



# Steam Mills Primary

14.11.2025



Parents/Carers

## Children in Need

A big thank you to all those that bought Pudsey Ears and Wristbands. The school donated a wonderful £146 for Children in Need.



## FoSM Christmas Wreath Making

Please don't forget to order your Christmas Wreath, you could even make your own on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November!**

Could we please also have donations of any greenery cuttings from next week? Holly, ivy, nice variegated leaves, mistletoe, things with berries etc. ready for Friday.

**CHRISTMAS WREATHS**

FRIENDS & FAMILY CAN ORDER TOO!

ALL WELCOME TO HELP MAKE THEM FROM 4.30PM ON 28TH NOV.

ORDER & COLLECT FROM SCHOOL ON 1<sup>st</sup> DEC.

ONLY £10 PER WREATH!

**FRIENDS OF STEAM MILLS**

WILL BE RAISING FUNDS BY SELLING BEAUTIFUL HANDMADE WREATHS FOR CHRISTMAS

✂-  
Name .....

I would like to order.....wreath(s) at £10 each. Total cost £.....

I would like to help make wreaths on 28th Nov - Yes / No

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO MISS AGG IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE  
BY MONDAY 24TH NOVEMBER WITH FULL PAYMENT IN CASH**

## Diary Dates

### Autumn Term 2025

1<sup>st</sup> September-19<sup>th</sup> December

### Spring Term 2026

5<sup>th</sup> January-27<sup>th</sup> March

### Summer Term 2026

13<sup>th</sup> April-20<sup>th</sup> July

### Half Terms

27<sup>th</sup> October-31<sup>st</sup> October

16<sup>th</sup> February-20<sup>th</sup> February

25<sup>th</sup> May-29<sup>th</sup> May

**INSET days:** 5<sup>th</sup> January, 22<sup>nd</sup> May & 20<sup>th</sup> July

### Diary Dates (incl. Federation events) November

28<sup>th</sup> FoSM Non-school Uniform Day  
– Tombola items  
FoSM Wreath Making

### December

3<sup>rd</sup> FoSM KS2 Panto Trip

4<sup>th</sup> FoSM EYFS & KS1 Trip to Raglan Farm Park

5<sup>th</sup> Christmas Fayre - 1:30pm

8<sup>th</sup> Short Reports to Parents/Carers

9<sup>th</sup> Charlotte Taylor Author Visit & after school book sale

15<sup>th</sup> EYFS/KS1 Nativity Rehearsal

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

17<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner Day &  
Christmas Jumper Day  
Christingles and walk to the Church

18<sup>th</sup> Christmas Parties

19<sup>th</sup> Last Day of Term 2  
Christmas Carol Service–  
1:30pm (no Prostars or ASC)

### January

5<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 3 - Inset Training Day

6<sup>th</sup> Children in for 1<sup>st</sup> day of term



are

## FoSM Non-School Uniform – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

There will be a non-school uniform on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November and FoSM asking for donations for the Christmas Fayre Tombola/Raffle. Items could be chocolates, gift packs, smellies, bottles, toys etc.

## EYFS and KS1 Performance – Born in a Barn

Please don't forget to return your ticket order slips by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Please ask the school office if you need another copy of the letter.



## Attendance Snippet

### If my child needs to be absent from school, what do I need to do?

You should contact their school as early as possible on the first day of absence to explain why. If you do not, your child's school will contact you on the first morning of their absence to find out why your child is not in school.

All parents can request a 'leave of absence' for their child which gives them permission to be absent from school. Your child's school has the final say over whether to approve the request and for how long your child can be absent. Generally, a leave of absence would not be allowed for a holiday.



## Star of the Week Certificates



### Pre-school

**Joey** – for following instructions and being a super tidier!

**Hadley** - for showing more confidence in trying new arts and crafts activities.

### Class 1

**Logan** - for his perseverance and resilience when reading with an adult.

**Violet** - for settling in beautifully into Class one.

**Brodie** - for blending his CVC words independently.

### Star readers:

**Reggie, Locke, Daisy, Layton, Nori & Tommy**

### Class 2

**George** - great enthusiasm when tasting smoothies.

**Penny** - for showing a love of learning and curiosity on our class trip.

### Class 3

**Oliver** - improved positive contributions in class.

**Lewis** - for always having an amazing attitude towards his learning,

### Class 4

**Harper** - for listening and taking on feedback to improve.

**Isla D** - for an improved learning attitude and positivity towards school.

## 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 the Preschool children have thoroughly enjoyed the story of The Gingerbread Man, creating their own Gingerbread Men using a variety of collage and decorated Gingerbread Men biscuits. We have made a large scale Gingerbread Man by drawing around one of the children and also a Gingerbread house to use in role-play. The children have also been very excited as we have been using Christmas themed props for our Christmas crafts.



**Class 1** – this week in Class One, the children have been learning about how to look after ourselves. We have specifically been looking at healthy eating, and the children have made fruit kebabs. This linked nicely into writing this week as the children have started to write their design and evaluations for their fruit kebabs. Reception sounds this week (y, z, zz, qu) and HFW's (will, went, help, from, was, all). In maths, we were looking at wholes and parts. A lot of our learning was understanding the vocabulary of wholes being made up of different parts and then we transferred this learning to understanding whole and parts of numbers.

**Class 2** had a great week this week. The children made their own puppets on Wednesday to describe and they will be their character when they write their own version of Beegu next week. They got creative with beads, buttons and colours. In DT last week, the children enjoyed sampling a range of smoothies - I was so impressed with them trying lots of new flavours and this week they have tasted fruits to design their own smoothie, which they will make in groups next week. Please log into the class eSchools page to see photographs of our class trip and smoothie tasting. I have been very impressed with their singing of the Christmas play songs. Please continue to rehearse their spoken lines at home over the next few weeks. Sounds taught in phonics this week are: Y1- oo (zoo), oo (book), oa (boat). Y2- w-or (er) work and w-a (o) wanted.



**Class 3** - it's been a busy week in class as the children have been completing their assessments. They have been excellent throughout and have shown such determination and resilience — I'm very proud of them! Alongside their assessments, we've been exploring the features of playscripts, and the children are excited to begin writing their own next week. They have also absolutely loved diving further into our guided reading text, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, and there have been plenty of laugh-out-loud moments during some of the chapters. In PSHE, we discussed the word *prejudice* and talked about how it's perfectly okay to be different. I was really impressed by their mature views and thoughtful discussions. Well done to everyone for another fantastic week!

**Class 4** - have had a great week! They have been exploring their text, *Curiosity*, and considering how and when to use formal or informal writing; they have also considered different viewpoints in a diary entry. In PE, many worked hard to outperform their scores from last week and were keen to improve their skills, such as skipping. In PSHE, the children are exploring the 6 virtues and 24 characteristics and have enjoyed opportunities to identify these in different people, such as characters from adverts and *Wicked*! We have enjoyed our trip to Birmingham Thinktank and the children got to explore technology, program a robot (albeit to say 6,7), explore space exhibitions, water with forces and the planetarium - the presenter was very impressed with their knowledge of Space. It was a fantastic show and the children seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves.



## GCC Families in Partnership Newsletter.

This newsletter for families with SEND in Gloucestershire is now published monthly - thank you for your feedback. The newsletter shares the latest updates, news and developments in and around the county.

[Families in Partnership newsletter November 2025 | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

### 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!**



### 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.



Multi-Award-Winning Author  
**Charlotte L. Taylor**  
Tuesday 9 December 2025

Book Sale After School:  
Any two signed books for £15,  
three for £23 or sold individually.



[www.toadstooltales.com](http://www.toadstooltales.com)

# PROSTARS FOOTBALL CAMP



Football Culture, Lighting & Sound 2.00pm

<b>Dates:</b> Mon- Dec 22nd Tues- Dec 23rd Mon- Dec 29th Tues- Dec 30th	<b>Indoor/Outdoor facilities available</b> -Coaches are UEFA and FA qualified -Fun for all	<b>Contact Mark</b> 07444436637 mark@prostars.fun.com -To book- Prostars.toutbookings.com
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## CHRISTMAS



## What's On This Festive Season!

<b>Lights, Feasts and Fire Trail</b> <b>Tue 2 Dec - Sun 4 Jan</b> A festive museum trail exploring global winter traditions through creative challenges, stories, and seasonal fun for all ages. <b>£2 per trail</b>	<b>Winter Windows</b> <b>Tue 2 Dec - Sun 4 Jan</b> A magical Christmas display of over 1,000 pupi-made cardboard windows, celebrating light, warmth, and winter traditions at the Museum of Gloucester. <b>Free!</b>	<b>For parents only!</b> <b>Art After Hours: Retro Christmas Decorations</b> <b>Fri 5 Dec, 4pm-7pm</b> Adults-only workshop to craft vintage-style Christmas ornaments with a nostalgic twist. <b>£12 per person - hot drink included with ticket price!</b>
<b>Make Your Mark</b> <b>On until Sun 7 Dec</b> Help create a bold, collaborative tape artwork in the Museum of Gloucester's gallery - a free, evolving installation celebrating creativity and community. <b>Free - donations welcome</b>	<b>Ghosts &amp; Giggles! Family Tour of Haunted Gloucester</b> <b>Fri 12 Dec, 5pm-7pm</b> A family-friendly ghost tour uncovering Gloucester's haunted history, from museum mysteries to eerie ruins and hidden halls. <b>Child: £10   Adult: £15</b>	<b>Brick Builders Club: Christmas Building!</b> <b>Sat 13 Dec, 10am-1pm</b> Drop-in LEGO sessions for kids aged 5+. No rules, just brick-tastic fun! <b>£2 per child - adults go free!</b>
<b>Medieval Mercenary Tour of Eastgate Chamber</b> <b>Sat 13 Dec &amp; Wed 31 Dec, 2pm-3pm</b> Join Sir Miles for an underground tour of the Eastgate chamber, uncovering its history, myths, and medieval superstitions. <b>Adult: £7.50   Child: £5 (Family: £25)</b>	<b>Cracker Creations</b> <b>Sat 20 Dec, 10am-1pm</b> A festive kids' workshop where young makers craft unique, eco-friendly Christmas crackers filled with surprises and seasonal creativity. <b>£3.50 per child - adults go free!</b>	<b>Glorious Glevum Tour</b> <b>Tue 30 Dec, 2pm-3pm</b> Explore Roman Glevum with Lucius Sita, a guided tour revealing the city's history, hidden treasures, and life as an auxiliary soldier. <b>Adult: £7.50   Child: £5   Family: £25</b>

**MUSEUM OF GLOUCESTER**

Scan me for more info!



# Uniform Discount

Use code '10%myc2025'

**10% DISCOUNT**

**Promotional Code Valid Until December 31st 2025**

Excludes events hoodies, bundles & clearance items

[www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com) 0800 059 0594

**Forest of Dean HAF**  
holiday activities & food

**FOREST OF DEAN HAF PROVIDES FREE ACTIVITIES AND FOOD FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN.**

HAF takes place three times a year during school holidays in:

- Spring
- Summer
- Winter

**Activities**

Free activities that can be booked online including:

- Family activities
- Children and young people activities
- Ticketed attractions

**Signposting**

You can contact us for support and we can signpost you to organisations that can help you.

**Food**

Food is available during activities making sure your children have access to a healthy meal.

If you need help to sign up or book activities contact us:  
[gloucsconnect@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:gloucsconnect@gloucestershire.gov.uk)  
07340709871  
[familyhubs.gloucestershire.gov.uk](http://familyhubs.gloucestershire.gov.uk)

**Free Winter Activities for Children, Young People & Families**

**Forest of Dean HAF**  
holiday activities & food

The Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF) returns this winter with lots of fun activities and delicious food available for children and families from 20 December to 4 January.

HAF activities are available for children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals. This winter we are also able to extend this offer to any child who may benefit from attending the programme, through our grant funded Holiday Activities Programme (HAP).

**Bookings open from midday on 1 December. Make sure you're ready to book by checking your account now**  
[familyhubs.gloucestershire.gov.uk](http://familyhubs.gloucestershire.gov.uk)

Use our handy checklist below to make sure that:

- All your children have an individual profile added to your account.
- Emergency contact details are filled in for each child profile
- Any additional needs or disability information is included for each child profile
- Your details reflect any recent changes (e.g. new address, phone contact details)

Setting up an account is easy:  
Scan this QR Code with a phone camera for quick access

If you need any HAF related help then please contact us:  
T: 07340 709 871  
E: [gloucsconnect@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:gloucsconnect@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

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**

Skills for Learning, Learning for Life