



Steam Mills Primary

28.04.2023



Dear Parents/Carers

Track Work

A big THANK YOU to Mr & Mrs Dickinson for their hard work last weekend finishing work on the track work. We are sure you will all agree, it is so much better and we still have a little of the material left in order to fill any bits as necessary.

Solihull Parenting Drop-in Sessions - Barnardo's

The next session for Steam Mills parents is running on Tuesday 9th May. No requirement to book, just come along on the allotted day. **(Article 5- Family guidance as children develop)**

Strike action by members of the National Education Union

I am writing again to you about forthcoming strike action by the National Education Union (NEU), one of the main teaching trade unions. You will have seen coverage of this in the news, and I wish to inform you about the impact at our school.

Steam Mills School only (Pre-school will remain open) will be closed to children on:

Tuesday 2nd May 2023

There will be **no school dinner provision** for the Pre-school on these days, so please ensure that you supply a packed lunch from home. We are also going to review the Breakfast Club and After School Club provision for these days. Please contact the school office if you require either of these for your Pre-school child. Thank you

The NEU has posted a document for parents, carers and grandparents that explains the reasons for strike action. It can be found here:

<https://neu.org.uk/media/24511/view>

Clearly this is a difficult situation; I would ask you, however, to be understanding. A national strike by teachers is very unusual. Taking strike action is not something that any teacher would undertake lightly. Those who wish to strike will have thought long and hard about their decision.

Kind regards,
Mrs Davis

School Calendar 22/23

Term 5

17th April to 26th May

Term 6

5th June to 25th July

Inset Days:

24th and 25th July

Bank Holidays in May

Monday 1st May, Monday 8th May
and Monday 29th May

Diary Dates

May

2nd School Closed (Industrial Action) Pre-school open

5th Coronation Celebrations

9th Solihull Parenting Drop-in Session – all welcome

9th- SATs week

12th

16th Rags to Riches- (Article 27- the right to clothing)

19th Tempest Photography School Class Photos & Leavers Photos

26th Sponsored Walk (details to follow) (Article 31- relax and play)

June

8th New Reception Parent meeting at 5pm

16th Sports Day

28th- New class (Sep 23) Taster

29th Mornings

July

14th Reports being sent home

19th KS2 Leavers Dress rehearsal and Evening Performance - 5pm

20th KS2 Leavers Morning Performance – 9:30am

21st Leavers Service 1:30pm

24th Inset Day

25th Inset Day

December

6th Pantomime – Classes 1-4 (Article 29- develop a child's talents.

Coronation Celebration

FoSM have given details of the coronation celebration they are organising on the field on Friday 5th May. To start the afternoon, the ice-cream van will be visiting the school between 1:00pm-2:00pm and FoSM will be purchasing an ice-cream for all the children. Parents/Carers are welcome to join their children from 2:00pm, please bring picnic blankets and/or chairs. There will be a singing performance by the children at 2:30pm and a crown procession at 2:45pm. Cakes, tea & coffee and cream teas will be available to purchase. Please remind children to bring their decorated crowns in on this day so they can join in with the procession and they are asked to wear non-school uniform with the theme, red, white and blue! We look forward to welcoming you into school.

Coronation Items

If you have ordered items with your child's Coronation design, these are now ready to collect from the school office.

Rags to Riches

Our next collection for Rags to Riches is taking place on Tuesday 16th May. You should have all received a collection bag which were sent home with children this week. If you have more than one bag to fill, you can use any large bag. It is a great opportunity to support the school if you are having a sort out! Please could you drop bags on the morning of the collection (anytime between 7:45am and 9:15am) and leave in the playground opposite the main entrance gate.

Here is a link showing which items can be donated:
<https://rags2riches4schools.co.uk/what-we-collect/>

Sponsored Walk – Friday 26th May

We have received notification from Forestry England that operations are taking place in one area on our route. Mrs Tobin has kindly run and worked out a slightly altered route, but this does mean that the walk will be approximately a kilometre longer to get to Beechenhurst, totalling approx. 5 miles in total.

As part of our obligation and even though lunch-time is not included as part of the day, we have to offer those entitled to Free School Meals or Universal Free School Meals, a lunch on this day. Please note that you are welcome to book **a packed lunch meal only** if you are in receipt of **FSM or UFSM**. Please order on ParentPay in the usual way and Mrs Molyneux will deliver the packed lunches to Beechenhurst for yourselves and children to collect before leaving. There will be **no ASC for any children on this day, including Pre-school children**.

Debt Policy

Steam Mills has a strict no debt policy relating to services that the school provides. Services must be paid for in advance via your ParentPay account and if your account should fall into debt, then this is to be credited in a timely manner. If you are not able to pay immediately, please contact the school office to arrange a payment plan.



Star of the Week Certificates

Pre-school

Rosie – settling so well into Pre-school.

Dela – showing more confidence in all aspects of Pre-school.

Class 1

Sunneigh - for being a great friend to everyone.

Evie - for becoming a confident writer.

Class 2

Ariana - always giving 100% in everything she does.

Poppy - being kind and generous to everyone and always being a friend when people need one.

Class 3

Olivia - working hard in all areas of learning.

Beatrice - persevering with decimals.

Class 4

Macey – showing a conscientious effort in guided reading.

Max – for great work in Maths linked to fractions.

Reading Certificates

For completing Reading Challenges in class

Xander (C2)

Toby (C3)

Prostars Clubs

Please find attached details of the Prostars half-term clubs.

KS1 Gate

Please note that the KS1 gate will be locked at 9am when the children have come into school. If you are a Pre-school parent, we recommend parking in the main car park to avoid the problem of being unable to exit the playground on that side of the school. Thank you

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 we have read lots of rhyming stories, looking at different modes of transport including, "The Bear in the Balloon, A Lark in the Ark and Duck in the Truck". We have made colourful tracks – driving cars in paint and introduced Dough disco to our new friends.

Class 1 – This week Class 1 have continued their hard work on CCVC words and we have been doing lots of tricky word practise. We have then been applying this phonics knowledge in our independent writing, as we continue our animal fact files, we started last week. This week, was the first proper week of forest school, with Pre-school joining us. Reception set a great example to their younger peers and demonstrated beautifully the rules of forest school.

Class 2 – This week we have started our history topic. The children in Class 2 had to do some investigation of artefacts to discover what we are going to be learning this term in history. They went around the room and looked carefully at the different objects which were around for them. There were some old medicine bottles, a first aid book, some nurses' uniforms and some pictures of paintings from the past. The children thought very hard and decided that we are learning about nurses and hospitals. I explained to them that we would be finding out some more about two very important nurses from the past; Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. They are very excited to learn some more about these significant individuals from history.

Class 3 had an amazing art day on Wednesday. They explored the work of the Romans and how they used tesserae to construct mosaics on the floors and walls of Roman villas. They compared their work to the work of a modern architect that used smashed pottery- Gaudi. Children made very insightful comments about the different mosaics.

A huge thank you to FOSM for funding a welcome sign mosaic activity for the children make to go at the front of the school. The children really enjoyed making a mosaic collaboratively as a class to share with the rest of the school. They learnt how to cut mosaic tiles into different shapes and arrange them to make a design.

Class 4 - have been busy this week – Year 6 are working hard towards their end of Key Stage 2 Assessments and the Years 5s are being very respectful of this. The class have impressed the teachers, including Mr Bird, who will be providing supply for the school whilst teachers monitor their subjects. Mr Bird is also a school governor and he was very impressed with the children in C4 and commented on their great learning behaviours... The children got to celebrate a consecutive win with class stars this week and they are doing well in working towards a class treat to support this.

Thank you to FOSM, who will be funding the KS2 Performance. Class 4 are already looking forward to what this might be – scripts will be handed out after the SATs. Just a reminder, Y6s are welcome to come in early during SATs week to get settled and go over revision for the tests on that day. All Y6 children MUST attend these SATs; they are statutory and inform next steps for Secondary school. If you have an issue around this, please contact the school office.

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.