

# Steam Mills Primary

21.01.22

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Reminder - Bikeability Cycle Training

Bikeability sessions are running **next week** and bicycles for the children who have requested the training, will be needed on **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday**. Thank you.

## Rags to Riches

Reminder that the next collection is on **Wednesday 26 January 2022** so please keep us in mind if you are planning to have a sort out. Rags to Riches have confirmed that you can use any bags, as they are not sending theirs out at present.

## Parent/carer survey

A link to a parent/carer survey has been sent to your e-schools account. We welcome your views on a range of topics and the survey will be open until 31.01.22. Here is the link again: <https://web.nautilus.education/public/survey/174/2904/CLASS>

## Seed Kits

Each family should be bringing home a seed kit today. The Forest Voluntary Action Forum in Cinderford has kindly donated these for Steam Mills and Woodside Schools. We hope the children enjoy planning the seeds and watching them grow.

## Holiday Free School Meal Voucher Scheme

This February half term, Gloucestershire County Council is providing vouchers to parents who have signed up to our Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of its commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. The vouchers are funded through COVID-19 grant funding we have received and is separate to that of the term time free school meals.

Parents who have signed up to the scheme will receive a voucher for £15 for each child who is eligible for FSM which will cover the February half term week. The scheme is eligible for children aged 4-16 years old. Unfortunately, we are unable to consider college and sixth form students.

**Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register**, they have already been included, but, to ensure we get all who are eligible, we are encouraging new parents to sign up as soon as they can.

## Diary Dates

### January

- 24<sup>th</sup> Bikeability Training for Year 5
- 26<sup>th</sup> Rags to Riches Collection

### February

- 18<sup>th</sup> Last day of Term 3 – FoSM Non-school Uniform Day
- 28<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 4

### March

- 1<sup>st</sup> Class 4 start  
Gymnastics
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Parents Evenings
- 29<sup>th</sup> Parents Evenings
- April
- 8<sup>th</sup> Last day of Term 4 – FoSM Non-school Uniform Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 5

### May

- 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> KS2 SATS
- 13<sup>th</sup> Tempest Class  
Photos & Leavers  
Photos
- 17<sup>th</sup> Reception and  
Year 6 NHS  
Screening
- 26<sup>th</sup> FoSM Non-school  
Uniform Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> Inset Training Day  
Bowling Club open  
sessions – children  
welcome from  
3pm

### June

- 6<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 6
- 7<sup>th</sup> Class 3 start  
Gymnastics

### July

- 4<sup>th</sup>&6<sup>th</sup> Y5/6 Residential –  
South Cerney

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers for the February half term period is now open until the 14<sup>th</sup> February. Voucher emails will be sent out between **15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of February**. Please check junk/spam email folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there. If you have not received vouchers by then please get in contact with us by emailing [childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk).

For more information and to sign up if you haven't already please visit our website: the [Holiday School Meal vouchers page on](#) our website.

### **Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19**

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

### **Lateral Flow Tests - Close Contact**

As a school, we continue to try our very best to minimise transmission and loss of school hours for the children due to Covid. Please could you note the following Government guidance with regards to close contact and if at all possible carry out daily LFD tests for your child should they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid.



#### **Contacts who are not legally required to self-isolate**

If you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, you are not legally required to self-isolate if you are fully vaccinated or you are below the age of 18 years. You are also not legally required to self-isolate if you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial or you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

COVID-19 vaccines reduce the risk of you becoming severely ill if you catch COVID-19. If you are vaccinated against COVID-19 you may still catch it and pass it on to others, even if you do not have any symptoms.

If you have had contact with someone who has COVID-19 you are at higher risk of becoming infected yourself. If you are not legally required to self-isolate, you are strongly advised to take daily LFD tests for 7 days.

LFD tests are very good at identifying people who have high levels of coronavirus and are most likely to pass on infection to others, even if you do not have symptoms. You are therefore strongly advised to take daily LFD tests during the period you are at highest risk of becoming infected yourself.

**Head Teacher Certificates**

**Pre-school**  
**Bella** – Continually working on her writing skills.

**Class 1**  
**Freddie** - Independent research on reptiles.  
**Edward** - Writing his name and good progress in reading.

**Class 2**  
**Harper** - Excellent understanding with 3D shapes.  
**Fergie** - For excellent learning behaviour.

**Class 3**  
**Tehya**- Being an excellent learning partner.  
**Bailey**- Excellent progress in writing.

**Class 4**  
**Ava** – Great use of language and characterisation in writing.  
**Charlie** – Excellent responses in guided reading.

If you are aged 5 years and over and have been identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19, but are not legally required to self-isolate, you are strongly advised to take an LFD test every day for 7 days, or until 10 days since your last contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19 if this is earlier.

#### **Class 4 Residential Trip – 2 nights – please note updated dates**

We are delighted to inform you that we have booked a residential trip for Class 4 to South Cerney Outdoor, Cirencester. This will be taking place on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July to Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022. More details to follow once the timetable and costings have been finalised. In the meantime, you can watch a promotional video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymbw5rc5HeM>

#### **Rights Respecting**

This week, classes have been exploring Article 7- the right to a name and nationality and Article 8- the right to an identity. Children have explored what makes them special and unique.

#### **Drybrook Rugby Club**

Drybrook U10's (year 5) are looking for more players to join the team (boys and girls). Training and games are on Sundays at 10.15am, for more information contact Steve at [hale87@outlook.com](mailto:hale87@outlook.com)

#### **Volunteer School Admission Appeal Panel Members - GCC**

Please find attached an advert from Gloucestershire County Council for Volunteer School Admission Appeal Panel Members.

#### **YogaBugs online offer**

We have an offer for families who can claim a FREE eCode to access YogaBugs Virtual - Healthy Screen time for the whole family throughout January & February 2022.

What is it?

YogaBugs virtual gives online access to hundreds of yoga & well-being videos for the whole family to take part in from the comfort of your own home! Perfect if people are worried about going out due to rising cases of COVID but still want to get some exercise in.

<https://yogabugs.com/parent-form/> to watch a short video to find out why it's a great option for families!

Why sign up?

- It is FREE!
- It takes less than 60 seconds to sign up.
- Help families feel calm, increase your child's confidence & help get your family active over the cold winter months.
- Suitable for children with SEN.

How to gain access?

Visit: <https://yogabugsvirtual.com/my-account/>

Click on parents, enter the unique eCode **gloucestershire-1361** and follow the simple registration (it takes less than 60 seconds!) Enjoy YogaBugs at home!

If you have any queries regarding this offer, please get in contact by emailing

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

#### **BZ Bodies Healthy Lifestyle**

Please find attached leaflet for BZ Bodies Healthy Lifestyle programmes for families. The next programme is in Cinderford, at Forest Road Centre. Our only criteria is that at least 1 child in any family is struggling with a weight issue (above 92<sup>nd</sup> Centile).

Programmes are commissioned through GCC and NHS & focus on making small, sustainable changes towards a healthier lifestyle.

## **Gloucestershire Families Magazine**

Here is the link to the next issue of [Families Magazine Gloucestershire Magazine](#). This issue is full of useful information and advice for parents including winter boredom busters, Chinese New Year craft projects, DIY board games, parenting advice and loads more.

Best Wishes  
Mrs Davis