

Steam Mills Primary

30.01.2026



Dear Parents/Carers

Rags2Riches Collection

Thank you to all those parents, carers and relatives who donated to our Rags2Riches collection this week. FoSM raised £47.60 to put towards future activities and experiences for the children.



Queries or Concerns

A reminder that your first point of call for any learning/class queries/concerns or if you are unsure about what your child has fed back to you about anything at school, is your child's class teacher. You can request a phone call home, or if you prefer, arrange a face to face meeting. Thank you.

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.

National Grid Works – Monday 2nd February

We have been informed that work will commence on the removal of overhead power cables in the vicinity of the school next week. The work will start over in the Branch area but will later impact the lane to the school with temporary traffic lights. National Grid have agreed to use the February half-term to carry out the work across the lane, so as not to impact access to the school carpark.

Bike Checks & Bikeability Training for Year 5's – Monday

9th February

Reminder that those wanting a bike check/service need to bring their bikes in on Friday morning and the actual training starts on Monday 9th February, when all bikes will need to be in school first thing. Thank you.



World Epilepsy Day – Tuesday 10th February

World Epilepsy Day will be taking place on Tuesday 10th February. To mark this day, children are welcome to wear an item of purple e.g. a purple hair clip, purple socks, along with their normal school uniform. This is to raise awareness of epilepsy.



Diary Dates

Spring Term 2026

5th January-27th March

Summer Term 2026

13th April-20th July

Half Terms

16th February-20th February

25th May-29th May

INSET days: 22nd May & 20th July

Diary Dates (incl. Federation events)

February

2nd National Grid to start work on Electricity Cables

6th Bikeability Free Bike Checks

9th Y5's Bikeability Training
Mental Health Week

10th World Epilepsy Day

11th Federation Mental Health Afternoon Y5/6

13th FoSM Non-school Uniform £1 donation
Last day of Term 3

23rd Start of Term 4
SATS Booster sessions start for Y6

24th C2 start Gymnastics

March

5th World Book Day

24th Federation PE Morning Y1/2

27th FoSM Non-school Uniform Day – bottles for Summer Fayre Tombola
End of Term 4

April

13th Start of Term 5

15th Class 4 Residential Trip

17th

May

7th Tempest Photography – Class photos and leavers photos

11th SATS week
Rags 2 Riches

20th FoSM Non-school Uniform Day – Tombola for Summer Fayre

21st Sponsored Walk

22nd Inset Training Day and last day of Term 5

June

1st Start of Term 6

12th Sports Morning

19th FoSM Non-school Uniform Day – Sweet Donations

26th FoSM Summer Fayre

July

15th Leavers Disco

Collection from School/Nursery

As part of our school safeguarding, if Parents/Carers are not able to collect children from school for any reason and have to send a friend/relative, please could you inform the school office before home-time. Thank you.



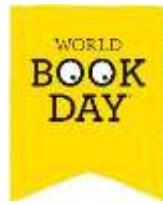
KS2 Cookery Club – Term 4

We have taken the decision not to run Cookery Club next term as it is such a short term! Cookery Club will return after the Easter Holidays, Term 5 so please look out for the letter coming home to sign up.



World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

World book day is on Thursday 5th March. To celebrate this year we will be wearing pyjamas to have a hot chocolate and story. We will also be running a book swap on this day.



Please wrap a book up at home and write 3 clues on the front of the paper e.g. The Gruffalo- preschool/ EYFS book, animals, forest. Children will be able to bring these books into their classes and swap as a mystery book. They will then keep the book that they have chosen from the swap.

Children will be completing other book themed activities during the school day.

Attendance Snippet

What should I do if my child needs a dental or medical appointment in school time?

To avoid disruption to your child's attendance, medical and dental appointments should not be booked during the school day whenever reasonably possible. When they are, you should ask the school in advance for a leave of absence and collect them as close to the time of the appointment as possible and return them to school for the rest of the school day afterwards.



Class Snippets

Pre-School – this week the children have observed and talked about our vase of Tulips - recreating them with paint and watercolour paints. Using various techniques, the children have used blue and silver media and materials to create snowflakes, practising their fine motor skills. We have also built dens and engaged in lots of teacher/school role play!! As a whole group we have talked about our feelings and the feelings of others, creating a small display which has prompted lots of discussion about why we may feel the way we do in certain situations.

Class 1 – this week we have been learning about the moon. The children shared some wonderful facts that they knew about the moon, then together we thought of some questions about the moon that we would like to find out. Reception sound this week is 'oa' for goat and HFW's are 'come, some & one'. In maths, reception have been looking at 5 and a bit to make greater numbers.

Class 2 had a busy week of learning. In writing they have started to read the poem The Owl and the Pussy-Cat. They've written lists with noun phrases to describe what they might take in their boat and have been identifying rhyming words. We have finished reading Sir Scallywag and The Golden

Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school

Roffi - for showing great care and consideration, helping her friends when they were hurt.
Ella - for following instructions with ease and staying focused during activities.

Class 1

Harrison - for independently making and writing his name.
Locke - for his sight recognition of his HFW's.
Star readers – Harrison, Ella, Nori

Class 2

Reggie - always trying his best and being polite and kind.
Poppy - great effort to use capital letters and finger spaces in her writing.

Class 3

Winnie - for continued efforts in all key areas of her learning.
Robert - for successfully using new apparatus to aid his learning.

Class 4

Ruby - for a great diary entry in English this week.
Poppy - for her consistent helpful and positive demeanour in school.

Underpants and the children can perform the poem beautifully with actions. In science we have continued to explore animals - this week thinking about what they eat. Lots of paint sticks have been used to recreate Starry Night and we have started to use oil pastels to create cloud formations. Phonics sounds for the week are Y1- air tricky witch chair and Y2- c tricky witch as soft c city.

Class 3 – another great week in Class 3! The children have written their own innovative stories about overcoming adversity, and I have been really impressed with their creativity and effort. In maths, Year 4 have started a new unit on formal written methods for addition, while Year 3 have continued their work on fractions, focusing on comparing and ordering them. Everyone has worked extremely hard. We are enjoying our class book *Zombierella* and have been making predictions about what might happen in the final two chapters — we can't wait to read them next week. In PSHE, we discussed developing an "attitude of gratitude" and how we can show this to others. In music, the children learned to play *Let Your Spirit Fly* on the glockenspiels.

Class 4 – in Maths this week, Year 6 have been bringing together their previous knowledge of shape and angles to apply it to finding missing angles in shapes. They have shown great retrieval abilities and been able to make links between their learning. Year 5 began the week looking at prime numbers. They found retrieving multiplication knowledge independently tricky to start but as the week has progressed their retrieval skills have begun to shine. In English, they have planned their own Just So story to write next week. The Just So stories by Rudyard Kipling have been really enjoyable for the children and helped to inspire their own writing with a strong moral weaved through as with Kipling's.

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!**

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.

Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience.

We have ensured that a member of our staff, [Designated Safeguarding Lead] known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care.

This information means that we can understand a child's behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want.

Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident.

We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this.

www.operationencompass.org

Domestic Abuse Act 2018



HALF PRICE ENTRY THIS WEEKEND

Enjoy half price entry all weekend at Perrygrove Railway. Open from 10am - 4pm. Online booking recommended.

WWW.PERRYGROVE.CO.UK



SUMMER FETE
20th June 2026

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY CARD COMPETITION

Design a birthday card fit for a King! Get creative with colours, glitter, pens, paint or collage!

AGE GROUPS

- 5-7 years
- 8-10 years
- 11-13 years

ENTRY FEE

£2.00 per entry

HOW TO ENTER

Hand in your card to:
The Causeway Club
Deadline: 13th June 2026

On the BACK of the card, include:
✓ Name ✓ Age ✓ Contact number

CONTACT
hospitality@cinderfordtown.co.uk

GOOD LUCK!

Winners announced at the Summer Fete - 20th June 2026

SCHOOL TRENDS
GROWN OUT BEFORE WORN OUT

ABOUT US | PRODUCT RANGE | CONTACT US | FAQ'S

FLASH SALE!

15% OFF

It's pay day weekend and we are offering you 15% off from today until midnight on Sunday 1st February.
Simply use the code below at checkout and get your uniform topped up.

USE CODE:
FEB2615

SHOP NOW

20TH OF FEB 5PM-7PM

Disco Night

SOUDLEY VILLAGE HALL

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