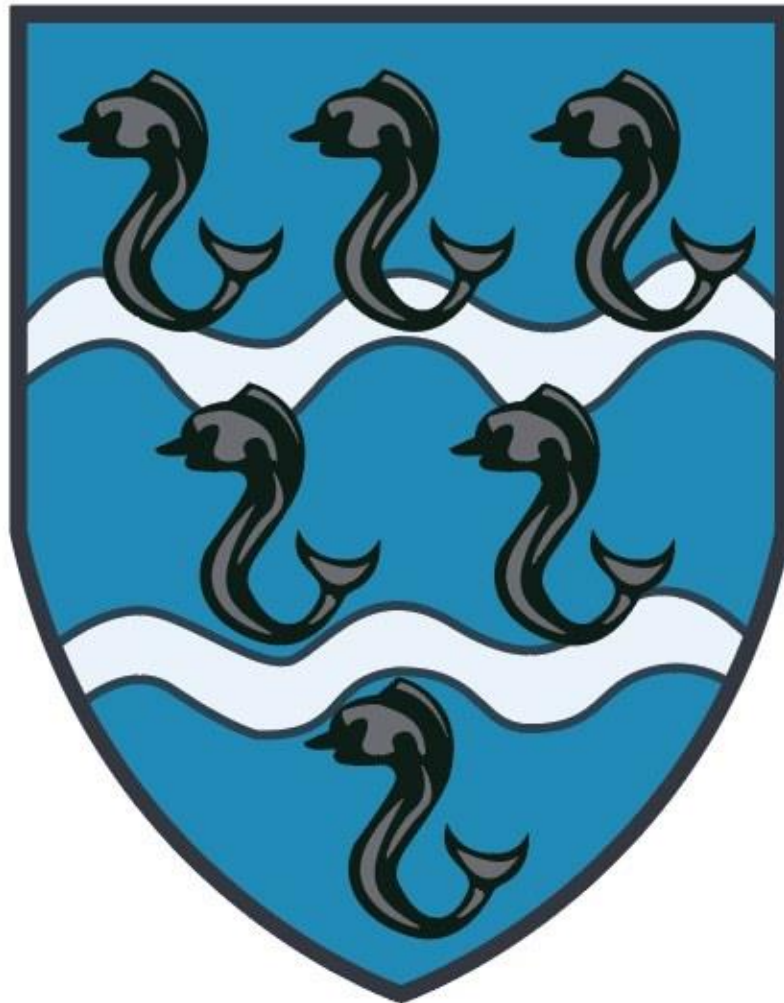




TUTSHILL C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

SHORT START TERM 1 26-27

'Love One Another, Know Ourselves, Believe and Grow'

NEWSLETTER - Autumn Term - Start





Miss J Lane

Executive Headteacher



Mrs E Gomersall

Executive Headteacher

Welcome Back to Tutshill C of E Primary School!

September 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back!

We hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer filled with fun, family time and adventures. We are absolutely delighted to welcome everyone back for what promises to be

another exciting year at Tutshill C of E Primary School. A special welcome goes to all of our new children, families and staff. We are so pleased that you are joining our Tutshill family and look forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks.

As we begin the new academic year, we are excited about the opportunities ahead. From inspiring learning experiences and educational visits to sporting events, performances, special celebrations and leadership opportunities, there is so much for our children to look forward to.

Our Vision and Values

Everything we do at Tutshill is rooted in our vision:

Love One Another, Know Ourselves, Believe and Grow

Alongside our vision, our core values help us to nurture confident, caring and successful children:

Compassion

Respect

Responsibility

Courage

Perseverance

Forgiveness

Creativity

Throughout the year we will continue to celebrate children who demonstrate these values in the classroom, on the playground and within our wider community.

Exciting Learning Ahead!

There is already lots happening across the school! Our teachers have been busy planning engaging topics and exciting learning opportunities designed to inspire curiosity and build knowledge.

Don't forget that parents can find information about their child's learning on our school website. Curriculum overviews and class information are available to help you understand what your child will be learning throughout the year. The school website is also the best place to keep up to date with:

- Curriculum information
- School news
- Important letters

- Key dates and events
- Celebration stories and achievements

Be sure to check it regularly so you don't miss a thing!

Meet the Teacher:

Our Meet the Teacher sessions provide a wonderful opportunity for families to meet their child's teaching team, explore the classroom environment and discover the exciting learning experiences planned for the year ahead. During the session, teachers will share key information about curriculum content, classroom routines, behaviour expectations, rewards and recognition systems, as well as the range of support and interventions available to help every child thrive. At Tutshill, we are committed to high-quality, inclusive teaching, where adaptive approaches ensure that all children can access learning, achieve success and reach their full potential. Parents will hear how teachers, teaching assistants and support staff work together to provide the right level of challenge, encouragement and support, enabling every child to feel valued, confident and ready to learn. We look forward to welcoming families and working in partnership to make this a successful and enjoyable year for every pupil.

Tuesday 15th September: Year 1

Wednesday 16th September: Year 4

Thursday 17th September: Year 2

Friday 18th September: Year 3

Monday 21st September: reception

Tuesday 22nd September: Year 5

Wednesday 23rd September: Year 6

School Council Elections Coming Soon!

One of the highlights of the autumn term is the election of our new School Council representatives. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to develop leadership skills, represent the views of their classmates and help shape school life.

Children interested in becoming a School Council representative should start thinking about:

- Why they would make a great representative
- How they can support their peers
- Ideas they would like to bring to the council

More information about nominations and voting will be shared soon.

Good luck to all our future leaders!

Mobile Phones and Smart Watches

From September 2026, in line with the Department for Education's statutory guidance, Tutshill School is a mobile phone-free environment. This means that pupils must not use mobile phones or smartwatches anywhere on the school premises during the school day. The DfE guidance makes clear that schools should prohibit not only mobile phones but also other smart technology with similar functionality, including devices that can send or receive messages, record audio or video, access the internet or receive notifications. Smartwatches are therefore included within our policy because many models can communicate with others, capture images or recordings, and create the same distractions and safeguarding concerns as mobile phones. By removing these devices from the school day, we can minimise distractions, support positive behaviour, promote wellbeing, protect privacy and safeguarding, and ensure that pupils remain fully engaged in learning and social interaction.

We appreciate the pupils may use these devices to communicate with family members regarding pick up from school and meeting points after the school day. Pupils will hand these to the class teacher during morning registration, turned off, and they will be stored securely in the School Office. The pupils will have their mobile phone or smartwatch at the end of the school day. Exceptional arrangements may be considered where there is a documented medical or safeguarding need

Thank you for helping us keep children safe and focused on learning.

Safeguarding Remains Our Priority

The safety and wellbeing of every child remains at the heart of everything we do.

Before the children returned, all staff participated in safeguarding training and updates to ensure they remain fully informed about current guidance and procedures.

Training included:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education updates
- Child Protection procedures
- Online safety
- Attendance and safeguarding responsibilities
- Prevent and wider safeguarding responsibilities

This ensures that all staff continue to work together to provide a safe, caring, and supportive environment for every child.

Open Days

Open Day for new Starters September 2027. Please call the school to secure your place as spaces are limited per date.

- Monday 28th September- 9.30am
- Tuesday 6th October - 9.30am
- Thursday 15th October - 2.00pm

Please keep an eye on the school calendar and communications for further details

Keeping Your Contact Details Up to Date

Please remember to inform the school office if any of the following change:

- Home address
- Parent or carer contact numbers
- Email addresses
- Emergency contacts
- Medical information including allergies.

Having accurate information helps us contact families quickly and supports our safeguarding responsibilities.

Here's to a Fantastic Year Ahead!

We are incredibly proud of our school community and cannot wait to see all that our children achieve this year. Whether it is making new friends, learning something for the very first time, representing the school in sport, performing on stage, joining the School Council or simply growing in confidence each day, there are so many exciting opportunities waiting for our children.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, through our vision of **Love One Another, Know Ourselves, Believe and Grow**, we look forward to another year of learning, laughter, achievement and success.



- As we begin the new term, we would like to remind all families that children remain the responsibility of their parent or carer until school staff take over supervision at 8.40am when the school bell rings. Although the school gate opens at 8.35am, children accessing the playground before the start of the school day are not yet under the direct supervision of school staff. We therefore kindly ask parents and carers to ensure that children are supervised appropriately during this time and that they follow our school expectations for safe behaviour. We would appreciate your support in reminding children to avoid climbing, rough play and the unsafe use of playground equipment. We recognise that some pupils arrive at school independently and ask that parents and carers reinforce the importance of playing responsibly and showing consideration for our younger children. By working together, we can ensure that the start of each school day is safe, calm and positive for all members of our school community. **Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.**
- **School Uniform Policy** Our school uniform remains unchanged and consists of: A light blue polo shirt*, shirt, or blouse School sweatshirt* or navy jumper or cardigan Smart grey trousers or grey skirt/pinafore (skirts should be of an appropriate length and style Grey socks/tights Dark coloured appropriate sensible shoes. In summer, children may wear grey shorts/blue checked dress Hair tied back with navy/black hair bobbles. Hair will be tied back should it reach shoulder length.
- **PE Kit** Navy T-shirt* and navy shorts Navy jogging trousers/leggings and jumper/sweatshirt KS1 (Reception, Y1 and Y2) daps/black or white trainers; and KS2

(Y3, 4, 5 and 6) black or white trainers (no colour/logos/names). **ALL SCHOOL UNIFORM AND OTHER ITEMS OF CLOTHING MUST BE NAMED.**

- ***No jewellery should be worn in school. Children with pierced ears may wear plain studs. These must be removed for all PE activities and the child must be able to put them back in themselves.***
- ***No nail varnish to be worn in school.***
- Please queue up on the ramp - the school invested in a large amount of money to ensure children can queue safely and not near road.
- Sickness Absence - Please report any absences to the school office via email to attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk¹ or answerphone message by 9:15am. Please do not use Seesaw to report illness.
- Packed lunches should not contain any nuts as we have children with nut allergies. Please log onto ParentPay and book lunches.
- Please inform the office of any contact, medical details that may have changed so that we can keep pupil records up to date. Thank you. Any changes in medical condition to be reported to the office at the earliest convenience. Ensure up to date medical forms has been completed
- All inhalers must be returned to school at the earliest opportunity.
- Children must not play on the climbing equipment this includes younger siblings in the morning before school and after school.
- Please note parents are not allowed to take children to the classrooms in the mornings.
- **Online Learning Journal (Reception children only)** Children will be observed as part of everyday experiences and some of these observations will be recorded using Tapestry. You will be expected to download the Tapestry app to be able to view these observations, comment and upload your own observations to form your child's individual learning journey.
- Communications - our principal forms of communication are -

¹<mailto:attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk>

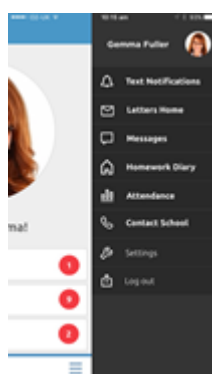


1 - Our (eSchools) school website at www.tutshillcofeschool.co.uk²;

- The accompanying iOS and Android eSchools app for smartphones and tablets; and



- Our School Newsletter - In addition to all the information you have already been able to access on our school website as an external user, the underlying system and complementary app provide our outbound email and communications platform with you once your child has started school. The iOS and Android app enables you to receive an alert as soon as we send an email and it offers direct access to the contents of the email without troubling you to log in to your email account. A couple of sample screen shots are shown below:



- You will be provided with login credentials for your personalised eSchools account which will be required for the app during the Induction Programme. When using the school website on a desktop, these same login details will also enable you to: access information specific to your child's class; review your child's attendance

²<http://www.tutshillcofeschool.co.uk/>

record; and in due course see details of homework or projects set for completion along with other functions. We would be grateful if you would create your eSchools account for use with the app and the desktop website as soon as possible upon receipt of your login details so that we can be sure that we can keep you informed.

Table of Platforms

Year	Platform	What it contains	
R	Tapestry	Childs learning diary against EYFS goals. This is a platform that will only share learning- no communication will come from Tapestry re school updates	
All school	eSchools	Email:	Newsletter regarding whole school events and school calendar. 3 x term- end of first week of term, mid-term and last week of term
		Text:	For last minute notifications that need to get to parents quickly- weather warnings, school closure etc.
All School	Seesaw	Class SeeSaw is a learning platform that allows parents to see what is happening in their child's class. It allows class teachers to send updates and reminders that are solely relevant to that class.	

We have been receiving an increasing number of messages from parents sent to class teacher using this platform, sharing comments and informing class teachers of absence. The above platforms are for teachers to communicate with parents/carer.

All notifications of absence, sickness or medical appointments must go to the School Office. The class teachers will be teaching during the day and are not expected to check SeeSaw so messages like this will unfortunately be missed.

Any comments or questions regarding school activities, please can these be directed to the School Office.

We aim to send Newsletters at the start, middle and end of term to parents.

Term and Holiday Dates 2026-2027



SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES SEPTEMBER 2026 – JULY 2027	
TERM 1	INSET DAY – Tuesday 1 September 2026 (no pupils onsite) Wednesday 2 September – Thursday 22 October 2026 INSET DAY – Friday 23 October 2026 (no pupils onsite)
Half Term Holiday	Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2026
TERM 2	Monday 2 November – Friday 18 December 2026
Christmas Holiday	Monday 21 December 2026 – Friday 1 January 2027
TERM 3	INSET DAY – Monday 4 January 2027 (no pupils onsite) Tuesday 5 January – Friday 12 February 2027
Half Term Holiday	Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2027
TERM 4	Monday 22 February – Thursday 25 March 2027 EASTER BANK HOLIDAY – Friday 26 March 2027 (no pupils onsite)
Easter Holiday	Monday 29 March – Friday 9 April 2027
TERM 5	INSET DAY – Monday 12 April 2027 (no pupils onsite) Tuesday 13 April – Friday 28 May 2027 BANK HOLIDAY – Monday 3 May 2027 (no pupils onsite)
Half Term Holiday	Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2027
TERM 6	INSET DAY – Monday 7 June 2027 (no pupils onsite) Tuesday 8 June – Wednesday 21 July 2027

School will be closed for in-service training on the following dates:

- Tuesday 1 September 2026
- Friday 23 October 2026
- Monday 4 January 2027
- Monday 12 April 2027
- Monday 7 June 2027



*Our Christian Vision is rooted in 1 John 4:7
'Dear Friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God'*

www.tutshillcofeschool.co.uk | 01291 622593

Tutshill C of E Primary School, Tutshill, Nr Chepstow, Gloucestershire, NP16 7BJ



Pre-Loved Uniform

Before you think of buying new school uniform, why not check our extensive inventory?

It's so easy to use - just go to <https://uniformerly.co.uk>³ and register if you're a first-time user. Then add items to your basket, pay online, and they'll be waiting for you at the school office, usually within 48 hours.

If you have items to donate, please drop them at the school office. Thank you.

Please come and collect orders from the School Office. We do have some waiting to be collected.

³<https://uniformerly.co.uk/>

Sporting Events



CLASS NEWS



AUTUMN TERM 1

PE Days:

Reception: Tuesday and Friday

Year One: Monday and Friday

Year Two: Monday and Thursday

Year Three: Thursday and Friday

Year Four: Tuesday and Wednesday

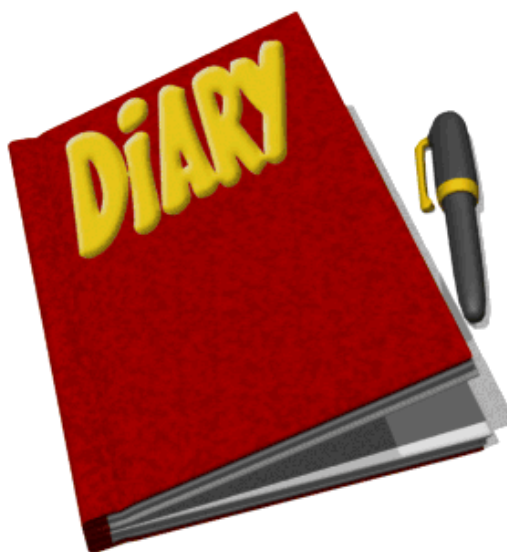
Year Five: Wednesday and Thursday

Year Six: Wednesday and Friday

Pro Stars Clubs



Diary Dates



2 - PUNCTUALITY IS THE KEY TO PERFECT ATTENDANCE

School Attendance

As part of our attendance drive, if you arrive after the school gate closes in the morning at 8:45am, parents will need to complete a late slip before your child is able to come into school. Please contact Deb Cornes or email attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk⁴ if your child will be absent for any reason i.e. illness, medical appt., etc. by 9:15am. Morning registration takes place at 8.45am and afternoon registration takes place at 1 pm. Please be punctual!

A Request for Leave during Term-Time form **must** be completed in advance of the leave and returned to the school office if you intend to take your child(ren) out of school during term-time. The request will be considered and authorised/unauthorised by Headteacher. This should be completed **prior** to any absence. Hard copies of form are in the Reception area. A copy can be emailed if requested.

⁴<mailto:attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk>



*3 - Keeping You in The Loop About **Attendance***

Hello all,

I wanted to keep you updated on some of our attendance procedures, so that you as parents, and we as a school, can work together to give every child the best opportunity to attend school. We have recently changed the way we handle absence requests, to keep us in line with DfE and GCC guidance. We now have an updated absence request form adapted from the GCC template. These can still be found on the school website, and in the office.

When filling in this form, please ensure that:

- Any **relevant evidence** is attached, such as copies of flight tickets, wedding invitations, hotel bookings etc. Where possible, make sure the form is completed and returned to us **at least two weeks** before the first day of absence;
- We are also more strictly monitoring our use of Penalty Notices. A Penalty Notice is a fine that can be issued for unauthorised absences. If your child meets the threshold for unauthorised absence, we are required by the government to consider issuing a Penalty Notice. For more information on Penalty Notices, see the school's Attendance Policy and the GCC Leaflet on NTIs and PNs, both of which can be found on the school's website.

School Contact Details



Telephone: 01291 622593

Email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk⁵

Attendance: attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk⁶

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com⁷

⁵<mailto:office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk>

⁶<mailto:attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk>

⁷<mailto:ptatutshill@gmail.com>

Community Page

