



Soudley News

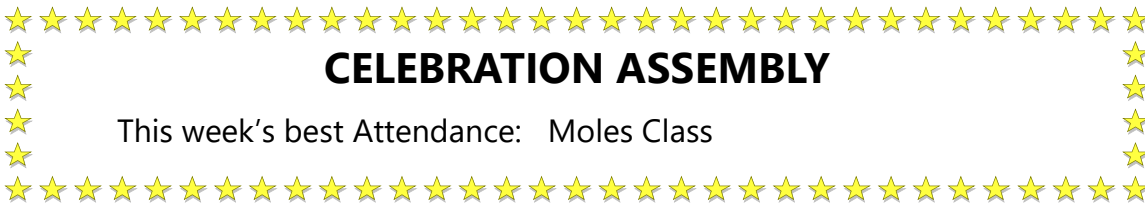
1.3.2024

www.soudleyschool.com

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admin@soudley.gloucs.sch.uk

This term's school value is Friendship



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

This week's best Attendance: Moles Class

Hedgehogs Class



Year 1 and 2 this week have been continuing their research on 'line art', looking specifically at wavy lines and how to create an ocean like picture.

In literacy we have made our booklets on animals, and have been labelling them.

Maths has been continuing work with addition and subtraction of two-digit numbers, and then comparing the answers (less than, more than, equal too).

Finally, on Friday we celebrated St David's day for our neighbours across the border in Wales.

In Reception we have finished looking at the book "5 Minutes Peace". We have looked at different phrases and words in the book, and what they meant.

In Maths, we looked at the number 8, and different ways we can make 8. The children have really grasped the concept and they did really well with the topic.

We helped celebrate St David's day with some facts about the day, followed by some colouring of the Welsh dragon and the daffodil.

We hope you have a lovely weekend

Hedgehogs Class Team

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



This week in our writing sessions the children have been researching common garden birds, after a character in our book, 'Skellig', is fascinated by them. Using their research, the children have written non-chronological reports following a set of success criteria.

In mathematics, the Year 6 children have continued with subtracting fractions and mixed numbers. We will move on to our final calculating fractions unit next week, multiplying. The Year 5 children have begun their work on fractions, looking at equivalent fractions, comparing fractions and converting fractions to decimals.

I want to take this moment to say how proud I am of everyone in Otters for their work ethic during these units. You're incredible!

In science, we looked at accidental adaptations of species (mutations of genes) and how these have developed over time, as well as looking at habitats and environments.

On Wednesday we were visited by the Life Education Tent, where the children completed a workshop on 'Friendship'. The children engaged well and showed maturity in how to deal with certain situations.

Unfortunately, due to the bad weather, the first Federation Football Tournament that was planned for today had to be cancelled! This will be rescheduled soon so watch this space!

Have a great weekend.

Mrs Mclean



Moles Class



This week in Moles, we studied our science unit of sound. We have begun to learn that sound is made from vibrations and to show this we conducted an experiment with grains of rice on a drum. When we hit the drum the rice grains jumped up and moved and this showed us the sounds vibrations from the drum moving the rice. We took this experiment a step further and looked at what happened when we hit the drum lighter and heavier. We noticed when we hit the drum lighter than the rice didn't move as much as the vibrations were smaller and the harder we hit the drum the rice jumped and was moved due to the vibrations being larger. Next, we thought about the loudness of the drum when we hit it and we noticed that when we hit the drum lighter the drum was quieter and the harder, we hit the drum the louder it was. This allowed us to conclude that the larger the vibrations then the larger the sound and the smaller the vibrations then the quieter the sound.

In art we have been looking at our topic of light and dark. In this unit we will be looking at using different shapes of light and dark to add texture to our artwork. This week we looked at what we can add to coloured paint to give us a lighter or darker colour than we started with, and discussed where we might want to use this in our artwork. We added white and black paint to create some different shades



Mr Martin

IMPORTANT REMINDER

In line with the school's Health and Safety policy, we would remind you that parents/carers are only permitted access through the staff car park to drop off and pick-up children when the pedestrian gates into school playground are locked.

When using the staff car park during times when the pedestrian gates are locked (for example when picking up for/bringing back from appointments) please drive slowly.

Children must only cross the car park with an adult and small children must hold hands with their parent/carer to ensure that they do not run off.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to ensure the safety of everyone.

Things Happening at Soudley School Week Commencing 4 March 2024

8am – 8.30am DAILY - BREAKFAST CLUB
• **£2.50 per child per day**

Mon Celebration Assembly

Tues Year 6 SATs booster session

Weds Lunchtime knitting club with Mrs Barnard for children in Moles Class
2.30 pm Otters Class Assembly

Thurs **World Book Day - wear your pyjamas to school for storytime!**

3.15-4.15 pm Touckball Club — for pupils in KS2 (Year 3 to Year 6)

3.15-4.15 pm Multi Sports Club—for pupils in KS1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

Fri Yoga for Reception pupils and Otters Class

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club is £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 on the day that they attend. Thank you.

Breakfast Club runs from 8 am until the start of school every school day during term time.

DIARY DATES 2023-2024

March 2024

- 6 2.30 pm Otters Class Assembly
- 7 World Book Day 2024 - pyjama day!
- 11 Parents' Evening—4pm-6pm
- 12 Y3/4 Federation Day - reading theme
- 13 Year 5/6 Federation Day - Well-being theme
- 14 2.30 pm Moles Class Assembly
- 15 Doing Something Funny for Monday Comic Relief 2024 - Go "Red to Toe"
YMM visit - 'Normalising Emotions' for Years 3 and 4
- 18 Parents' Evening—3.15pm-4.45pm
- 20 Year 1/2 Federation Day - Easter theme
- 21 2.30 pm Hedgehogs Class Assembly

May 2024

- 3 YMM visit - 'What is Mental Health?' for Years 5 and 6
- 24 INSET day**

June 2024

- 3 Leavers' and Class photographs
- 4 Sports Day at Soudley Recreation Ground
- 10 Bicycle mechanic in to service bikes for Year 6 pupils
- 11-12 Bikeability Training for Year 6 pupils
- 18 Year 4 to "In the Net" at St White's School
- 25 Sports Day Reserve Date
- 28 YMM transition visit for Years 5 and 6

July 2024

- 22 INSET day**

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.

Bedtime stories

World Book Day is upon us in the next term- **Thursday 7th March 2024**. To celebrate this year, we will be celebrating 'Bedtime stories'. We will encourage children to come to school dressed in their pyjamas for this day and they are welcome to bring a small teddy bear. If children do not wish to wear pyjamas, they are encouraged to wear comfy clothing. This is instead of dressing up. We will be reading a bedtime story in front of a 'cosy fire', drinking hot chocolate and eating biscuits. Hot chocolate and biscuits will be provided by school.

Book swap

Children are also invited to take part in a very special book swap. In each school, a table will be set up in the hall for children to bring in a book to donate and swap for another book of their choice. It will be really lovely for the children to all be able to take a different book home at the end of the day to encourage reading for pleasure. Please ensure books brought in are in good condition for the swap.

Book Tokens

Each child will be given a **World Book Day token with a value of £1**. This can be exchanged for any one of the books below. These **can be redeemed from Thursday 15th February to Sunday 31st March**. They are redeemable from the following stores:

•Your local independent bookseller

- Asda
- Blackwell's (selected stores only)
- Sainsburys
- Tesco
- The Works
- Waterstones
- WHSmith



If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Best wishes,
Mrs Gibbs (Reading lead for the Federation)





THE FARMER & THE CLOWN



...presented by Flibbertigibbet Theatre.

You're invited to a family friendly performance of 'The Farmer and The Clown', a story of an unexpected friendship told through music, dance and comedy.



Free event with donations accepted, book ahead or turn up on the day.

This is a non verbal show so is particularly suitable for deaf audiences and speakers of other languages.

Both events are in town centre locations so there is a range of parking and public transport nearby.

Accessible parking spaces at both venues. Coleford performance is upstairs but a lift is available.

**Wednesday 20th March
4-5pm**

**VENUE:
The Main Place, Old Station
Way, COLEFORD GL16 8RH**



Supported by Coleford
Town Council

**Thursday 21st March
4-5pm**

**VENUE:
The Wesley, 7 Belle Vue Rd,
CINDERFORD GL14 2AA**



**Scan the event
code to reserve
your FREE space or
book via our
website!**

WYLDWOOD

ARTS

For more information

visit: sueryder.org/springfayre

email: leckhampton.fundraising@sueryder.org

Spring Fayre



JOIN US!

Entrance fee
on day: £2.50

FREE
for children
under 12

10am–5pm

Leckhampton Court Hospice grounds

BBQ, pop-up bar and tasty treats

Live music and entertainment

Leckhampton Court Tea Rooms

Lots of family friendly activities



Sponsored by

PerryBishop

PROPERTY & ASSET SERVICES

Supported by

CREED

THE FOODSERVICE COMPANY

Sue Ryder

Because no one
should face death
or grief alone



Cost of Living Crisis Help Available

The FODDC has entrusted us with Household Support Funding over the Winter period.

This funding is to help struggling families.

We can help with:

- Baby essentials and food
- Warm Clothes and coats 0-14 years
- Grocery vouchers
- School uniform
- Bedding

To access this help, email
fodbabybank@gmail.com



PROSTARS EASTER



HOLIDAY CAMP



Primrose Hill, Lydney



Ashfield Park, RoW



Finlay, Gloucester



Dene Magna, Mitcheldean

**FEB PRICE:
FULL DAY
FROM JUST
£20!**

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

 **EASTER EGG HUNT** 

 **SPRING THEMED CRAFTS** 

 **VARIETY OF SPORTS & GAMES** 

**AGES:
5-11**

WEEK 1: MON 25TH – THURS 28TH MARCH

WEEK 2: TUE 2ND – FRI 5TH APRIL

(8:30AM – 4:30PM)

CONTACT:

info@prostars-fse.com

Jack – 07990624347

Josh – 07515508643

BOOK ONLINE:

PROSTARS.IPALBOOKINGS.COM

FOD FRINGE 24

...A Forest-grown Arts Festival.

THROUGHOUT MARCH 2024

You're invited to enjoy a range of free and low cost events by local and national artists and performers across the Forest of Dean.

MUSIC

THEATRE

COMEDY

ART

CRAFTS

POETRY

DANCE

...AND MORE!

See our website for more details!

www.wyldwoodarts.co.uk

#FODFRINGE



We want to make the Fringe as welcoming and inclusive as possible. Accessibility information at the Fringe events will be available at www.wyldwoodarts.co.uk and in the FOD Fringe 24 brochure. For specific access questions/needs get in touch sarah@wyldwoodarts.co.uk or call 07598 854887

Get ready for the FOD Fringe Festival, a month of performances, exhibitions and experiences taking place across the Forest of Dean throughout March 2024!



Scan here for more information!

WHAT IS A FRINGE FESTIVAL?

A fringe festival is a celebration of arts and culture often featuring new and self-produced performances and exhibitions. They are a great way for new and up-and-coming work to be seen, heard, and enjoyed by a local audience!

The FOD Fringe will be made up of events by Forest-based artists, musicians, and creators alongside some brilliant visiting acts. It will be a real showcase and celebration of the brilliant, diverse, weird, and wonderful creative scene here in the Forest of Dean and a chance to see professional shows from further afield.

WHY PUT ON A FRINGE FESTIVAL?

The Forest of Dean has a rich history of festivals, carnivals, pageants, and community events. After having loads of brilliant conversations with Forest residents in our 2022 community consultation, the idea of a fringe festival for the Forest of Dean emerged!

Here in the Forest, we're a hinterland on the edges of everything - outside of the cities, on the border of two countries and between the banks of two rivers... a collection of idiosyncratic towns and villages, distinct communities and a lot of trees which add up to a whole wonderful thing, just like a fringe festival! We think that makes our Forest of Dean the perfect place for the UK's newest fringe - so please do come out and support your FOD Fringe 24

#FODFRINGE

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 must not 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

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!



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.

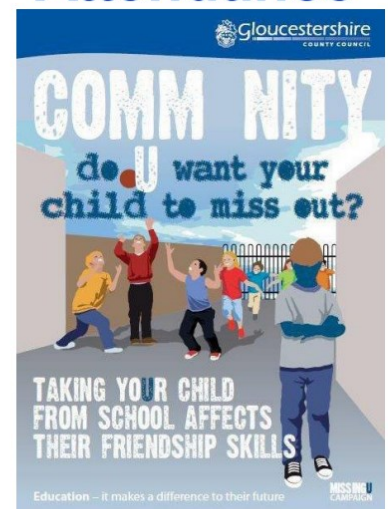


15 minutes late every day = 9 days of learning missed per year.



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 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 is 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/education-and-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 each parent for each 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.

Apply online for

FREE

SCHOOL

MEALS



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 could save up to **£437** per year



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