

Soudley News

22.9.2023

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This term's school value is Friendship

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CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

- This week, we celebrated the achievements of:
- \checkmark \mathbf{k} OTTERS CLASS - Lexi, Austin and Charlie
- MOLES CLASS Flossie and Layla ☆
- HEDGEHOGS CLASS Ruby and Azrael \checkmark

Joint activities for the children at Soudley, Steam Mills and **Woodside Primary Schools**

This year, staff across the three schools are organising several joint activities for different year groups. Children will meet their year group peers, make friends, share learning activities, share resources- and have fun! The idea is to enrich children's experiences and build on what is already happening at each school. This Autumn, Y1 and Y2 children will join up for Harvest activities; Y3 and Y4 for activities related to their Black History month Play-ina-Day event; Y5 and Y6 for Remembrance related activities. We haven't forgotten EYFS children-they will join together in the Spring/Summer!

Children and staff will join up at one of the schools; transport will be organised and funded. Please look out for the dates on newsletters, so that children can bring (or book) a packed lunch. We intend to offer 2 joint activities this year for EYFS and 3 for the other year groups.

The parental consent form you have completed for trips will cover these events. We hope that children will enjoy these opportunities and thank the staff in advance for planning these enrichment events.

In addition to this, the School Council at Steam Mills will be sharing information about Rights Respecting Schools with Woodside and Soudley's School Council members via a Teams meeting, in early October. This is because Woodside and Soudley schools will be learning more about Unicef's 'Rights of the Child' this year and work towards their Bronze Awards. We look forward to helping our school council members lead this initiative and are grateful to Mrs Gibbs at Steam Mills for this additional opportunity.

Kind regards, **Mrs Mel Davis Executive Headteacher**







Term Dates Term 1 4 Sept to 27 Oct

Term 2 6 Nov to 22 Dec

Term 3 8 Jan to 9 Feb

Term 4 19 Feb to 22 March

Term 5 8 April to 24 May

Term 6 3 June to 22 July

INSET days: 4 September 6 November 22 December 24 May

22 July

Other dates: Bank Holiday - 6 May



Otters Class

Friday afternoons are always very hands on in Otters class. They had their first full session in Forest School where they learnt

Resilience Friendships Team work Trial and error Perseverance To name just a few skills

We then had a visit from Sally and Beth from Young Minds Matter who gave an assembly on our mental health and emotional wellbeing. They used the example of worry and how this can impact our:

emotions Feelings Physical sensations Behaviour

We discussed what we could do if we were ever feeling worried and the strategies and people who could help us.











Hedgehogs Class

A busy week in Hedgehogs class!

Reception have continued to explore the environment and have enjoyed the new home corner set up in class this week.

Year 1 and 2 have been exploring materials in science and primary colours in art.

Reception have started phonics lessons this week and are doing very well. Year 1 and 2 are getting back into the flow of phonics too. All children should now have a reading record and book that they can share at home.

We have been thinking about the seasons and Autumn and how the weather is changing. We visited the log circle had our first Forest School session and we look forward to having these sessions each week. Our first session gave us chance to explore and learn the forest school rules. We enjoyed a biscuit snack before walking back to school.

Please can you send in a pair of outdoor shoes for your child that can be kept in school (wellies or walking boots are best).

Have a great weekend

Mrs. Toomer

Moles Class



We had our first Viola lesson in Moles this week. Mr. Davis came in and delivered a brilliant session teaching the class how to play the viola. He will be coming in once a week this half term to teach the class viola lessons, and I cannot wait to see how much the children learn and improve.

We continued our autumn art unit and looked and trying to create our very own autumn leaves using origami, which we will be using to create an autumn leaf curtain for the classroom.

We also leaned a bit more about the Romans and their early civilisation and how the city of Rome was founded and began is empire.

Mr Martin



It's time for Coffee Morning and you're invited

I'm hosting my Coffee Morning to raise money for Macmillan. There's a cuppa with your name on it.

When: Friday 29 September 2023

Where: Soudley School Hall

RSVP: not necessary

From: 9 am until 10 am

More info: Mrs Penn - School Office



tacmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), icotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (804). Also operating in Northern Ireland. IAC19622_INVITE



Things Happening at Soudley School Week Commencing 25 September 2023 8am – 8.30am DAILY - BREAKFAST CLUB - £2.50 per child per day

Mon

Tues Year 5 and Year 6 pupils swimming - please remember your swimming kit every Tuesday!

3.15-4.15 pm Young Voices Choir Club (Years 3-6)

- Weds Viola Lessons with Mr Robin Davies Moles Class
- **Thurs** 3.15-4.15 pm Basketball after school club for pupils in KS2 (Year 3 to Year 6)

3.15-4.15 pm Multi Sports after school club—for pupils in KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2)

Fri 9-10 am MacMillan Coffee Morning

Forest Schools—Hedgehogs and Moles (am) Otters (pm) Pupils should wear long trousers, old trainers or wellies, and a raincoat. Children also need school shoes to change into. please

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club will continue to be £2.50 per day and is payable DAILY.

As we continue to be a cashless school, if your child/ren attend Breakfast Club, please go into your child's ParentPay account to pay the £2.50 <u>on the day that they attend</u>. Thank you.

Breakfast Club runs from 8 am until the start of school every school day during term time. For a very reasonable charge of £2.50 per child per day, the children enjoy a breakfast of toast and cereals, and sometimes pancakes and bagels too. They all love the fun and relaxing start to their school day, doing art, reading and playing with their friends.

In order for this provision to continue it must be viable. Please let the school office know if you would like to book your child/ren into Breakfast Club.

CHARGE FOR DAMAGED BOOKS

That due to an increasing number of books being returned to school in an unsatisfactory condition, there will be a charge incurred for any books that are returned to school damaged.

DIARY DATES 2023-2024

September 2023

29 Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning

October 2023

- 9 Konflux Theatre visit KS2 History Train to mark Black History Month
- 16 Nasal flu immunisations—Reception to Year 6
- 23 School Photographs

November 2023

- 6 INSET day
- 13 Reception and Year 6 pupils Health Screening with the School Nurse Team
- 18 Children In Need

December 2023

- 6 Chaplins Pantomime visit
- 13 Christmas Lunch
- 20 Hedgehogs Class crafting and Santa visit at the Dean Heritage Centre
- 22 INSET day

February 2024

28 Life Education Visit

March 2024

15 Comic Relief 2024

May 2024

24 INSET day

June 2024

3 Leavers' and Class photographs 10-14 Bikeability Training for Year 6 pupils

July 2024

22 INSET day



DCARE

ALCONT OF THE STREET

SPOOKTACULAR OCTOBER HALF

BOOK ONLINE NOW

FOREST VIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER UNTIL FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER!

BEST HALLOWEEN COSTUME COMPETITION ON TUESDAY 31 ST! HALLOWEEN THEMED GAMES TOO!

HALLOWEEN THEMED COLOUR RUN ON FRIDAY 3RD!

NORMAL HOURS - 9.30AM UNTIL 4.30PM EXTENDED HOURS - 8.30AM UNTIL 5.30PM

FROM £20

20+ SPOOKY SPORTS ON OFFER!

BOOK HERE 👉

PROGRESSIVE-SPORTS-NORTH-GLOS.CLASSFORKIDS.IO/CAMP/44

OR CALL US ON 01889 343120

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL JAMIE ON:

J.KNIGHT@PROGRESSIVE-SPORTS.CO.UK



The following has been copied from the www.gov.uk website......

Back to school advice issued amid high levels of flu, COVID-19 and scarlet fever

Following simple steps can help protect children, minimise the spread of illness in education and childcare settings and protect wider communities.

Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are <u>currently circulating at high levels</u> and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also <u>continue to be reported</u>.

Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said:

It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.

Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.

Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering. When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.

Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.

Eligible children include:

•those aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2022

•all primary school-aged children

•some secondary school-aged children

You can get more information getting your child vaccinated against flu on NHS.UK.

Apply online for

Check to see if your child is eligible using the confidential online portal available on our website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Your child's school receives extra funding for each eligible child registered.

If you do not have internet access speak to your child's school.



You may also be able to get extra support for free milk, reduced contributions for school trips and uniform grants – check with your school.



THE DANGER ZONE!

Parking on zig-zag lines is dangerous and can incur a fine if you are caught!

- Zig-zag lines are there for a reason; to allow good visibility for drivers to see pedestrians in high risk zones (ie on pedestrian crossings and outside of schools).
- Please do not put the lives of our children at risk by parking on the zig-zag lines outside of the school, even for the shortest time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Appointments during school hours

Please avoid arranging medical/dental appointments during the school day.

We do know this cannot always be helped, however, appointments at the end of the school day (from 2 pm onwards) are far less disruptive to your child's education than morning appointments please.

Pupils should be collected from school with just enough time to allow to get to the appointment on time and, if the school day has not ended, they should be returned to school immediately afterwards please.

You should also provide the school with a copy of your child's appointment letter for the attendance register.

Thank you for your continued support.

Weekly Reminders:

- Please ensure that Lunches are ordered on ParentPay by 8.30 am on the day they are required
- For the Health and Safety of the children, parents <u>must not</u> bring their children through the staff car park when dropping off or picking up from school.

Children may only be brought through the staff car park when the pedestrian gates to the playground are locked during the school day, and then children must be escorted through the car park to keep them safe.

Please remember to inform the school office by 9.30 am each day, if your child is going to be absent from school.

Thank you



Soudley School Church Road Soudley Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 2UA

Tel: 01594 822004

Email: admin@soudley.gloucs.sch.uk

Website: soudleyschool.com

What to do if you have a query or would like support:

Query about a school club or event	Check the newsletter, which is distributed
date/time.	via email and is on the school's website
Query about ParentPay, Breakfast and After School Club or to notify school about changes to picking up arrangements, absences and medi- cation	Contact Mrs Penn at the school office
Query about FOSS events	Please contact FOSS:
	Email: FOSS@soudley.gloucs.sch.uk
	FOSS Facebook page,
	or speak with a member of FOSS in the playground)
Quick query about homework or	Check with your class teacher at pick up
class work	time
Query about homework, class work	Contact the school office for an appoint-
or request for meeting about a class	ment with your child's class teacher
based query	
Pastoral support for your child and/	Talk to your child's class teacher first and if
or family	appropriate a meeting can be arranged
	with our family support worker, Mrs Penn
Special Educational Needs (SEN)	Talk to your child's class teacher first and if
support	appropriate a meeting can be arranged
	with our SENDCo, Mrs Jeavons
If your query is ongoing	Contact the school office for an appoint-
	ment with our senior teacher, Mrs Toomer
If your query is still ongoing	Contact the school office for an appoint-
	ment with our Executive Deputy Head, Mrs
	Fawkes
If your query remains unresolved,	Contact the school office for an appoint-
then	ment with our Executive Head, Mrs Davis

What can you do to help?

Take an interest in your child's education.

- Ask them about their day and praise and encourage their achievements at school.
- If your child is missing school or is seemingly unhappy, you should discuss your concerns with your child.
- Make sure your child understands that you do not approve of them missing school, but be on the alert for any particular reasons for non-attendance, such as bullying or problems with school work.

Contact the school as soon as possible when a concern is identified so that you can work with them to resolve any difficulties.

Be willing to engage with any support offered by the school or Gloucestershire County Council Support Services.

Make sure your child arrives at school on time for both the morning and afternoon sessions.

If your child is ill or absent for any other reason, contact the school on the first day of absence.

Follow the school's procedures for notifying absence, and always let the school know of any days that your child is unable to attend.

Updated November 2020

It all adds up!

Attending school everyday gives your child the best chance of success.	100%	
Attending 41/2 days a week = 4 weeks	00%	

- learning missed per year
- Attending 4 days a week = 8 weeks learning missed per year
- Attending 3½ days a week = 12 weeks 70% learning missed per year

80% attendance adds up to missing 2 full years of education over their school life!

Can they afford to keep missing out?

Every Minute Counts!

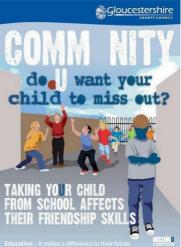
Being late for school reduces learning time.

5 minutes late every day = 3 days of learning missed per year.

15 minutes late every day = 9 days of learning missed per year.

Arriving late can be very disruptive for your child, the teacher, and the other children in the class.

School Attendance



Information for Parents and Carers



Why is it important for children not to miss school?

Children only get one chance at school, and your child's chances of a successful future may be affected by not attending regularly. If children do not attend school regularly they may:

- Struggle to keep up with school work. In a busy school day it is difficult for schools to find the extra time to help a child catch up.
- Miss out on the social side of school life. Poor attendance can affect children's ability to make and keep friendships; a vital part of growing up.
 Employers want to recruit people who are reliable.
 Setting good attendance patterns from an early age will also help your child later on in life.

What might the impact of poor attendance be on your child? Research shows children who are not regularly

Research shows children who are not regularly attending school are:

- More likely to become involved in, or be a victim of crime and anti-social behavior.
- More likely to fall behind due to the strong link between attendance and achieving good results.
- Less likely to achieve 5 good GCSEs (grades 9-5) compared with those with less than 8 days absence.
- More likely to have increased levels of anxiety due to inconsistencies and uncertainty in their routine.
- More likely to have reduced self esteem due to finding learning increasingly hard having missed out on key information.



What does the law say?

By law, all children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 16) must get a suitable, full-time education. As a parent, you are responsible for making sure this happens, either by registering your child at a school or by making other arrangements which provide a suitable full-time education.

Once your child is registered at a school you are responsible for making sure he or she attends regularly.

What happens if your child does not attend school regularly?

If your child fails to attend regularly - even if they miss school without you knowing - the Local Authority (LA) may take legal action against you.

Schools will notify you if your child's attendance level is a concern and look to work with you to put in place steps to improve it. If attendance continues to require improvement then schools will look to initiate an Attendance Improvement Meeting (AIM).

The AIM is the start of the legal process. It is important you engage with the process and work with the support provided to meet the agreed targets. These targets will be reviewed and progress evaluated at a review meeting. If satisfactory progress is made then targets will either be considered met or adjusted until attendance if satisfactory. If progress is not made then you may be referred to the LA for legal intervention.

You run the risk of being issued with a Penalty Notice or being prosecuted in court. If this happens:

- Parents can be fined up to £2,500 or imprisoned for failing to ensure that their child attends school regularly.
- Magistrates can also impose a Parenting Order, which means that the parent has to attend a counselling and guidance programme, usually a parenting class.

When is absence authorised?

There may be times when your child has to miss school because they are unwell. If your child becomes ill you should notify the school immediately and follow the school's absence procedures.

Children may have to attend a medical or dental appointment in school time. However, you should, whenever possible, try to make routine appointments such as dental check-ups during the school holidays or after school hours. Schools have the right to request medical evidence to validate absences for medical reasons.

If you think you might need to take your child out of school, discuss the reasons with the school as soon as possible. Absence must be requested as far in advance as possible. Absences will only be authorised by the school in exceptional circumstances.

Examples of absence that may be considered as exceptional circumstances include family bereavement or taking part in an agreed religious observance. The decision on whether to authorise absence is made at the headteacher's discretion.

For more information

For more information you can contact the Local Authority's Education Inclusion Service at:

Phone: 01452 427274

Email: Attendance@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Website: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/educationand-learning





Although term time leave request forms are available from the office, this does not mean that holidays are authorized or the request will be granted. Please read the below regarding penalties:



Request for a leave of absence during term time

Parents should be aware that the law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. The Department for Education allows a Headteacher the discretion to consider authorising a leave of absence in term time only in "exceptional circumstances".

You may consider that a holiday will be educational but your child will still miss out on the teaching and learning that their peers will receive whilst your child is away. Children returning from a leave of absence during term time are also unprepared for the lessons which build on the teaching they have missed and arrangements need to be made for individual children to catch up on missed work. Disruption to the continuity of teaching and learning is something we all have a responsibility to avoid.

If requesting a leave of absence you will need to complete the form on the reverse of this notice, setting out the reasons. If the holiday is not considered to be an exceptional circumstance it will not be agreed. If you nevertheless take your child out of school for the leave of absence this **will be recorded as unauthorised leave**.

In the case of an unauthorised leave of absence the headteacher may request that the Local Authority issue a Fixed Penalty Notice without further warning to the parent.

Please note that such a penalty is issued to <u>each</u> parent for <u>each</u> child taken out of school.

A Penalty Notice is a fine of £60 if paid within the first 21 days which increases to £120 if paid between 21 and 28 days.

Thereafter, if the penalty remains unpaid this may lead to prosecution through the Magistrates' Court.