

Steam Mills Primary

01.04.22

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our Parent's Evenings over the past two weeks. It was lovely to see so many of you for these face-to-face events. I would also like to thank the teachers for facilitating these meetings and making available the children's work and achievements to be viewed.

Assembly

Yesterday we had our first full school assembly since before the start of Covid restrictions. It was very touching to see everyone together and enjoying assemblies in the hall once again. Well done to all the children who had certificates and who brought in trophies and certificates to show.

Miss Byrnes

We look forward to welcoming Miss Byrnes to Class 1 on Monday. She will be working with Mrs Symonds for a few days to get to know the class and children in preparation for her start with Class 1 after Easter, as teacher. Mrs Evans will still teach Class 1 every Friday.

FoSM – Meeting and Raffle Tickets

FOSM met last week and as always are very keen to support the school. They have mentioned a few fundraising ideas going forward through to the end of the school year and beyond. Please look out for information and any offers of help, we are sure would be gratefully received.

FOSM will be selling raffle tickets next week in the playground for an **Easter Hamper**.

Absence During Term Time

Please avoid booking holidays during term time and requesting leave. School cannot authorise them and you may face a fine; please see the information at the end of this newsletter. If you are considering taking children out of school for any reason, please complete an Absence During Term Time Booking Form, which is available from the School Office. Please do think carefully of the potential impact of missing school time.

Diary Dates

April

8th Last day of Term 4
– FoSM Non-school
Uniform Day
25th Start of Term 5
26th Class 4 start
swimming

May

9th-12th KS2 SATS
13th Tempest Class
Photos & Leavers
Photos
17th Rags2Riches
collection
Reception and
Year 6 NHS
Screening
26th FoSM Non-school
Uniform Day
27th Inset Training Day
Bowling Club open
sessions – children
welcome from
3pm

June

6th Start of Term 6
7th Class 3 start
Gymnastics

July

4th&6th Y5/6 Residential –
South Cerney

Class 3

In Class 3, we had many April fool's today. The children came into a muddled up timetable, the clock skipping forward another hour, post-it notes on chairs, faces on fruit, an impossible word search and even brownies or brown Es at playtime!

The children even played an April Fools' joke on Mrs Gibbs! Ask them, to find out what it was!



Rights Respecting

Article 5- Governments should allow families to guide their children, as they grow.

Article 18- Parental responsibility and support from governments.

In KS2 assembly, we discussed what families must provide for children to thrive. These included; shelter, food, clean water, time to relax/play and developing independence. We also used the term 'Duty Bearers' to describe a grown-up, who enables children to enjoy their rights.

It would be great to promote independence at home, such as, bringing letters into school independently, organising themselves for school and remembering to bring belongings home.

Ribston Hall High School - Open Day

Please find attached information from Ribston Hall for Y5 girls.

Adult Education - GCC

GCC are running some great courses online, which are designed, especially for parents/carers. Please find attached.

Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme

The Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme, funded by the Department for Education, will be returning this Spring break between 11-14th April; this is for children in reception to year 11 who are eligible for **benefits-related free school meals**.

Holidays Activity Programme

GCC have also recently secured some additional funding so that they can once again extend their offer to all families as part of the HAP programme (Holidays activity programme- NOT funded by the DfE).

We encourage all HAP and HAF families to get in contact with their local offer to see what is available to them. To find out where to get more information about your local offer, you can click here. <<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/follow-your-district-on-social-media/>>

If you have any queries, please contact : hafparentenquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk



Head Teacher Certificates



Pre-school

Brody – showing good understanding and knowledge during our recycling topic.

Class 1

Billy – for making amazing models.

Emmie – for learning all the Reception words.

Class 2

Noa – beautiful independent writing.

Jax – good ideas about what a giant might need.

Class 3

Oscar – great division.

Pacey – lovely handwriting.

Class 4

Riley M – using characterisation in writing.

Eva – for great work in Geography.

Stop Press – Football

Well done to the Steam Mills Football team who played so well today at Dean Academy today, gaining lots of valuable experience.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school. It is advisable to contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

Best Wishes
Mrs Davis



Request for a leave of absence during term time

Parents should be aware that the law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. The Department for Education allows a Headteacher the discretion to consider authorising a leave of absence in term time only in “exceptional circumstances”.

You may consider that a holiday will be educational but your child will still miss out on the teaching and learning that their peers will receive whilst your child is away. Children returning from a leave of absence during term time are also unprepared for the lessons which build on the teaching they have missed and arrangements need to be made for individual children to catch up on missed work. Disruption to the continuity of teaching and learning is something we all have a responsibility to avoid.

If requesting a leave of absence you will need to complete the form on the reverse of this notice, setting out the reasons. If the holiday is not considered to be an exceptional circumstance it will not be agreed. If you nevertheless take your child out of school for the leave of absence this **will be recorded as unauthorised leave**.

In the case of an unauthorised leave of absence the headteacher may request that the Local Authority issue a Fixed Penalty Notice without further warning to the parent.

Please note that such a penalty is issued to each parent for each child taken out of school.

A Penalty Notice is a fine of £60 if paid within the first 21 days which increases to £120 if paid between 21 and 28 days.

Thereafter, if the penalty remains unpaid this may lead to prosecution through the Magistrates’ Court.

All leave of absence requests should be completed on the attached form by the parent with whom the child ordinarily resides. This should be returned to the school at least seven days before the start of the holiday. All requests must be made prior to the leave being taken. Leave cannot be authorised retrospectively.

I hope you will support our efforts to maintain good levels of attendance and attainment.

Yours sincerely

Head Teacher