



Glenfall News

...a newsletter to inform the school community about the day to day life of our school.

19th December 2025



A word from the head.....

This will be my last newsletter of the year and I would like to wish all parents and friends of the school a very Merry Christmas . I would also like to thank all of the parents and volunteers who have supported the school over the last year in the many projects and activities that have enriched the children’s learning experiences.

I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas performances this year. The KS1 Nativity was a real treat and I just loved all of the re-worked Beatle’s songs to fit the Nativity Story; with ‘Donkey to Ride’ being one of my favourites. The KS2 Christmas Celebration with music from the orchestra and each class performing an eclectic selection of drama pieces made it a very special event. Thank you to the children, staff and parents for working so hard to ensure that the performances were such a success. Also, a big thank you to Mr King and all of the peripatetic music teachers for leading the orchestra and all of the instrumental tuition groups throughout the year.

The whole school pantomime visit to the ‘The Everyman Theatre’ to watch Robin Hood, was also a great success enjoyed by all. The children were incredibly well behaved and we received many positive comments from members of the public who were also in the theatre.

We had a fantastic Christmas lunch on Wednesday which was once again an extravaganza with superb food from the school kitchen. Thank you Lisa, Lynne and Karen for a fantastic meal and for all of your hard work throughout the year. The children were also treated to a special show from Phil The Elf during the afternoon which was very enjoyable.

It has been an exhausting term and both staff and pupils deserve a well earned rest over the Christmas Holidays. Don’t forget that the term starts again on Monday 5th January 2026.

Have a fantastic Christmas and best wishes for the new year.

Anthony Mitchell



FESTIVE FARMERS CHARITY TOUR

20TH DEC

A MAGICAL CONVOY OF ILLUMINATED TRACTORS RAISING FUNDS FOR

PASSING THROUGH:

- SHIPTON
- WITHINGTON
- ANDOVERSFORD
- CHARLTON KINGS
- PRESTBURY
- BATH ROAD
- CHELtenham TOWN CENTRE

SUPPORTED BY:

-
-
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FOR ROUTE INFO & TO DONATE:
WWW.FESTIVEFARMERS.CO.UK



Academic Year 2025-2026 - View dates [here](#)

December

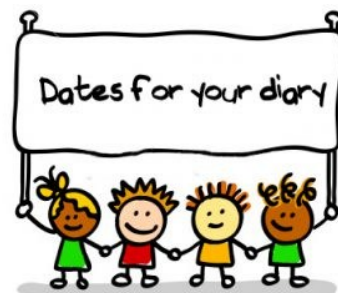
- 17th December - Whole School Christmas Lunch
Phil The Elf Show
- 19th December - School closes for Christmas at 2pm

January

- 5th January - Spring Term starts
- 13th January - Prospective Parents 2026 Tour
- 14th January - Black Hole Planetarium in school
- 20th December - Swimming starts for Y3 again

February

- 13th February - School closes for Half Term
- 23rd February - Term starts



Advanced notice of some key dates

- 27th March - School closes at 2pm for Easter
- 11th May - Y6 SATs Week
- 19th June - Sports Day 9.15 - 11.15
- 3rd July - Annual reports out to parents
- 13th July - Y6 Leavers performance at 6.30pm
- 17th July - Y6 Leavers assembly at 1pm
School closes for Summer at 2pm



PAT Dogs

Thank you so much for your generous donations at the Christmas Concerts this year. We have been able to donate **£650** to the PAT Dogs Charity. Raffa will return to the school in 2026.

Don't miss the deadline of 15th January to get your applications in for admission in September 2026 (This applies to all children), even those with siblings in the school.

Requests for Leave of Absence

Should you need to request leave of absence for your child please call into the school office to collect a 'Request for Leave of Absence' form. This form must be completed and Returned to the school and your request will be considered by the Headteacher. Please do not make your requests direct with the class teachers.

Please be aware that the DfE are focussing on school attendance at the moment and they are asking schools to pursue parental fines for poor attendance that is unauthorised.



Keep us up to date

If you have moved house, changed telephone numbers or set up a new email account please let the office know so that we can accurately maintain our records to ensure that we can contact you in case of an emergency and communicate with you effectively.

Your most up to date email and phone number is the most important.



UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

**2026 ADMISSIONS OPENS
3 NOVEMBER!**



Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?

Children born between these dates can start school in the school year starting from 1 September 2026.

Gloucestershire County Council co-ordinates the admission of children to primary or infant school, therefore please ensure you submit a school application to us by the closing date, 15 January 2026.

Apply online at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Don't be late!
Applications must be submitted by 15 January 2026

Key Dates

November 2025 - You should receive a letter advising how to apply
15 January 2026 - Deadline for applications
16 April 2026 - Allocation Day (find out which school your child has been offered)

school_admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk
www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions





CHRISTMAS FAIR



FrOGS Christmas Fair

Thank you to all parents and friends of the school who turned out and supported the Christmas Fair. It was a fantastic event full of festive cheer and a great atmosphere. The event raised nearly **£3000** which is a great achievement. I would like to thank the FrOGS team for organising such a successful event.

Twas the day of the Christmas Fair

It was a few nights before Christmas, but all through the school, a few creatures were stirring, though the weather was cool.

The tinsel and lights were hung up with care, in hope that the fun of Christmas soon would be there.

The FrOGS had set up their stalls in the hall, the tombola and traders were there one and all.

A Silent Auction, without bidding aloud! with mistletoe, a tree, we would welcome the crowd.

In through the doors came friends with a shout, to find treat cups, a raffle and fun games - no doubt.

The hot dogs and dall were both top class, while soft drinks were poured for us to share a glass.

Happiness and merriment filled up the air, "Ten more tombola tickets!" a child did declare.

Sweets in the jar we were asked to gauge, and the cakes all went before they could age.

Thanks to the mums, dads, grans and pops, who came with such joy, it really was tops. Thanks to all who helped to make the fair fun, who served up the treats till nearly all done.

Thanks to the helpers who cleared up at the end, and yes, we made quite a bit of money to spend.

3000 pounds, that is certain good cheer, Merry Christmas everyone and a Happy New Year

Look out for more FrOGS events in 2026



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

- Chickpox: at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
- Diphtheria and Waning: 48 hours after their last episode
- Cold and flu like illness: 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: 4 days after the rash first appeared
- Mumps: 5 days after the swelling started
- 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
- Head lice
- Threadworms
- Chancroid
- Strep throat
- Toothbills
- Strep throat
- Strep throat

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

Most pharmacies can help you with **seven common conditions** without needing a GP appointment

- Sinusitis** (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- Sore throat** (adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- Earache** (children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- Infected insect bite** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Impetigo** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Shingles** (adults aged 16 years and over)
- Urinary tract infection** (women, aged 16 to 64 years)

Ask your pharmacy for more information about this free* NHS service

Visit your Pharmacy First!

*NHS prescription charges rules apply where a medicine is supplied.

Battery Recycling

We now have a battery recycling point at the school. You are welcome to bring your old batteries to school to be recycled. You will find the battery recycling point in the entrance hall opposite the office.

TREecycle 2026

Start your New Year's resolutions off by recycling your Christmas tree!

You can deposit your tree between 5 - 16 January at:

- Brockworth British Garden Centre, Shurdington Road, Brockworth
- Dundry Nurseries, Bamfurlong Lane, Staverton
- GL3 Community Hub, Cheltenham Road East, Churchdown
- Greenway Nurseries, Main Road, Shurdington
- Norton Garden Centre, Tewkesbury Road, Down Hatherley
- Over Farm Market, Over, Nr Gloucester
- Pamington Farm, Pamington Nr Tewkesbury
- Primrose Vale, Shurdington Road, Bentham
- Tewkesbury Garden Centre, The Mythe, Tewkesbury
- The Dawn Nurseries, Shurdington Road, Shurdington
- Webbs Garden Centre, Evesham Road, Bishop's Cleeve

REAL TREES ONLY PLEASE!

Please remove ALL decorations and pots from your trees

Go to tewkesbury.gov.uk for more information

Your tree will be collected and composted. If it is taller than six feet, please cut it in half.

Tewkesbury Borough Council | ubico | Tewkesbury Borough recycles



CHRISTMAS CAMPS 2025

What's on?

TECH & STEM CAMP

WITH TAKE HOME INVENTIONS!

Rocking Robots, Festive Filming, Magical MINECRAFT, 3D Baubles, Tech Fun

Take Home NEW STEM inventions & Science Creations!

29TH - 31ST DECEMBER £39.99 PER DAY

WHAT TO EXPECT: This Christmas, leap into a world of wonder — build robots, bring Lego creations to life with animation, craft decorations with 3D pens, film festive masterpieces, embark on epic Minecraft quests, and experiment with their own Christmas bath bombs and magical snow!

GET £5 OFF WITH CODE BELOW: SNOW5

“Would recommend this even if your child isn't into technology.”

“The activities sounded amazing and he loved them all!”

“Our two children loved making the electronic contraptions!”

Gloucester Road Primary School, GL51 0PB
AGES 5-11, 9 AM - 4 PM DAILY
www.nextthing.education

Invent It!

Calling all **inventors, scientists, and makers** ...

Get ready to light up your imagination at **Girls Who Code the Christmas Tree!** This one-off girl only festive STEM event invites you to design and program your very own digital Christmas trees. Combine creativity, twinkling lights and coding magic for the perfect start to the holiday!

No experience needed—just curiosity and imagination.

Tuesday 23rd December
10:00am to 12:00pm
Charlton Kings Library
Girls aged 9 to 14
Free

The Library | micro:bit

www.invent-it.co.uk



Name that Gritter

Children from the school recently took part in a gritter naming competition run by Ringway and Gloucestershire Highways. One of our children's names was chosen from 540 entries.

Grit Britain the new name of one of the gritters for this season visited the school on Monday and all of the children got to see it and hear about how our roads are kept safe during the winter.

MOZART SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CHRISTMAS FAMILY CONCERTS

THE GRUFFALO & THE GRUFFALO'S CHILD
by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler
Composed for orchestra and narrator by Philip Mackenzie

THE SNOWMAN
by Raymond Briggs
Live orchestral accompaniment to the animated film

CHELTENHAM TOWN HALL Cheltenham Town Hall
Tuesday 23rd December 2025 at 1:30 and 4:30pm

© Snowman Enterprises Limited "The Snowman" by Raymond Briggs is published by Puffin. Image © Snowman Enterprises Ltd. www.thesnowman.com
"The Gruffalo" © Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler 1999. Published by Macmillan Children's Books, www.thegruffalo.com
"The Gruffalo's Child" © Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler 2004. Published by Macmillan Children's Books

Christmas Crackers

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?

A mince spy!

Activity Village .co.uk © 2000-2012

What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party?

Freeze a jolly good fellow!

Activity Village .co.uk © 2000-2012

Who gives puppies Christmas presents?

Santa Paws

Activity Village .co.uk © 2000-2012

