



Dear Parents/Carers

Rights Respecting Article of the Week

Wednesday 2nd April - **World Water Day**- what could we do to save water? How does lack of clean water impact children across the world?

Article 27- Children the right to food, healthcare, water and shelter to develop the best possible way.

Equality



Tesco – Blue Tokens

From Monday 31st March, Steam Mills will be an option for the Tesco Blue Token Scheme in Cinderford, Coleford and Lydney stores. Please, if you are shopping at the Tesco store, think of Steam Mills and our Play Equipment Fundraising. Every little helps! You can find more information here: <https://www.tescopl.com/sustainability/stronger-starts/blue-token-scheme>



Scholastic Book Fayre

Thank you for all the wonderful entries to our competition to create a Book Cover, we had some amazing entries and judging was very tricky! Congratulations to the following children who have won a £5 book voucher to spend at the Book Fayre:



- Pre-school – Callie
- Class 1 – Reggie
- Class 2 – Maddison
- Class 3 – Lily T
- Class 4 – Isabelle

Our Book Fayre is running on **today, Monday 7th April and Wednesday 9th April** in the School Hall – 3pm–4pm. It is a 3 for 2 event and is **on-line payments only**, so please bring your phone and payment details. Thank you.

Breakfast Club and After School Club Booking

As usual we will be rolling over any regular bookings to Term 5. However, if you need to amend any hours/days, please contact Miss Agg as soon as possible. Thank you.

Diary Dates

Spring term 2025

6th January-11th April

Half Term

17th-21st February

Summer Term 2025

28th April-21st July

Half Term

26th May - 30th May

INSET days:

11th April and 21st July

Diary Dates (incl. Federation events)

April

7th & Scholastic Book Fayre -

9th after school in hall – **card payments only**

8th Parents Evenings

From 2:30pm - Classes 2-4

From 3:30pm - Pre-School/C1

10th End of Term 4

FoSM Non-school Uniform

Easter Service – 2:30pm

FoSM Easter Raffle Draw

11th Inset Training Day

28th Start of Term 5

May

8th Tempest Photography – Class photos and leavers photos

12th KS2 SATS Monday-Thursday

23rd Sponsored Walk – pm only (collection from Beechenhurst) Details to follow

June

10th Federation Trip to Houses of Parliament

12th Cyber Bullying Session for Parents – 2pm

13th Sports Morning

27th Summer Fayre

Easter Raffle/Easter Service & Non School Uniform Day – Thursday 10th April

FoSM have made some lovely Easter Hampers (see this week's banner at the top of this page) for a raffle, tickets are available now, daily, from your child's class so please do send in money (£1 strip). The draw will happen at the Easter Service from 2:30pm on the final day of term (Thursday 10th April). This day will also be a non-school uniform day, to raise funds for FoSM (£1 please for non-school uniform donation). Thank you.



Parents Evenings – Tuesday 8th April

We are holding our final Parents Evenings on Tuesday 8th April. Bookings for classes 1, 2, 3 & 4 are made via our eSchools system which is now open for booking. The meetings are in 10 minute slots, please adhere to this time limit. Classes 2, 3 and 4 have more slots this time, with appointments starting at 2:30pm; this is to ensure there are enough slots for all parents to attend. If you do not book on the parent evening days, please do not assume an appointment will be available on another day as this will not be possible before the end of term. Please let Miss Agg know if you would like to see Miss Barber (SENCO) or if you are experiencing any difficulties making bookings. Pre-school Parents Evenings will be on the same days and bookings can be made with the Pre-school staff.



Bowling Club Open Day – Saturday 12th April

The Bowling Club have been in touch to say they are holding an open day on Saturday 12th April and would like to invite parents and children. They hope you can make it to have a try at bowling!

Sunny Weather!

Now we are experiencing days with lots of lovely sunshine, please could we ask that children have sun-cream applied before school, have sun hats to wear and their water bottles in school. Thank you.



Class 1 – Forest School

We would like to begin Forest School sessions after Easter. The children really enjoy their time learning in the woods, however, in order to take them all safely, we need some extra adult help. If you are able to help on a Friday morning from 9:15am to 10:30am, please speak to Mrs Evans or Miss Stone. Thank you.



Class Snippets

Pre-school –this week we have made lots of “yummy” treats in the mud kitchen, using lots of lovely mathematical language. We were sad to say goodbye to Rosie after an amazing 20 weeks of musical experiences. The children have had lots of fun with colourful eggs and trays – using them in many different ways including matching, fixing, rolling on ramps , small world and role-play.



Class 1 – this week we have continued to enjoy our book in English 'I will not ever NEVER eat a tomato' designing book covers for our own versions of the story. We have also continued to think about what we can do to help the planet, including recycling, litter picking and saving water. In phonics we have started our learning around CCVC words. We have also been thinking about Easter and have enjoyed practicing some songs.



Star of the Week Certificates



Pre-school

Logan – great participation in our music session.
Izaak – being brave and trying lots of new activities.

Class 1

Ava - for showing a great sense of rhythm, keeping us in time throughout our music lesson.
Rosie - for designing two beautiful book covers as a part of our English topic.

Class 2

Delilah - excellent effort in writing.
Bella C - wonderful adjectives in your writing, describing your crown.

Class 3

Alfie C - for great explanations in science using scientific vocabulary.
Chester - for trying his best to join his writing.
Star Readers- Emmie, Rowan and Blair

Class 4

Bertie - for a great effort with trying to use ambitious vocabulary in his writing.
Cole - for trying really hard at swimming and not giving up.

Class 2 – this week we have worked really hard in class 2! We started a new book, Julian is a Mermaid. In this book, Julian made a crown from his Nana's plant! It was only right we made our own crowns from the crafting supplies. The children then used some fantastic adjectives to describe their creations. We have also written a stanza of poetry - describing the animal we would like to be. In maths, the Y1s have started looking at fractions. They have covered halves and quarters this week. The Y2s are looking at time, by the end of our unit we would like to be able to tell the time to 5 minute increments.



Class 3 enjoyed some sunshine this week by performing their volcano dance outside. They created routines linking movements showing volcanoes, tsunamis and tornadoes. The children have worked really hard on these and showed great teamwork skills. In music, the children used a range of musical vocabulary to discuss a piece of music by The Beatles. They spoke about tempo, dynamics and texture of the song, before composing their own melody using glockenspiels. We have been debating in writing to generate ideas to write a persuasive letter for/ against animals being kept in captivity. The children have worked really hard this term and will enjoy some Easter activities next week.

Class 4 – this week has been a busy one! In DT, the children have started to create their Monet-inspired pieces by tie-dying fabric to create backgrounds and they really enjoyed it. They have also written their new 'chapters' for our class text, The Viewer, and lots of them have had some very creative ideas about what could have happened to Tristan... His fate was in their hands! Y6 have been working hard in their Algebra unit, looking at linear sequences and Y5 have completed their Mathematical Movement unit of work, where they have learnt to translate and reflect shapes in a quadrant. In Geography, the children have looked at the importance of dams and how beavers have been reintroduced to the Forest of Dean: they support Lydbrook with flooding by building natural dams to reduce the flow of water after heavy rainfall... Additionally, they also increased the biodiversity in the area by providing more habitats for birds and invertebrates, which links nicely to our science unit, too!

Pre-school Survey

<https://forms.office.com/e/nWJ4s7ROYz>

Provision for two year old children at Steam Mills Primary School pre-school?

Our pre-school provision is currently for three and four year olds.

We would like to find out if there is a need in our community for provision at Steam Mills Primary for two year olds.

Please click the link below or scan the QR code to answer a short questionnaire.

<https://forms.office.com/e/nWJ4s7ROYz>

Thank you for your help.



The Forest Federation
of Soudley, Steam Mills and Woodside Primary Schools

AiP New Menus

New menus which have been loaded to ParentPay ready for after the Easter break.



LUNCH Week 1					
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
Roasted Tomato Pasta Bake	Chicken Curry	Roast Chicken	Meat Feast Pizza	Fish Fingers with Chips	
Leek & Potato Soup	Vegetable Curry	Chicken & Potato Pie	Chicken & Tomato Pie	Vegetarian Burger & Chips	
Seasonal Vegetables	Onion Soup	Broccoli	Seasonal Vegetables	Pasta & Baked Beans	
Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	
Chocolate & Banana Smoothie	Only Lemon Juice	Fruit & Yogurt	Carrot Cake Tray Bake	Fruit & Yogurt	

LUNCH Week 2					
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
Meat & Cheese	Harissa Chicken	Roast Chicken	Beef Lasagne	Chicken & Chips	
Five Bean Chili & Rice	Spicy Veggie & Noodles	Handmade Vegetable Bolognese	Chicken Potatoes & Noodles	Onion Bread & Meat	
Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Stuffed Cabbage	Spring Greens & Pasta	Pasta & Baked Beans	
Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	
Fruit & Yogurt	Spiced Orange Cake	Fruit Smoothie	Fruit Jelly	Raspberry Flapjack	

LUNCH Week 3					
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
Chicken & Tomato Pasta	Chicken Wrap & Rice	Roast Chicken	Pasta Bolognese	Pasta & Chips	
Chicken & Sweet Potato Curry	Onion Soup	Onion Soup	Summer Quiche & New Potatoes	Crispy Nuggets & Chips	
Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Carrots & Potatoes	Broccoli	Pasta & Baked Beans	
Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	Jacket Potatoes	
Rich Chocolate Smoothie	Fruit & Yogurt	Fruit & Yogurt	Fruit & Yogurt	Fruit & Yogurt	

Breakfast Club/After School Club

Please could we remind parents to keep their ParentPay accounts in credit at all times. Please check that you have credited upon making your booking. Regular debt could result in your child being refused these important services. Thank you.

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.**

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.



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend, follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	7 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Strep throat



Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfex>

Join Us For Our EASTER FOOTBALL CAMP

15th-17th April + 22nd-24th April

Where?
Freedom Leisure Lydney

Who can join?
• Boys & Girls
• Ages 5-13
• All Skill Levels Welcome

Price & Time
£10 Per Day
9:00am-3:00pm

Booking link:
Prostars.palbookings.com

Contact Mark:
07444436637 / Mark@prostars-1st.com

Hop on over for our **PROSTARS** Half Term Activity Camp

Join us on
14th-17th April + 22nd-25th April
for some egg-citing fun at

Ages 5-11

Open Venues:
• Berry Hill, Coleford
• Primrose Hill, Lydney
• Naunton Park, Cheltenham
• Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham

8:30am-4:30pm

from £22.50 a day

www.prostars-1st.co.uk

THE CALM CLUB'S
Children's Yoga, Art & Food Camps
Easter 2025

✦ We have camps running in Gloucester / Cheltenham / Tewkesbury / Stroud and The Forest of Dean ✦

✦ Sessions run from 9am - 2pm ✦

✦ We offer HAF (funded) spaces & paid spaces ✦

What we do at our camps

- Fun Yoga Adventure
- Mindful Arts and Crafts
- Relaxation
- Playtime Outside
- Food Making Fun

Follow the link / Scan to book
www.thecalm-club.co.uk/camps

BOOK NOW

Spaces are limited - don't miss out!

PLAY GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S PLAY RANGERS

**The Recreation Ground
Ruspidge, GL14 3AE**
10am to 4pm
Tuesday 15th April 2025

www.grapevine.runs.wool

Our Play Rangers are all open access, where we are working in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council and the Gloucestershire Learning Trust to provide a safe and fun environment for children to play outdoors. For more information including booking eligibility and how to register for HAF and book activities the Easter search for Forest of Dean TAF Programme.

Our Play Ranger activities take place outdoors in all weathers and are open access. This means there is no registration, children are free to come and go as they please.

Our Activities are aimed at school aged children. Under 8's are welcome and should be accompanied by an adult.

We believe all children have the right to play. Please talk to us if your child needs additional mobility or other support to enjoy Play Rangers.

Play Gloucestershire
Transforming lives through the power of play
www.playgloucestershire.org.uk
@play_glos playgloucestershire

Things you need to know about Play Gloucestershire

Play Gloucestershire - a registered charity - is the leading provider of free, outdoor, active play in the county. Our Activities are aimed at school aged children. Under 8's are welcome and should be accompanied by a parent or carer. We have it when the whole household joins us at our sessions.

Our Play Ranger activities are open access. This means there is no registration - children can leave the site at any time. Our Play Rangers will not stop them and may not know that they have left.

We encourage children to take responsibility for their own actions. We think this is good for them. They will be encouraged to resolve disagreements amongst themselves. We will intervene if absolutely necessary.

Play Gloucestershire believe that children need and want to take risks when they play. Our Play Rangers aim to respond to these needs by offering children stimulating, challenging environments for exploring and developing their abilities. In doing this, we aim to manage the level of risk so that children are not exposed to unacceptable risks. Our experience tells us that whilst children play outdoors they are likely to have accidents. If this causes concern please come along and speak to us about it.

All our activities are outdoors and include den building, fires, arts and crafts, sports and a range of playful games. We encourage children to play freely and choose what they do. They do not have to do anything if they don't want to. Children will get wet, hot, cold, smelly and dirty and need to wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Better to wear old play clothes than ruin your best!

Our Play Rangers will provide drinking water at all sessions. We promote healthy eating and sometimes will provide free fruit.

We believe all children have the right to play. Please talk to us if your child needs additional mobility or other support to enjoy Play Rangers.

For further information:
Visit us at www.playgloucestershire.org.uk
Email info@playgloucestershire.org.uk
Phone 01452 505548
Play Gloucestershire is a registered charity (1126562)

The Library

The Children's Museum of Cinderford

Cinderford Library

Thursday 24th April
10:00 - 12:30

- Drop in free craft for primary school aged children
- Free goodie bag
- Refreshments provided

Children will create their own shoebox 'room' of the museum, based on what interests and matters to them. All children MUST be accompanied by a responsible adult.

The workshop is part of a nationwide programme of events funded by the ESRC celebrating children's creativity.

For more information contact k.tonkiss@aston.ac.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.