

Steam Mills Primary

02.05.2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Tempest Photography

Tempest will be visiting on Thursday to take our annual class photos and leavers photos. All photos will be taken during the school morning.

Rags 2 Riches Collection – 12th May 2025

Our next Rags 2 Riches collection will be taking place on Monday 12th May. Please could all bags be left in the playground opposite the main gate (weather permitting) between 7:45am and 9:00am on the day. Many thanks.



Our school is raising money by collecting reusable clothes.

Please help us by donating your unwanted reusable clothes and accessories. Donated items become affordable clothing and accessories.

WE ACCEPT CLEAN, GOOD QUALITY, DRY, REUSABLE CLOTHING

- ☒ Adults, Childrens & Babies Clothing
- ☒ Jewellery and Accessories
- ☒ Paired Shoes and Footwear
- ☒ Belts and Handbags

A full list of reusable items is listed on our website www.rags2riches4schools.co.uk

WE DO NOT ACCEPT

POOR QUALITY ITEMS SUCH AS DIRTY, WET, RIPPED OR SOILED CLOTHES, PILLOWS, DUVETS, CURTAINS, BOOKS CDs OR ANY UNIFORM

Please use the clothing bag provided. You can also use any additional bag if required.

Collection Date:

Please remember - NO UNIFORM

Diary Dates

Spring term 2025

6th January-11th April

Half Term

17th-21st February

Summer Term 2025

28th April-21st July

Half Term

26th May - 30th May

INSET days:

21st July

Diary Dates (incl. Federation events) May

- 8th Tempest Photography – Class photos and leavers photos
- 12th KS2 SATS Monday-Thursday
Rags to Riches Collection
- 22nd Y6 Author visit at Books for Bugs TBA
Elmer Day for EYFS & KS1
- 23rd Sponsored Walk – pm only (collection from Beechenhurst) Details to follow

June

- 10th Federation Trip to Houses of Parliament
- 11th Class 3 Trip to Caerleon
- 12th Cyber Bullying Session for Parents – 2pm
- 13th Sports Morning
- 20th Judo Sessions for all classes
- 25th Class 2 Trip to SS Great Britain
- 27th Summer Fayre

Tesco – Blue Tokens

From Monday 31st March, Steam Mills will be an option for the Tesco Blue Token Scheme in Cinderford, Coleford and Lydney stores. Please, if you are shopping at the Tesco store, think of Steam Mills and our Play Equipment Fundraising. Every little helps! You can find more information here: <https://www.tescopl.com/sustainability/stronger-starts/blue-token-scheme>



Elmer Day 2025

This year, EYFS and KS1 children will celebrate Elmer day on Thursday 22nd May. They will be completing Elmer themed activities in their classes on this day and we encourage children to wear a brightly coloured item, in addition to their normal school uniform on this day e.g. bright coloured socks, bright headband. If your child has any Elmer books at home, they are welcome to bring them to school on this day to share with their class.

Advance Warning – Demolition of Pavilion (on playing fields) 30th June – 11th July

Just to warn all users that the track will be accessed by the demolition team during this period and there will be a lot of 2 way traffic. We have agreed with Cinderford Town Council that the start time be delayed each day until 9:30am so that Drop & Go can still be used, but please at all other times, during this period, use the usual school access (car park gate), rather than the track.

Class Snippets

There are no snippets this week for each class, these will continue next week. We are very please with how well the children have returned to school after the Easter break and we are all very much enjoying the lovely weather. Lots of new topics are underway and you can access details of these via your class eSchools page. A reminder that we have a Bank Holiday on Monday, so look forward to seeing the children back on Tuesday 6th May.



Reluctant Readers

[April Supporter Newsletter 2025](#)

The above link has some useful tips to support with reading at home for reluctant readers.

Breakfast Club/After School Club

Please could we remind parents to keep their ParentPay accounts in credit at all times. Please check that you have credited upon making your booking. Regular debt could result in your child being refused these important services. Thank you.



Holiday Fund – Free School Meal Scheme

We would like to make you aware of the holiday Free School Meal (FSM) voucher scheme that Gloucestershire County Council is currently offering to families in Gloucestershire.

Applications for holiday FSM vouchers for the May Half Term 2025 will be open from midday 29 April until midday on 13 May. Voucher emails will be sent from week commencing 19 May.

Please check their junk/spam folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there. If you have not received their vouchers by 26 May, please encourage them to submit a query via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#)

This May Half Term, Gloucestershire County Council will provide families in receipt of Free School Meals, who sign up to this offer, with vouchers to assist with food costs during the school holidays. The vouchers are funded through grant funding we have received, and they are separate to that of term time free school meals.

The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive Pupil Premium (benefits-related) free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire.

Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of **£15 per child for one week**. To find out more about the scheme and to apply, parents can visit our [FAQs | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

Families who have signed up previously do not need to re-register for the May Half Term holiday vouchers - they will already have been included. Families that have previously signed up will need to contact us with any changes to their circumstances (e.g. if the number of children eligible increases or decreases). To ensure we reach all those who are eligible, we are encouraging parents that have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

Please note we check eligibility for the scheme by cross-referencing with the term-time free school meal register, so please make sure parents are registered beforehand. They can register by visiting the [apply for free school meals](#) page. If your school is one of the five that do not use this method, we will require confirmation from yourselves on the child's eligibility. You can find more information on what schools these are on the link above.

Using vouchers – vouchers need to be used will only be awarded once the parent has registered for the scheme and cannot be backdated. Vouchers are valid for 6 months, although should be used in the holiday period in which they are awarded. If vouchers are not claimed and have expired, they cannot be re-issued. Vouchers not received should be queried via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) by the end of the holiday period.

For any parents wishing to update details of an existing application, please ask them to submit an update existing details request via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) so we can update their account, as details are not automatically updated.

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.**



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.



VE DAY 80TH ANNIVERSITY CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL, ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CINDERFORD BRANCH & CINDERFORD CHURCHES

9AM, ST ANNALS HOUSE, BELLE VUE ROAD, FLAGPOLE	TOGETHER WE STAND: FLAG RAISING & TOWN CRIER'S PROCLAMATION. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AT THE GOLDEN LION
11AM WAR MEMORIAL	WREATH LAYING WITH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION & REVD BARNESLEY
9.30PM, CLOCK TOWER, THE TRIANGLE	BEACON LIGHTING. ARRIVE FROM 8.30PM FOR MUSIC AND FOOD

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.