sup> March

### Term 5

12<sup>th</sup> April-28<sup>th</sup> May

### Term 6

7<sup>th</sup> June-21<sup>st</sup> July

## Holidays and Half Terms

26<sup>th</sup> October-1<sup>st</sup> November

21<sup>st</sup> December-3<sup>rd</sup> January

15<sup>th</sup> February-21<sup>st</sup> February

26<sup>th</sup> March-11<sup>th</sup> April

31<sup>st</sup> May-6<sup>th</sup> June

## INSET days:

1<sup>st</sup> September, 23<sup>rd</sup> October,

4<sup>th</sup> January, 28<sup>th</sup> May & 21<sup>st</sup> July

## Diary Dates

### October

7<sup>th</sup> Parents Evenings (bookings open)

14<sup>th</sup> Parents Evenings (bookings open)

19<sup>th</sup> Harvest Collection for Food Bank

20<sup>th</sup> Nasal Flu Vaccinations – whole school  
C2 One Day Creative Workshop

21<sup>st</sup> Class 2 visit to Steam Mills Allotments

Harvest Festival Celebration – parents welcome! 2:45pm  
Halloween Discos (Details to follow)

22<sup>nd</sup> Last day of Term 1 for children  
FoSM Non-school Uniform

**23<sup>rd</sup> Inset Training Day**

## 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.

## Parents Evenings – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 822567 Email: [admin@steammills.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@steammills.gloucs.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.steammillsprimary.co.uk](http://www.steammillsprimary.co.uk)  
Executive Head Teacher: Mrs A Mason

21<sup>st</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> October  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## Star of the Week Certificates



### Pre-school

**Layla** - for fabulous focus when creating a detailed self-portrait.

**Daisy** - for settling so well into Preschool with great confidence!

### Class 1

**Izzy** - for remaining focused at all times.

**Star readers: Izzy, Hudson, Alexander, Sienna & Hero**

### Class 2

**Nori** - fantastic effort during phonics.

**Ivie** - a creative junk modelling guitar and explanation of pitch.

### Class 3

**Texas** - making an excellent start to Year 4.

**Delilah** - great focus and work in maths.

### Class 4

**Oliver** - for being a good partner and role model to the younger children.

**Evie** - for improved confidence with class contributions.

## Important - After School Club on 7<sup>th</sup> October and 14<sup>th</sup> October

We will be running the After School Club from the Little Oaks building on the days that Parents Evenings are running. Please access the playground on collection (the gate will be propped open), **do not ring the Hall intercom**. Walk down to the Little Oaks gate that is behind the wooden shed by Class 1 and please go to the front door to collect. Thank you

## Message from Tempest Photography

Dear Parents,

Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for free delivery back to school is Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2026. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link that was emailed to you, or if you have received paper order forms visit [www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk). If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest at [Customerservice@htempest.co.uk](mailto:Customerservice@htempest.co.uk). Many thanks,

## Harvest Festival Food Bank Collection w/c 19<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> October

The NHS school vaccination team will be visiting on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 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.**

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## Harvest Festival Assembly – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

We will be holding a Harvest Festival Assembly on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> October

FoSM have set the date for the next school discos for **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 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 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 has been extremely busy!

We had such a lovely start to the week with Languages morning, Lexi and I are so proud of how the children got really stuck in to all the activities in each class, a highlight was flamenco dancing! The children have been obsessed with clicky pens and real bunches of keys!!! These have been used in lots of Mums, dads and baby's role-play this week! We have made lots of playdoh cakes - using real cases and birthday candles. Ms Barbers gift of a Bluey colouring scene and characters has fascinated the children all week, with them colouring it in and then acting out little stories. We have also made some great Hedgehogs - using forks in paint to add lots of spikes!



**Class 1** – this week we began our English unit with a book called "I am Henry Finch". We have only read the first part of the story and we will have to wait until next week before knowing what happens to Henry Finch. This week the children have begun writing in their English books and have sequenced the finches day. In phonics the reception sounds are m, d, g and our HFW's (and, am, dad). In maths we have been making collections of 3 and comparing shapes and sizes of our collections and recognising that it still makes 3. We have been looking at signs of Autumn and the children have been discussing the changes of Autumn we may begin to see this time of year. On Monday, the whole school engaged in European day of languages, C1 were Italy and the children spent their morning moving around other classrooms to visit the other countries. Pictures have been put on Tapestry.

**Class 2** created bridges in PE this week as part of their unit on gymnastics. I was really impressed with their strength and effort. In geography, children sorted human and physical features of the UK and took an interest in making flags from around the world on the peg boards. Many children have made wonderful collages based on the artwork of Matisse and developed their cutting skills using a range of scissors. Phonics this week has moved onto split digraphs for the Y1s looking at a-e in cake and Y2s have explored le in bottle, el in camel and il in pencil. The children have really enjoyed their discovery time to deepen their skills across the curriculum.

**Class 3** – another busy week in Class 3! In Maths, we have continued exploring place value, with Year 3 comparing 3-digit numbers and Year 4 developing their rounding skills to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. In Guided Reading, we have been getting to know the character of Om, exploring her

appearance and character traits. In Science, we have been learning about different types of skeletons, including endoskeletons, exoskeletons and hydrostatic skeletons, and discovering which animals have them and the advantages and disadvantages of each. In PE, we have been busy with Mr Knight developing our orienteering skills, putting our teamwork and navigation skills to the test!

**Class 4** – this week in English, Class 4 have been writing and preparing their own speeches. As part of their learning, we listened to Neville Chamberlain's speech announcing the start of the Second World War. The children found it incredibly powerful, and we discussed the formal language used, as well as the techniques that made the speech so impactful. They have applied these features to their own writing and are looking forward to performing their speeches on Monday. During European Day of Languages, Class 4 were partnered with younger year groups to support them with a range of activities. It was wonderful to see so many children setting an excellent example and embracing the responsibility of supporting younger pupils.

### 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!**



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*"I look forward to welcoming you to our Open Events"*  
Mr B Dymally Headteacher

*We can't wait to welcome you!*

| DATE                      | TIME                                    |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| TUES 6 <sup>TH</sup> OCT  | Open Morning 10.00am – 12.00pm          |
| WEDS 7 <sup>TH</sup> OCT  | Open Morning 10.00am – 12.00pm          |
| THURS 8 <sup>TH</sup> OCT | Open Morning 10.00am – 12.00pm          |
| THURS 8 <sup>TH</sup> OCT | Open Evening 6.00pm – 8.00pm            |
| WEDS 11 <sup>TH</sup> OCT | Sixth Form Open Evening 5.00pm – 7.00pm |

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**Venue:** The Main Place, Coleford  
**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> October 2026  
**Time:** 10:30am-2:30pm

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**