



# Steam Mills Primary

17.11.2023



Dear Parents/Carers

### Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who purchased Children in Need Pudsey Ears and Wristbands. The children enjoyed a "SPOTacular" day and raised an amazing £209.50 for the charity.



### Xmas4Schools

The last few items are waiting to be collected. If you have not collected your items, please do so this week. Thank you

### Reading Café

It was lovely to see parents and their children enjoying books from the library in the reading cafe. The tea, squash and biscuits went down a treat, alongside sharing a story. It was so nice to see children choosing the books they enjoy and many explored the non-fiction section. The date for the next reading cafe event is Tuesday 30th January.

**Article 17- Children should have access to information.**

**Article 29- Education should develop a child's talents, personalities and beliefs.**

### Letters

Several letters have been sent home this week for; YR&Y6 Health Screening, EYFS&KS1 Nativity Performance and the Christmas Lunch. Please look out for these in your child's book bag.

### Grammar Information Session for Parents – Class 3

Mrs Gibbs will be holding a grammar information session after school on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November** at 3:30pm-approx 4:15pm. This will provide parents with information on the grammar expectations for Y3 and Y4. There is no requirement to book, just come along, with or without your child is fine.

### Christmas Wreaths with FoSM

FOSM will be making Christmas Wreaths again this year. Please think about ordering yours from us to help raise funds, and encourage family and friends to order too! You can come along and make your own wreath for a bargain - just £7; come along and show off your creativity! Also, a team will be making the wreaths to order 5pm on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November** and would love a few more helpers.



### Term Dates 2023-24

#### Autumn Term

4<sup>th</sup> Sept —22<sup>nd</sup> December

Half Term: 30<sup>th</sup> Oct—3<sup>rd</sup> Nov

#### Spring term 2024

8<sup>th</sup> January—22<sup>nd</sup> March

Half Term: 12<sup>th</sup>—16<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Summer Term 2024

8<sup>th</sup> April—22<sup>nd</sup> July

Half Term: 27<sup>th</sup>—31<sup>st</sup> May

#### INSET days:

22<sup>nd</sup> December, 24<sup>th</sup> May and

22<sup>nd</sup> July

#### Diary Dates

#### November

23<sup>rd</sup> C3 Parent Grammar Session

24<sup>th</sup> FoSM Wreath Making Event

29<sup>th</sup> Panto Workshop Classes 1, 2 and 3

#### December

6<sup>th</sup> Pantomime – Classes 1-4

11<sup>th</sup> EYFS/KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal

12<sup>th</sup> EYFS/KS1 Nativity – 9:30am and 5:00pm

13<sup>th</sup> Pre-school Christmas Play Trip (details to follow)

14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day

15<sup>th</sup> FoSM Christmas Fayre

21<sup>st</sup> Christmas Party Day – non-school uniform.

Carol Service (details to follow)

22<sup>nd</sup> Inset Training Day

25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Holidays

#### January

8<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 3

24<sup>th</sup> Rags 2 Riches Collection

25<sup>th</sup> Reception and Year 5 NHS Health Screening

30<sup>th</sup> Reading Café

### **Panto Trip – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

All parent/carer helpers have now been informed and we would like to thank everyone who put their name forward. There were a number of parents/carers who missed checking the snack box on the permission slips, so we are now going to provide this to all children unless parents/carers inform us that they **do not wish** their child to have this.

### **After School Club – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

With EYFS and KS1 Nativity performance on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, we would like After School Club to finish at 4:30pm on this day, if possible. 4:30pm is also the time that children need to be in school to prepare for the performance at 5:00pm. Please could any parents requiring After School Club beyond 4:30pm on that day, contact Miss Agg.

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

**Pre-school** – this week at Pre-School we have been doing lots of singing and activities in relation to World Nursery Rhyme week. The rhymes have included 'Row, row, row your boat', 'Jack and Jill', 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes', 'The wheels on the bus' and 'Hickory dickory dock'. We have engaged in painting, pouring and filling buckets with rice and rice crispies, small world play, using loose parts to make a boat and a bus and talking about our different body parts. We also touched on Diwali at the start of the week and some of the children made diva lamps using CDs and sparkles.

**Class 1** – this week we have been talking about anti-bullying week and what it means to be a good friend. In Geography we were looking at how we get to school, and what human and physical features we pass on the way. In English we have been looking at nouns and adjectives and the children had fun thinking of their own adjectives to describe Miss Byrnes. All of the children have made Miss Byrnes very proud this week with their resilience during their phonics assessments, especially Reception, as this is their first assessment!

**Class 2** – this week in class 2 we have been visited a few times by our new friendly alien Beegu. We haven't been able to see her in person yet as she is too shy but we have seen her footprints around the school. She left us a note on Wednesday to tell us she tried to talk to a 'meaf' but it didn't reply. Class 2 were very clever and figured out she meant a leaf! They wrote her letters of advice to help her. She then left us ANOTHER note on Friday morning, telling us she was too shy to say hi. We have been busy making alien sock puppets today so she has some friends to speak to on the weekend.

**Class 3** have worked hard this week to complete their NFER assessments. They have been thinking carefully about all the learning that has taken place so far this year and applying this to different questions- well done! In history, we explored sources of evidence to learn about the discovery of the tomb of King Tut and we will be writing a diary next week as Howard Carter. The children really have been impressing me at the pool with their swimming - they are like a class of fish! They have been working on diving in the deep end and in the shallow end we have been working on swimming independently and water confidence.



### **Star of the Week Certificates**



#### **Pre-school**

**Rosie** - for labelling her work with the letters of her name independently.

**Georgie** - for settling so well into Pre-School.

#### **Class 1**

**Aakelah** - for settling back into school so nicely.

**Elliott** - for trying really hard on his reading and writing.

Star readers: **Mason, Luca, Bella & Caitlin**

#### **Class 2**

**Zakiyah** - having a great attitude to learning.

**Annabelle** - representing Steam Mills well in our history workshop.

#### **Class 3**

**Harper** - for an excellent understanding of properties of 3D shapes.

**Ruby** - for making links between different areas in maths.

#### **Class 4**

**Max** - for enthusiasm and focus in Maths.

**Tallulah** - for always showing a great learning attitude.

**Class 4** - The children in Class 4 this week have had a busy week with assessments; lots of the children have all tried really hard and showed resilience. We also looked at the NSPCC Speak Out and Stay Safe assembly, in readiness for the NSPCC Workshop next week – they learnt about Buddy, the speech bubble and the different types of abuse. We also clarified what this can look like so the children were clear on how they could keep themselves, and others, safe. The children have also enjoyed DT this week, where they were exploring different materials and the most effective way to combine them, in readiness to design their own space lunch bag.

### Invite from Monster Phonics



Dear Steam Mills,

Following the success of our parent webinars and due to popular demand, we're bringing them back, and you're invited!

**Join us for a free webinar exclusively for parents** which will guide you to better understand the systematic teaching of phonics in school.

## A Guide For Parents For

### UK Schools

FREE

12th December

7pm (BST)



We will cover:

- ✓ What is phonics?
- ✓ Terminology
- ✓ The Monster Phonics programme
- ✓ The Phonics Screening Check
- ✓ Reading at home
- ✓ Multi-sensory activities

## BOOK NOW

Secure your place today, we hope you can join us.

Kind regards,

e: [info@monsterphonics.com](mailto:info@monsterphonics.com)

t: 0800 211 8052

## Pre-school Charge

We are having to increase the cost per hour of the Pre-school setting to £5.50 per hour for all non-funded hours from **January 2024**. This is in-line with Gloucestershire County and the Steam Mills/Woodside Federation. We hope that you find this increase still offers excellent value for money and reflects the high level of provision that the school provides.

## ParentPay Debt

A reminder that the school has a no debt policy. Please manage your accounts by ensuring your ParentPay accounts are in credit at all times. Please load credit, use, then reload again before debt occurs.

**LOAD CREDIT TO CLUB → USE → LOAD CREDIT TO CLUB → USE →**

## Artspace Cinderford

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**TO BOOK EMAIL**  
dan@artspacecinderford.org

**FOR MORE INFO EMAIL**  
catherine@artspacecinderford.org

\* Our FREE creative Multiply courses build numeracy confidence and skills through a range of fun and creative Art activities. Multiply is Free to eligible learners- 19+, resident in Gloucestershire, Less than L2/GCSE C maths or need to refresh.

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**