

NEWSLETTER

'A flying start to a life of learning'

Friday 20th September 2025

Welcome back!

Welcome back to a brand new school year!

We hope you had a wonderful summer break filled with rest, fun, and family time. It has been such a joy to see the children returning with big smiles and such enthusiasm. We are incredibly proud of how well they have settled back into school life and routines already. The staff and I are really excited for the year ahead, with lots of new opportunities, experiences, and achievements to look forward to together.



Please find within this newsletter regular updates on what the children have been up to, from class trips, special events and sports fixtures, we will keep you informed of all their wonderful efforts across the year, all of course underpinned by our PRIDE values.

GRAFFITI P.R.I.D.E.

A HUGE thank you to local graffiti artist Lee Kirby (also known as 3rdEye) who joined us back in July to create this eyecatching mural in our library area, showcasing our school **PRIDE** values for all children and visitors to enjoy.

The piece was carefully designed with our school in mind, taking inspiration from the rolling hills we enjoy from the balcony and our love of nature. From Owls to Eagles, our children will grow and flourish through a 'flying start to a life of learning'.

If you haven't yet seen the mural yet, please do pop in to have a look!

Lee also worked with some of our Arts Ambassadors to create some fabulous space scenes!









WELCOME!



WELCOME OWLS!

We are **delighted** to welcome our new Owls cohort, who have settled in brilliantly over their first couple of weeks at school!

The children have been busy learning how to find their way around and getting to know new routines and faces.

It's also been so lovely to see their confidence grow already, and we're so proud of how well they've adapted. We're very much looking forward to the rest of the term where we are sure the children will continue to thrive.

Welcome to Gastrells Owls!

CLUBS

Extra-curricular clubs resumed this week, with a wide variety of offerings including lego, art, running and crochet but to name a few.

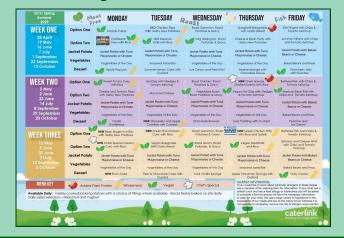
If you have forgotten to book onto a club this term, but your child would like to attend something, please get in touch with the office team and we can confirm which spaces may still be available.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

Caterlink will continue to provide nutritional school lunches this year, a full menu is available to download here: MENU

Please remember to keep the school updated with any food allergies or dietary requirements for your children on a regular basis.



...IN OTHER NEWS

HORTICULTURE UPDATE

This year, we will be focusing on cultivating a culture of 'grow your own' as we continue to build upon our horticulture area, with some very exciting plans on the horizon! Thanks to FOG helping us out with the Tesco Community Token Scheme, we are in line for receiving between £500 - £1,500 which we will be putting towards a new and larger produce area that the children can help to manage and harvest.

Last year we grew tomatoes, courgettes and cucumbers, all of which were used within DT cookery and life skill lessons.

Watch this space for the coming year!

(you may have also noticed the beautiful sunflowers that were at the front of the entrance - we had a little (or rather large actually!) friend come and visit us so couldn't resist a snap.

If you would like to help support our horticulture project or could volunteer some time, please contact Mrs Hyatt rhyatt@gastrells.gloucs.sch.uk

And tokens can still be accepted...so if you're passing a Tesco store, please do continue to support our project!



UPCOMING ARTIST VISIT



We are very lucky to be welcoming the very talented cardboard sculpture artist, Darrell Wakelam to Gastrells at the end of his month. Darrell will be working alongside Miss Mahaffy and some of the KS1 and KS2 children to create a large installation piece in the lower foyer area.

We are VERY excited to see how the project unfolds!

WRAP AROUND CARE

This term we were delighted to launch a new online booking system for our Wrap Around Care provision, including both **Breakfast Club** and **After School Club**.

To offer families greater flexibility, our After School Club is now available to book in **two** separate hourly sessions, making it easier to tailor childcare to your needs.

Please refer to the circulated letter for more details.



DIARY DATES

AUTUMN 1 TERM

SEPTEMBER						
04	Term starts					
09	Y2 Swimming starts					
30-03	Artist Darrell Wakelam visit. KS2					
	OCTOBER					
07	Y3 Stroud Museum visit-Blacksmith workshop					
08	Yr5 London trip, Matilda & Science Museum					
14	Y4 Stroud Museum visit-Blacksmith workshop					
16	Individual and sibling photographs					
18	FOG Autumn Fayre					
21	Opening morning for prospective parents					
21	KNEX challenge, Y5 & Y6					
20-24	World Awareness week					
22	Nasal flu vaccinations					
24	World Awareness —sharing 2.30pm					
24	Term ends 3.15pm					

TERM DATES 25-26

Term 1	Wed 3rd Sept	- Fri 24th Oct 2025
Term 2	Tue 4th Nov	- Fri 19th Dec 2025
Term 3	Tue 6th Jan	- Fri 13th Feb 2026
Term 4	Tue 24th Feb	- Fri 27th Mar 2026
Term 5	Mon 13th Apr	- Fri 22nd May 2026
Term 6	Mon 1st Jun	- Fri 17th Jul 2026

INSET DAYS

Mon	1st Sept 2025	Mon	19th Jan 2026
Tue	2nd Sept 2025	Mon	20th July 2026
Mon	3rd Nov 2025		

AUTUMN 2 TERM

	NOVEMBER						
03	INSET day						
04	Term starts						
05-09	Stroud Book Festival						
07	Opening morning for prospective parents						
12-13	Parent's evening						
13-14	Scholastic Book Fayre						
	DECEMBER						
05	Stroud Lantern Festival, whole school						
08	iRock concert						
16	School nurse, heights/weights YR & Y6						
17	Xmas jumper day & Christmas lunch						
17	Tabernacle concert 6pm (Yr 3-6)						
ТВС	Goshawks class play						
ТВС	Owls & Peregrines Christmas performance						
ТВС	Santa Run!						
19	Carols around the tree						
19	End of Term 12.15pm						

SPRING 1 TERM

JANUARY						
05	Spring 1 Term Starts					
07	Pantomime—Whole School					
19	Inset day					

We will continue to add events to this page throughout the term.

DATES CONT...

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2025/26



2023/20										100	100			CO	UNI	YC	ΟU	N C I L
SEPTEMBER	₹						ОСТОВЕ	R					NOVEMBE	R				
Mon	1	8	15	22	29		Mon		6	13	20	27	Mon		3	10	17	24
Tues	2	9	16	23	30		Tues		7	14	21	28	Tues		4	11	18	25
Wed	3	10	17	24			Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed		5	12	19	26
Thur	4	11	18	25			Thur	2	9	16	23	30	Thur		6	13	20	27
Fri	5	12	19	26			Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri		7	14	21	28
l																		
Sat	6	13	20	27			Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29
Sun	7	14	21	28			Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30
DECEMBER							JANUAF	Υ					FEBRUAR	Υ				
Mon	1	8	15	22	29		Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon	-	2	9	16	23
Tues	2	9	16	23	30		Tues		6	13	20	27	Tues		3	10	17	24
Wed	3	10	17	24	31		Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed		4	11	18	25
Thur	4	11	18	25			Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur		5	12	19	26
Fri	5	12	19	26			Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri		6	13	20	27
Sat	6	13	20	27			Sat	3	10	17	24	31	Sat		7	14	21	28
Sun	7	14	21	28			Sun	4	11	18	25	31	Sun	1	8	15	22	20
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MARCH							APRIL						MAY					
Mon		2	9	16	23	30	Mon	- 1	6	13	20	27	Mon		4	11	18	25
Tues		3	10	17	24	31	Tues	'	7	14	21	28	Tues		5	12	19	26
Wed		4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed		6	13	20	27
Thur		5	12	19	26		Thur	2	9	16	23	30	Thur		7	14	21	28
Fri		6	13	20	27		Fri	3	10	17	24		Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat		7	14	21	28		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	1	8	15	22	29		Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	3	10	17	24	31
l																		
JUNE							JULY						AUGUST					
Mon	1	8	15	22	29		Mon		6	13	20	27	Mon		3	10	17	24 31
Tues	2	9	16	23	30		Tues		7	14	21	28	Tues		4	11	18	25
Wed	3	10	17	24			Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed		5	12	19	26
Thur	4	11	18	25			Thur	2	9	16	23	30	Thur		6	13	20	27
Fri	5	12	19	26			Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri		7	14	21	28
Sat	6	13	20	27			Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29
Sun							Sun	5					Sun	2	9	16		30

Term Time	Holidays	
Bank Holiday	'	

Term 1: Mon 1st Sept - Fri 24th 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 23th Feb – Fri 27th Mar 2026	25 days
Term 5: Mon 13th April - Fri 22nd May 2026	29 days
Term 6: Mon 1st June - Mon 20th July 2026	36 days

Christmas Bank Holidays	25 th December 2025
l	26 th December 2025
New Year Bank Holiday	1st January 2026
Good Friday	3 rd April 2026
Easter Monday	6 th April 2026
Early May Bank Holiday	4 th May 2026
Spring Bank Holiday	25 th May 2026
Summer Bank Holiday	31st August 2026

Total 195 days*

COMMUNITY EVENTS



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Golden Bears **Trail 2025**

15 - 30 September

Join us on the Golden Bears Trail around Stroud. Visit local shops, spot the bears and collect the names of each bear to see what they spell out!

Supporting Children's Cancer Awareness Month.

Complete the trail and enter our prize draw to WIN your very own Golden Bear! *T&Cs apply

Meet us in person at the Stroud Subscription Rooms:

Saturday, 20th September | 10am-2pm Saturday, 27th September | 10am-2pm

Buy your map here!





Help us raise awareness for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Proceeds from the Golden Bears Trail support Wiggly T (local not-for-profit), creating and gifting free T-shirts for children with cancer and medical lines.











COMMUNITY EVENTS

