

01594 822004

admin@soudley.gloucs.sch.uk



Friday 6th February 2026

Soudley News

Dates for Diary

February

- 11th—Year 5&6 Federation Trip to Steam Mills School
- 13th—Last day of term
- 20th—Valentine's Disco at Soudley Village Hall (tickets purchased on the door)
- 23rd—back to school
- 26th—SEND Event—See Class Dojo for details

March

- 5th—World Book Day—Wear your Pj's! - More details to follow
- 13th—Non school Uniform—in exchange for Easter Hamper items
- 10th March—Science Week—After School STEM Challenge
- 17th & 18th - Parents Evening
- 24th—Yr 1&2 Federation Trip to Woodside School
- 27th March—We break up for half term

April

- 13th—Back to school

Congratulations to this weeks

Star's of the Week

Hedgehogs Class

★ Anthony, Scarlet & Willow T & Quinn

Otters Class

★ Mia-Lilly, Freddie & Ruby

The award for attendance this week goes to Otters Class!

News

School Drop Off—There are a still a number of parents/carers entering the playground via the staff car-park for morning drop-off.

Please remember you MUST use the BLUE GATE at the bottom of the playground. Thank you.

Next week is World Mental Health Week

The theme for Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is 'This is My Place', and the aim is to support the systems around children and young people to help them feel they belong.

The children will be taking part in lots of activities to raise their awareness and understanding of mental health.

Here is a link to the Place 2 Be website where you will find lots of resources, help and advice.

[Our services for parents and carers | Place2Be](#)

Achievements

Year 2 Cricket Festival at Dene Magna School

On Tuesday 3rd February, a selection of Year 2 children attended a Key Stage 1 cricket introduction event at Dene Magna Secondary School. The children had a fantastic time learning the fundamentals of cricket, including how to bowl, bat and score runs.

They took part in a wide variety of skill-based stations, each focusing on different aspects of the game, before putting these skills into practice during a fun final activity alongside pupils from other schools. With eight schools attending in total, this was a great opportunity for our children to experience the school games environment and build confidence when taking part in out of school sporting events.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience of learning outside of school and represented our school brilliantly throughout the morning. They were an absolute joy to take and showed excellent enthusiasm, behaviour and teamwork.

Mr Knight and Mrs Saeed



Hedgehogs Class

This week year 1 and 2 have been doing some collaborative art. They worked together to create a fabulous sculpture of a giant spider called Hedgie, all made from newspaper. It is magnificent!



It has been assessment week in phonics for reception and year 1. The children are all making lots of progress in recognition of graphemes and common exception words and blending words. It is lovely to see more children reading at home. Please continue this as it really helps the children practice their sounds and give them more confidence.

In forest school this week the children were set the challenge to create a 3d sculpture using sticks. They were great!



Happy weekend everyone.

Mrs Saeed

Otters Class

We welcomed Ellie and Si this week from 'The Music Works' who will be working with us for the next seven weeks on composing an original song. We were very pleased to be chosen as one of only four schools in the Forest and can not wait to share our song with you.

This week in Maths it has been a pleasure to see the progress that the children have been making in their fluent in five daily arithmetic work. Not only has their maths knowledge increased but their perseverance and want to have a go! Excellent!

In geography this week they have continued to look at maps and to understand changes from history to now. We have also continued with our learning about the winter Olympics (the opening ceremony is today) and have focused on the resilience and achievements of 'Eddie the Eagle' who grew up in Cheltenham. We have continued with our work on Phillippe Petit, who walked across the twin towers' and next week will be writing our own biographies about him.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and we will be doing activities around this throughout the week. Tuesday we have an assembly run by Young Mind Matters all about emotions, Wednesday morning we will be watching a live assembly by Picture News and Wednesday afternoon Years 3 and 4 will be completing activities whilst Years 5 and 6 travel to Steam Mills for a wellbeing federation afternoon.

After half term our new classroom base will be the old Moles classroom. We have made this decision as it is a much newer part of the building with direct access to the sensory garden and field and we can also access the Cozy Coup and library much easier.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Mason

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. ”

“ Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right! ”

“ 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. ”

“ 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. ”

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

“ 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. ”

¹ Domestic Abuse Act 2021

www.operationencompass.org

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2025/26

Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL

Term	Start	End	Days
Term 1	Mon 1 st Sept	Fri 24 th Oct 2025	40 days
Term 2	Mon 3 rd Nov	Fri 19 th Dec 2025	35 days
Term 3	Mon 5 th Jan	Fri 13 th Feb 2026	30 days
Term 4	Mon 23 rd Feb	Fri 27 th Mar 2026	25 days
Term 5	Mon 13 th April	Fri 22 nd May 2026	29 days
Term 6	Mon 1 st June	Mon 20 th July 2026	36 days
Total			195 days*

*195 days are defined as "School days". In the school year 2025/26 pupils must attend for 100 days. Schools may decide individually or collectively which 5 days in the year are INSET or non-contact days (days pupils do not need to attend). Academies and free schools are not legally bound by school day and school year regulations; however, the DfE has stated they should be working towards a minimum of 32.5 hours per school week by September 2024 at the latest.

Please Note: As per the Governance handbook, academies and free schools can choose to set their own term dates. Schools considering alternative dates or considering changes to their school opening times may wish to contact our Transport Team to discuss transport implications and contact local childcare providers to discuss what impact this could have.

Half-term Crafts February flowers



Wed 18th Feb,
10-11.30am
Old Baptist Chapel
£1 per child

Bookings: 01684 297174 or email
admin@johnmooremuseum.org

World Wildlife Day Bath Salts & Bath Bombs



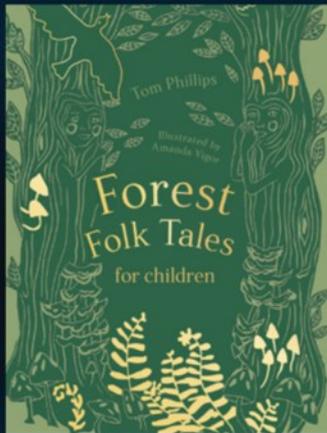
Sat 28th Feb,
10.30am - 12pm
John Moore Museum
This is a free event - donations welcome





TEWKESBURY HISTORY FESTIVAL

Thursday 18th - Sunday 21st June



Storytelling: Forest Folk Tales for Children

Sunday 21st June at 11am

Children £8
Adults £2.50

The Watson Hall

One of twenty-one fabulous speakers, including Suzannah Lipscomb, Alison Weir and lots more!



February Half Term at the Museum!

It's a busy Half Term packed with hands-on activities, creative workshops and plenty for families to explore. Creative makes, family fun and brilliant ways to dive into history all week long.

Art Explorers: Arts & Crafts Trail Sat 14 - Sun 22 Feb | £2 per trail

Follow the trail through puppets, pottery and nature-loving makers, try creative challenges and design your own patterns. Finish it and you'll earn a nature-inspired stamper to take home.

Making Folk: Crafting Charms and Folk Motifs Sat 14 Feb, 1-4 pm | £5

Get creative with natural materials, beads and fabric as you make your own charms or stitch folk-inspired motifs. For all ages, proudly part of Gloucester Folk Trail.

Hands On History: Object Handling with the Birdlip Mirror Sun 15 & Wed 18 Feb | £1 donation

Take a closer look at our Birdlip Mirror replicas and discover their stories with our Visitor Experience Assistant. This relaxed drop-in is free, with a suggested £1 donation. Great for families aged 3+.

Brick Builders Club: The Great Outdoors Tue 17 Feb, 10am - 1pm | £3 per child

Get creative with nature-themed LEGO challenges inspired by our Arts & Crafts displays. Build landscapes, dream up wild creatures or invent something totally new. Pick up fun prompts and let your imagination take over. Suitable for ages 5+.

Glorious Glevum Tour Wed 18 Feb, 2-3pm | From £5

Explore Roman Glevum with Lucius Sita, our resident auxiliary soldier. Discover why the Romans chose Gloucester, what daily life looked like and the hidden treasures inside the museum.

Medieval Mercenary Tour of the Eastgate Chamber Sat 21 Feb, 2-3pm | From £5

Join Sir Miles, our medieval mercenary, for a fascinating trip into the Eastgate Chamber. Explore its history, uncover old myths and hear the superstitions that have surrounded this hidden space for centuries.

MUSEUM OF GLOUCESTER

Scan me for more info!



FREE ENTRY
FOR ALL
SCHOOL
STAFF

7th & 8th February 2026
www.perrygrove.co.uk

Wartime Poetry Competition!



Do you see yourself as the next Ivor Gurney or F.W. Harvey?

In recognition of **World Poetry Day**, the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum will be running a poetry competition.

We need you to send in your best Wartime Poetry! This can be on any topic related to the Wars, from a Frontline or Home Front perspective. The winning poetry will be displayed in our museum galleries, so please feel free to get creative and decorate your entries too!

The poetry will be judged under 2 categories, **Key Stage 1** and **Key Stage 2**.

The prize for the winning entries will be:

- **1st place:** poetry displayed in the museum during easter holidays with 12 months free admission for 1 Adult and 1 child.
- **2nd place:** poetry displayed in the museum during easter holidays with 6 months free admission for 1 Adult and 1 child.
- **3rd place:** poetry displayed in the museum during easter holidays with 3 months free admission for 1 Adult and 1 child.

The **deadline** for all entries is the **18th March 2026**.

These can be sent in by post, or emailed to:

jade.smith@sogm.co.uk

Good Luck!

