

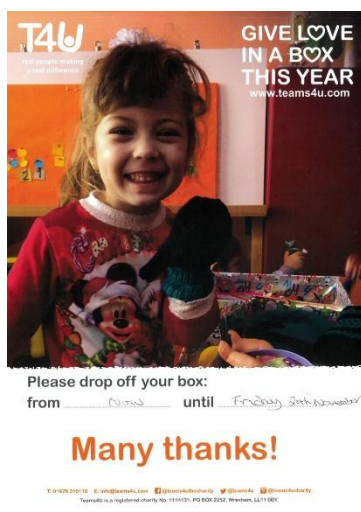
Steam Mills Primary

09.10.2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Teams 4 U

You should have received a leaflet this week regarding this charity collection which the school take part in every other school year. Please note that the requested return date is by Friday 20th November. Thank you.



Xmas 4 Schools

Information is being sent home today regarding this years Xmas 4 Schools opportunity for children and parents. FoSM arrange this activity each year where your child can, using the sheet provided, create their own design. The sheet needs to then be returned to school by no later than Thursday 5th November, this is then sent to Xmas 4 School who will then forward you a link where you can order items, such as, Christmas Cards, Mugs, Tea towels and Calendars.



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.

Parking

Please could you ensure that you are parking considerably both in the main car park and in the layby. We have had large vehicles blocking access and taking up more than one space. Thank you

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

October

14th Parents Evenings (bookings open)

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

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 14th October

Parents Evenings will be running again on Wednesday next week. If you haven't booked an appointment and would like to, please contact the school office to check availability. Thank you.



Important - After School Club on 14th 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

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 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 – the children have been very engaged in mark making in lots of forms, drawing pictures, forming letters, using stencils and writing food orders and shopping lists in role-play. This weeks' number has been 4, we have explored using different ways to show 4 using our fingers, one of our Preschool children also celebrated their 4th birthday, so that was excellent timing - and also lots of fun! To celebrate our Birthday Girl, we had a big dance party with balloons, and all sang Happy Birthday



too! Our sound of the week has been P, the children have explored our P sound bag full of items that begin with the sound P - such as Police car, Pineapple and Pink Pants!

Class 1 – this week reception have been enjoying the signs of Autumn, they have been exploring pumpkins, conkers, chestnuts, and leaves. In maths we have been exploring 4, looking at the different shapes and arrangements of 4 using resources. In phonics, our sounds are 'o, c, k, ck' and HFW's (no, go, the, to, into). We have also introduced digraphs, which is when two letters together make one sound, such as 'ch, sh, ss'.

Class 2 have been busy experimenting with materials. They explored which material is best to make a boat and then independently set up tests to find out which fabric was best to make a raincoat. They used amazing scientific vocabulary such as waterproof, transparent and absorbent. I was really proud of their scientific knowledge and skills. In maths we have explored shape. The Y1s have learnt about the properties of different 2D shapes and the Y2s 3D shapes. They played guess the shape game and sorted shapes, as well as making them with elastic bands on the peg boards. In phonics. Y1s have explored split digraphs- a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e and Y2s have revisited il, el and al as tricky witch sounds.

Class 3 – have been busy this week planning and writing a newspaper report based on our class text, Lights on Cotton Rock. We have also been exploring compound sentences and learning how to use conjunctions to join ideas together. In maths, Year 4 have been learning about Roman numerals up to 100 and have now begun their geometry unit, exploring different types of triangles. Year 3 have been learning about tenths and how these can be represented as both fractions and decimals. In art, we used charcoal to create detailed drawings of native animals on the 'cave walls' we created in our books, building on our Stone Age theme. In French, we have been practising counting from 0–10. It has been another busy and enjoyable week of learning!

Class 4 - in English, Class 4 wrote their own Evacuee Survival Guides, using everything they have learnt about life during World War II to create informative and engaging guides. In Maths, Year 6 put their organisation skills and multiplication knowledge to the test as they learnt how to use the long multiplication method with four-digit numbers. Meanwhile, Year 5 explored negative numbers, developing their understanding of numbers below zero and how to compare and order them. Our PE dance performances were a real joy to watch. The children thoughtfully incorporated the dance moves they have learnt this term, carefully considering how to use movement, expression and teamwork to convey a story through their performances. We were incredibly proud of their creativity and confidence.

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

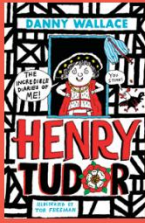
It would be helpful if Parents/Carers could run through a daily checklist before school, to ensure that your child/ren are ready for the school day. This would reduce the amount of phone calls home the school has to make and also reduce anxieties for your child/ren. The school expects the older children 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!**



Corinium Museum Children's Half Term Workshops 2026

New Family
Gallery Trail:
Henry Tudor:
The Incredible
Diaries of Me
Based on the
new novel by
Danny Wallace
and illustrations
by Tor Freeman.
Sat October 23,
2026 - Fri February
12, 2027



Meet Henry Tudor (the future Henry VIII)
when he was just eight and a half years old
and convinced that he is the best at absolutely
everything!



Creepy Corinium Cupcakes
Wed 28 October 10.30am - 12pm
Back by popular demand, our Creepy Corinium
Cupcakes workshop allows you to make art
that you can eat! Create a monster cupcake
and hear about some of the monsters in our
collections.

**Gruesome
Gargoyles**
Thu 29 October,
10.30am - 12pm
Join us for a gruesome,
glorious, gargoyle
gala. We will meet
at the Parish Church
to investigate the
gargoyles and
grotesques that grace
the building. Once we have our inspiration, we
will head back to the museum to create our
own gruesome gargoyles!



Make Your Own Curse Tablet
Fri 30 October, 10.30am - 12pm
Did you know that the Romans wrote secret
curses on lead tablets and threw them in
springs, to hex their enemies? From stolen
cloaks to chariot race rivals, no grudge was too
small! Come & learn how to inscribe your own
spooky curse tablet just in time for Halloween.



For full details and to book
visit:
<https://coriniummuseum.org>
or scan the QR code



Corinium Museum, Park Street
Cloucester GL7 2BX
01285 655611
coriniummuseum.org

*award-winning

HALF TERM CAMPS OCT 2026

IN STROUD, CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTER,
LYDNEY, TEWKESBURY & TETBURY!

YOGA | MINDFULNESS & CRAFT

26TH - 30TH OCT
9AM - 3PM

£5 DONATION OR
FREE OF CHARGE
FOR EVERYONE

SCAN ME

YOGA | MINDFUL CRAFT | FUN GAMES | TIME
OUTSIDE | HELP PREP FOOD | RELAX & PLAY

For more information contact below:
TASH@SHIFTMOVEMENT.ORG.UK

xsiteforestofdean@gmail.com

X-SITE

Forest of Dean

Drainpipe of Doom Games Music
Learn about Jesus Bring friends

Age 7
to
school
year 7

Saturday 19th September 2026
St James Church Centre, Bream

Saturday 17th October 2026
Parkend Baptist Church

Saturday 21st November 2026
St James Church Centre, Bream

Saturday 19th December 2026
St James Church Centre, Bream

5pm to 7pm

SPORTILY
PLAY SPORTS, TAKE LIFE

SERVING A LIGHT
TEA

DRAINPIPE
OF DOOM!

FUN
FRIENDS
FAITH

FOREST VOLUNTEERS
FV AF
ACTION FORUM

Forest of Dean
DISTRICT COUNCIL

PRE-SCHOOL FAMILIES
INFORMATION HUB

MAIN PLACE, RAILWAY DRIVE, COLEFORD

30 October 2026 11am - 2pm

If you are a parent, grandparent, or carer looking
after a baby, toddler, or pre-schooler
5 and under, this hub is for you.

Come along to meet other local families, and chat with
our friendly teams. No booking required, just pop in!

✓ Refreshments ✓ Expert advice ✓ Health & wellbeing ✓ Accessible location

As always, please do let us know if you have any questions, concerns 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 and our Senior Leadership Team are : Mrs Mason (Executive Head Teacher), Mrs Fawkes (Executive Deputy Head Teacher) and Mrs Mclean (Senior Teacher)