



Steam Mills Primary

12.09.2025



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to your 2nd Newsletter of Term 1. As well as this weekly newsletter, the school communications are mainly by email (via our eSchools System), in emergencies we may also send text messages and we also send all messages via Our School App (OSA). OSA is available to download from your App Store and then you just need to select Steam Mills Primary School. Our School Website is also a really good source of information. Please let Miss Agg know if you are experiencing any issues with communications.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

A reminder that the school runs a Zero Debt Policy for our clubs and ParentPay accounts must be in credit at all times. It is quick and easy to top accounts up (either Direct Debit or Card Payments) and this must be done before or at the time of booking. **Parents will be contacted next week if there is any debt remaining on accounts.**

Rags to Riches – Wednesday 17th September

We have our next Rags to Riches collection on Wednesday next week. Please do think of the school if you are sorting out items at home. You can find a list of acceptable items here. <https://rags2riches4schools.co.uk/what-we-collect/>

Please ensure all bags are placed in the Playground opposite the gate or the Library (in case of rain) first thing on Wednesday. Rags to Riches can collect from any time between 9:00am and 4:00pm. Thank you!

Attendance Monitoring

Mrs Fawkes, Executive Deputy Head/Attendance Champion, will be in touch with a few Parents/Carers over the next week to discuss attendance. This is nothing to worry about; the school has to monitor attendance and connect with Parents/Carers as part of the requirement to improve attendance for all children. Thank you.

Personal Details/Medical Information

Please could all Parents/Carers ensure that the school has your latest and most to date information for you and your child. If you have changed email address, phone number, address etc. please let Miss Agg know in the school office.

You are welcome to email : admin@steammills.gloucs.sch.uk or pop in when you are in school. It is also really important to ensure any medical information for your child is up to date, please do ask if you need to check the information we have currently on our system for your child.

Diary Dates

Autumn Term 2025

1st September-19th December

Spring Term 2026

5th January-27th March

Summer Term 2026

13th April-20th July

Half Terms

27th October-31st October

16th February-20th February

25th May-29th May

INSET days:

24th October, 5th January, 22nd May & 20th July

Diary Dates (incl. Federation events)

September

12th FoSM Meeting – 3:15pm

17th Rags to Riches collection

26th Nasal Flu Vaccinations – whole school

30th Tempest Photography – Individual/Sibling Portraits

October

13th Y3/4 Federation Trip to Cheltenham Literature Fest.

14th Parents Evenings

15th Parents Evenings

16th Reading Café

21st Y1/2 Harvest Crafts for Federation at Steam Mills

23rd Harvest Festival Food Bank Collection

Harvest Festival Assembly – Parents welcome 2:45pm

24th INSET Training Day

27th Last Day of Term 1

November

3rd Start of Term 2

10th Anti-bullying week

11th Remembrance Day

12th C2 Trip to Aerospace Bristol

14th Children in Need Day

20th C4 Trip to Birmingham Think Tank

December

8th Short Reports to Parents/Carers

17th Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Jumper Day

Cookery Club – Tuesday 16th September

A reminder to the 6 children taking part in Cookery Club this term; Cookery Club is starting on Tuesday 16th September and will be running for 5 weeks. Please ensure payment is made via ParentPay in advance. Please also do not forget your container to take your makes home. If your child was not successful, they have been placed on the waiting list and should gain a place soon.

Childhood Nasal Flu Programme – Reception to Year 6 – Friday 26th September

The NHS school vaccination team will be visiting on Friday 26th September. All parents/carers have been emailed a letter and information this week. Please let the school office know if you have not received this email. **It is important for all parents/carers to either accept or decline this offer via the on-line portal**; all nil responses will be followed up.

Below is a link to the online consent form and the Unique Reference Number (URN) specifically for your school. Please ensure you add the unique code for your child's school, then click 'submit'. To ease submission please ensure that you manually enter your unique school code and not copy and paste from the attached letter. You will receive an email confirming receipt.

[Flu Vaccination Consent Form](#)

Please type in School Code: GC115522

Tempest Photography- Tuesday 30th September

All children will have their Individual portrait photos taken during the school morning and those that have siblings in school will also have a sibling photo taken (including Pre-school children). If you have a younger child who does not attend the setting or is not in Pre-school on this day and would like a sibling photo taken, please arrive at school between 8:30-8:45am and this can then be done.

Parents Evenings – Tuesday 14th October and Wednesday 15th October

We are holding Parents Evenings on Tuesday 14th October & Wednesday 15th October. Bookings for classes 1, 2, 3 and 4 are made via our eSchools system which will be open for booking from **today at 3pm**. The meetings are in 10 minute slots, please adhere to this time limit. Please let Miss Agg (school office) know if you would also like to see Miss Barber (SENCO) and she will book this for you. If you have any issues booking for your child/ren, please contact Miss Agg. Pre-school Parents Evenings will be on the same days, bookings can be made with the Pre-school staff.

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 - The children have been talking about their own families, looking at their family photos and discussing how they are different and similar. They enjoyed making Face cookies- adding yummy treats for their features, such as sprinkles for hair, chocolate chips and marshmallows. We have loved our first session at Forest school today, exploring the site, climbing the trees and jumping in lots of muddy puddles on the way back!

Class 1 - The children of Class 1 are still working hard on getting used to the routines of school and Class1. We have been looking a lot at The Colour Monster and what feelings we can feel. The children have been encouraged to use their new emotional language when expressing themselves in Class.



Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school

Grayson - for having a fabulous first week.

Hero - for being so kind and helpful to the new children.

Class 1

Nori - for her glowing confidence in Class.

Logan - for his resilience coming into school.

Locke - for working really hard on writing his name.

Class 2

Delilah - being helpful towards the new Y1 children.

Ivie - Settling in well to Steam Mills.

Class 3

Bella - great writing and consistently trying her best.

Evie W - excellent work in all subjects, especially in maths.

Class 4

Olivia - for some great vocabulary choices.

Lily - for a great learning attitude.

Class 2 have settled in beautifully to the routine of school. They access fine motor activities when they first coming into school. This includes tweezer games, threading cards, tracing, hammer patterns and stick patterns. We have started phonics this week. Y1s have been working on ff, ss, ll and ck sounds and the Y2s have explored dge and g tricky witch as a j sound. It would be great to explore words with these sounds in together at home. In maths, the Y1s have been counting to 20 and exploring how to make those numbers with tens frames. Please practise counting to 20 - this could be counting objects on a nature walk or around the house. Y2 children have been exploring 2 digit numbers, including writing and partitioning them using dienes. We were cartographers in geography to make sketch maps of the school and we went on a material hunt in science.

Class 3 have made a brilliant start to the new school year, throwing themselves into their learning with enthusiasm. In maths, Year 3 have been exploring 3-digit numbers while Year 4 have tackled 4-digit place value with confidence. Our writing sessions have focused on different types of adverbs and how to use them effectively, alongside orally retelling our class text, *Hortense and the Shadow*. In art, we've been developing our 3D sketching skills using shading techniques. The children have made me feel incredibly welcome at Steam Mills, and I've thoroughly enjoyed getting to know them. It's also been lovely to meet some of you already—please do feel free to say hello at drop-off or pick-up!

Class 4 have had a positive start to our new academic year. We have started learning about Space and we are enjoying the texts we are exploring linked to this - Hidden Figures and When the Stars Come Out. In DT, the children are learning about sewing techniques so they can design their own space bag and they have created some lovely art work linked to stars last week. In PE, we are learning about the Haka, which links to the current Women's Rugby World Cup and they have come up with some great moves and warrior stances. We are looking forward to what the rest of the term has in store and what the children produce! 😊

One-way System

Please could we remind Parent/Carers that the school runs a one-way system. Cars leaving the main car park should exit via the track and cars entering the car park should do so via the main car park entrance. This is in place to avoid any cars meeting head-on. There was a near miss this week with a car entering the car park via the track, whilst a car was trying to exit. The school does not take responsibility for any accidents in these public areas.

School Debt Policy – September 2025

Please ensure that your Breakfast Club and After School Club ParentPay accounts are in credit at all times.

Just to remind parents and inform new parents of our Debt Policy.

- Bookings will only be accepted if Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club Accounts are in credit for each day booked.
- If your child is a "no show" or you have not given 24hrs notice, you will be still be charged for your child's place.
- If your child is not booked in for either service, you will be contacted if we are oversubscribed, asked to collect your child.
- Accounts will be debited on the same day (BC) or next day (ASC).
- Childcare vouchers/tax free childcare payments should be **sent in advance** and your Parent Pay account will then be credited ready for use.
- Breakfast club remains free of charge to those eligible for income/benefits based Free School Meals.

**We're live, online on Monday 15th Sept at
7am, 10am, 3pm and 7pm (BST)**

Parent Information Session:
Help Your Child Learn to Read with Monster Phonics

Are you hearing terms like phonemes, graphemes and wondering what on earth they all mean? Join our Parent Webinar to find out and confidently support your child's reading.

Monday 15th September 7.00am, 10.00am, 3.00pm, 7.00pm Online

[Book Now](#)

**Choose a time that suits you and join us by
booking your **free** place below**

[click here to BOOK your preferred time](#)

Are you hearing terms like *phonemes*, *graphemes*, *split digraphs*, and wondering what on earth they all mean? You're not alone and we're here to help. Join us for an informative and friendly **Monster Phonics Parent Webinar** designed to demystify phonics and give you the confidence to support your child's reading journey at home.

What You'll Learn:

- ✓ What phonics is and why it's essential
- ✓ Key phonics terminology made simple
- ✓ An introduction to the Monster Phonics programme
- ✓ How to make phonics & reading at home fun and effective

**HALLOWEEN
HOLIDAY
CLUB**

£30 AGE 5-13

OCTOBER 28TH
9AM-3PM

1st Cinderford Scout Hut,
Overheadway Lane, Stockwell
Green, Cinderford, GL14 2DH

DRAMA WORKSHOPS
DI BURNETT

7 - 180 yrs

FROM SEPTEMBER 15th
WEEKLY GROUPS IN MITCHELDEAN

MONDAY: 11 - 18yrs
6.30pm - 8.00pm

TUESDAY: 7 - 12 yrs
5.00pm - 6.30pm

TUESDAY: 18 - 180 yrs
8.00pm - 9.30pm

£50 a term.
Minimum 10 sessions

Yearly Performance

CONTACT & INFO:
teenactors@msn.com
07977 147273

MONKEY CRAFT AND THE MONKEYS
It's a story of a family of monkeys and monkeys...
It's a story of a family of monkeys and monkeys...
It's a story of a family of monkeys and monkeys...

THE MONKEYS AND THE MONKEYS
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07977 147273

Forest Wild Ones Ltd.

Mobile:07943817755



FIVE ACRES HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS

Visit us and discover what our world-class school
can offer your child and you

OPEN EVENING - TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER, 4:45-7PM

- No booking required
- Hear from our headteacher
- (Talks at 5pm and 6:15pm)
- Tour the school with staff and students



**SCHOOL IN ACTION TOURS, WEDNESDAY
24, THURSDAY 25 & FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER,
9:30-12:30**

- Please book via this link:
<https://forms.gle/yeexPahyZCilFrWSA>
- Tour the school with our
student ambassadors

📍 Beech Avenue, Berry Hill GL18 7QW
☎ 01584 832263
🌐 www.5acreshighschool.co.uk



Brookdean Benefice - Drybrook, Lydbrook & Ruardean

Coffee Morning

Raising funds to support the
people of Gaza



10am - 12 noon

Saturday 27th September



**Holy Trinity
(Forest Church)
School Room**

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.



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