

# Steam Mills Primary

24.11.2022

Dear Parents/Carers

## Thank you!

For Children in Need we raised £104.20 from our "Spotacular" Non-school Uniform Day and we raised an amazing £294 from purchasing Pudsey Wristbands and Blush/Pudsey ears. Thank you all so very much!

*Linked to : Article 23- children with disabilities have the right to live as full life as possible.*

Teams4U shoeboxes were collected on Wednesday, thank you for your kind donations which will be sent off to the Children in time for Christmas.

*Linked to : Articles 38/ 22- Protection from war/ refugee children*

## Panto Workshop

We have the Everyman Theatre coming into school on 30<sup>th</sup> November (the day before the Panto Trip) to provide a workshop for Classes 1 & 2. The workshop is designed to give the children an overview of the Panto and prepare them for the show.

## Class 1-4 Panto Trip – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December

We are completing final arrangements for the whole school trip to the Everyman Theatre next week. All parent helpers have now been chosen and we have informed those that are to come along and help this year. It is always a difficult choice but this year we prioritised those parents/carers that help with FoSM on a regular basis and we then drew names for the remaining places.

Please can we remind you that all children need to be at school at **8:20am** for registration in class and the coaches will then be leaving school at 8:30am. Mrs Dickinson will be providing a drop and go at the main car park gate, so please do use this facility where possible for Classes 2-4. Thank you

Sweets/Chocolate in the interval – this box appears on the permission slip for the Panto Trip but we think this is being overlooked. **Therefore please contact Miss Agg if you are not happy for your child to receive this treat.**

## Christmas 4school Design Items

Reminder - There are still items waiting to be collected from the school office. Thank you!

## School Calendar 22/23

### Term 2

31<sup>st</sup> Oct to 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

### Term 3

3<sup>rd</sup> Jan to 17<sup>th</sup> Feb

### Term 4

27<sup>th</sup> Feb to 31<sup>st</sup> March

### Term 5

17<sup>th</sup> April to 26<sup>th</sup> May

### Term 6

5<sup>th</sup> June to 25<sup>th</sup> July

### **Inset Days:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Jan, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July

## Diary Dates

### **November**

30<sup>th</sup> Workshop for Panto C1 & C2

### **December**

1<sup>st</sup> C1-C4 Pantomime Trip

2<sup>nd</sup> & Christmas Jumper Bring &

5<sup>th</sup> Buy sales

5<sup>th</sup> FoSM Wreath Collection Day

7<sup>th</sup> Visitor: Harold the Giraffe Life Education

9<sup>th</sup> Christmas Fayre – 2pm

12<sup>th</sup> Pre-school Pantomime Trip

13<sup>th</sup> Pre-school, Class 1 and Class 2 Nativity Performances (9:30am and 5:00pm)

15<sup>th</sup> Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

16<sup>th</sup> Christmas Parties & Carol Service – 1:30pm

### **January 2023**

18<sup>th</sup> Reception & Y6 Screening Vision & Measuring height & weight

25<sup>th</sup> Young Voices Concert, Birmingham.  
Rags to Riches Collection

## Help!

We have a parent of a Year 6 child who is hoping to find a willing parent to help with transport for their child. It would be home-time only from Monday-Thursday and both morning and home-time on Friday's. The child lives on the High Street in Cinderford and the parent is happy to contribute towards fuel costs. If you are able to offer assistance please contact Miss Agg.

## School Policies

Please note that policies are frequently reviewed by Governors and the most recent updates can be seen on our website under 'Parents' and 'Policies'.

## Pre-school, Class 1 and Class 2 Nativity

We have now received all orders for tickets for the Nativity performances on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. For the showing at 9:30am we will be able to release all of the extra tickets requested (and still have a few spare) but unfortunately the 5:30pm performance is full, with only 1 spare ticket released. Tickets will be sent home w/c 5<sup>th</sup> December, please look out for these in book bags and ensure you bring these with you for the performances. Please contact Miss Agg with any queries.

## Class Snippets

**Pre-school** – This week we have welcomed an unexpected guest- The tiger who came to tea! We have created tigers and talked about patterns on different animals and we have experimented with watercolour paints and white crayons to decorate teapots.

**Class 1** – this week we have been learning about road safety. We have had lots of fun watching the Road Safety Hedgehogs and the children have made some fantastic road safety posters! The sounds we have been learning this week are 'y, z, zz, and qu'.

**Class 2** - This week Class 2 have been busy writing questions about the Fire of London. We thought about what questions we would ask Thomas Farriner about his job and also about his experience in the fire of London. The children have also created wonderful posters about fire safety and what Thomas Farriner should've done before the Great Fire.

**Class 3** have done some fabulous swimming this week. We are all so impressed with how they have progressed in the pool. They have also been working hard in maths- Y3 have been working on 8x tables and Y4 have been working on developing mental addition methods.

**Class 4** - the children have been looking at what a balanced argument is this week and how vocabulary can impact the readers' opinion. In Science, they have enjoyed investigating weight and mass, and understanding the difference between them; they are now aware gravity impacts how much we 'weigh'. Music is coming along nicely and the children are now starting to explore more notes to play on the flute - Miss Wilson is impressed with what they have achieved so far.

## RRSA: Article of the week!

Children with disabilities: Articles 2 and 23  
Article 2- Children should not be discriminate against.

## Head Teacher Certificates

### Pre-school

**Aakelah** - forming letters from her name.

**Delilah** - exploring and investigating magnets.

### Class 1

**Bertie** – for his hard work in phonics.

**Calypso** - for her fantastic writing of tricky words.

### Class 2

**Lily T** - great reasoning in maths, predicting ideas about number bonds.

**Jasmine** - working very hard in maths to think carefully about answers.

### Class 3

**Oliver** - settling in well at Steam Mills.

**Isla-Mae** - trying her best in all areas.

### Class 4

**Lily** - for always listening to feedback and trying to improve.

**Charlie J** - for improved focus in Maths.

Article 23- Children with disabilities have the right to live a full life and governments must support the child and their family.

At Steam Mills, we are inclusive to all children and provide everything possible to help every child flourish.

Challenge at home- Can you learn how to sign your name using British Sign Language?

### Christmas Jumper Sale – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December

FoSM are holding a Christmas Jumper Bring and Buy sale, please donate any unwanted jumpers to the school office between 14<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you!

### Christmas Cards

The Christmas Post Box will be put out for the children to post their Christmas Cards to each other at the start of the Christmas week on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December**. Please ensure that names are clearly marked with the class number. Many thanks

### Young Voices

All parent tickets and children's t-shirts have been ordered and Miss Agg will inform you when these are ready for collection from the school office. **Please ensure that you go onto ParentPay to pay for your child's contribution to the cost of the coach, £12.50**. Please contact Miss Agg if you have any questions.



Here is also a link for the songs for children to practice at home if they wish and we have attached further instructions:

<https://myclassmate.ai/parentRegisterReferral?code=MYgpp4E5pCRbTFiG>

You can also pre-order a DVD of the children's performance using these details :

**Discount code **SCHOOLS23****

**Pre-order your concert video today!**

Web address [yv23film.co.uk](http://yv23film.co.uk) and the discount code **SCHOOLS23** (which makes makes the video price discounted to £9.99).

The YV concert film is a great souvenir of your special night and you can watch them at home the day after your concert! You and your family can re-live the concert for years to come. Don't forget to apply your special \*discount code **SCHOOLS23** on purchase.

Featuring edited footage from your concert, some of the children and coaches arriving in the morning and a peek at the rehearsals and backstage interviews!

Here is your [link](#) to pre-order your concert video, then the very next day after the concert you will receive an email so you can watch it straight away.

Check out this link <https://youtu.be/1y89gG29bkk> to see a taste of the films we made in 2022!



*\* concert films are normally £12.99 and the discount code applies until 1st January 2023*

### **FoSM Parent Coach – Young Voices**

FoSM are looking into booking a coach for the parents to travel up to the Young Voices concert. Please could you contact Louise Bent if you are interested in taking up this offer, the cost would be £8.50 each.

Email: [mikerbent@btinternet.com](mailto:mikerbent@btinternet.com)

### **Holiday Free School Meals Scheme**

This winter holiday period, Gloucestershire County Council are providing vouchers to eligible families who have signed up to our Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of our commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. 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 benefits-related free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. We are unable to consider children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from reception to year 2), as they are not eligible for this scheme.

Families who have signed up to the scheme will receive £15 per child, per week for the holiday period. We will be distributing 2 weeks of vouchers for the winter holiday period.

We have attached details, to find out more about the scheme and to apply, parents can visit our Holiday free school meal vouchers webpage:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/meals-during-school-holidays/holiday-free-school-meal-vouchers/holiday-free-school-meal-vouchers/#main>

Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register, they will already have been included. 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.

For any parents wishing to update details of an existing application, please ask them to email [childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk) so we can update their account, as this not an automatic process.

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal vouchers for the winter holiday period are now open until the 6 December. Voucher emails will be sent out on 13 December. Please check your junk/spam email folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there. If parents have not received their vouchers by the 14 December please email [childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk).

### **Winter HAF 2022 is coming!**

The Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF) will be returning this December to provide you with exciting, festive holiday fun for your family. See below for all the information you need to know.

Click here to watch our latest HAF video! <<https://youtu.be/4Fk3OI8zuSc>>

What is HAF?

The Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF) is a Department for Education funded initiative to provide free activities and food for children in reception to year 11 who are eligible for pupil premium free school meals.

When is HAF happening?

HAF will be running for 4 days between 19-22 December.

When will bookings go live?

HAF bookings will go live from 1 December

What do I need to do in the meantime?

To make sure you're ready to book your activities this December, you need to need to do the following things:

1. Make sure you're registered on our Children's Activity Booking Site (CABS). This is important as this is the booking system you will use to book your HAF activities. You can register by clicking [here](https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf/register-for-our-childrens-activities-booking-system/) and completing your

2. If you're already registered to CABS, make sure all details are up to date on your account. This is important as it helps us to make sure we are providing appropriate activities for children attending HAF, and that any additional needs are catered for. We want to ensure children and young people have the best experience possible.

Will food hampers be available?

Food hampers are not available this December, but we will share more details about the Holiday Free School Meal Voucher scheme with you soon.

How can I find out more information?

For more information, you can visit our website at [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf)

For general queries, you can email us at

[HAFParentEnquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:HAFParentEnquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

Families who receive free school meals can also subscribe to our seasonal, bi-weekly newsletter by clicking

here. [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKGLOUCESTERSHIRE/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=UKGLOUCESTERSHIRE\\_287](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKGLOUCESTERSHIRE/subscriber/new?topic_id=UKGLOUCESTERSHIRE_287)

### **BeeZee Bodies**

BeeZee Bodies programmes start w/c 16<sup>th</sup> January and will run up until the end of March. They have secured two fantastic delivery sites, firstly GL1 in the centre of Gloucester on a Tuesday and The Main Place in Coleford on a Wednesday.

They are now taking referrals for their January programme so please don't hesitate to contact the school if you are interested in a referral. They can accept referrals for families where at least one child is between the ages of 5 and 15 and over the 91<sup>st</sup> Centile. They work with the whole family on changing habits and behaviours through carefully structured programmes.

### **School Debt - ParentPay**

The school has a **zero debt policy**, please do make contact if you are finding this difficult to manage and a payment plan can be put in place.

**Furniture**

We still have a couple of chairs and some tables which are excess to requirement. Please contact Miss Agg if you are interested in giving them a home.

*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.*