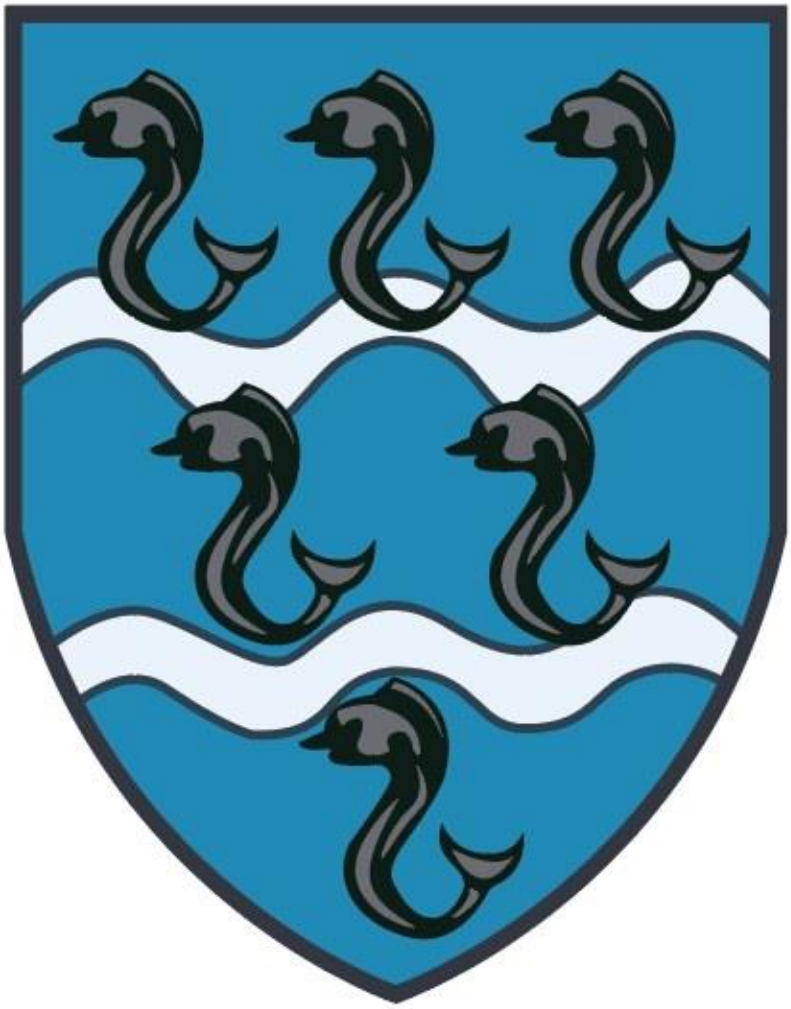


TUTSHILL C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
END TERM 1 26-27

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

NEWSLETTER - Autumn Term 1 End





Miss J Lane

Executive Headteacher



Mrs E Gomersall

Executive Headteacher

As we reach the end of Autumn 1, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly positive and successful start to the academic year.

It has been wonderful to see our children settle so quickly into their new classes and routines. Across the school, they have embraced exciting new opportunities with enthusiasm, curiosity and confidence.

Our highly attended Meet the Teacher events provided a fantastic opportunity for families and staff to connect, and I would like to thank everyone who took the time to attend and support these important occasions.

It has also been pleasing to see so many children engaging in our wide range of extra-curricular clubs. The enthusiasm, commitment and enjoyment shown by our pupils has been fantastic, and they continue to impress us with their willingness to get involved and try new experiences.

The behaviour across the school continues to be exceptionally strong, with children consistently demonstrating our values and expectations. They are truly a credit to themselves, their families and our school community.

Finally, a huge well done to all of our children for making it to the end of what has certainly felt like the longest term ever! Your hard work, resilience, positivity and determination have been remarkable. We are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved and look forward to another exciting half-term ahead.

Have a wonderful and well-deserved break.

MRS HUBBARD

Very sadly, Mrs Hubbard will be leaving us early next term.

Although Mrs Hubbard has only been with us for a relatively short time, she has made a wonderful impact on our pupils and school community.

We would like to thank her for all that she has brought to the school and wish her every happiness for the future.

We very much hope we will see her back at Tutshill again someday!

A HUGE THANK YOU!

We are delighted to share that we have very generously been gifted a baby grand piano by a very kind Grandmother. This is a wonderful gift to our school, and we know that many children will gain a great deal of enjoyment from playing and listening to it for many years to come. We hope our very kind Grandmother will also be very happy knowing that her piano will continue to be loved, used and enjoyed as part of our school community.

As a result, we would now like to pass our current school piano on to a new home. If there are any families who would like a piano, please contact the school office. There is no charge for the piano, although whoever takes it would need to arrange and cover the cost of collection and transportation.

A huge thank you once again for such a kind and generous gift to our school.

FLAT ROOF WORKS

Next term, some important building work will begin at school, with the flat roof on the main school building being replaced. This is an important piece of work that will help us maintain and improve our school environment for the future.

We have been working closely with the contractors to ensure that the works are planned carefully around the normal school day and that disruption is kept to a minimum.

During the works:

- A contractor compound will be located within part of the playground.
- Parents and carers will enter and leave the school playground via the office gate.
- Our fire assembly point will temporarily move to the KS1 playground. All children and staff will be made familiar with the new arrangements, and we will carry out a fire drill.
- Deliveries and necessary contractor vehicle movements will be carefully planned and agreed in advance, with clear procedures in place to ensure children are kept safely away from these areas.
- Scaffolding will be erected during half term, while children are not on site.

We have also planned the works carefully around our Christmas events. Contractors will leave the site on Friday 11 December and will not return until Wednesday 16 December, allowing our Christmas performances to take place as planned:

- KS2 performance: Monday 14 December
- Reception and KS1 performance: Tuesday 15 December

We will, of course, keep parents and carers informed of any changes to arrangements as the work progresses.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and understanding.



- **Flu Immunisation** - The Immunisation Team will be visiting Tutshill School on Thursday, 5 November to administer this vaccination to all year groups. Letters have been sent home for consent to be given online.
- **Dropping Children Off at start of School Day** - All the children have now settled into their new classes. **For Safeguarding purposes** please can all parents/carers drop their children off in the school playground so the children can make their own way to their classes.
- **ParentPay School Lunch Booking Service** (www.parentpay.com). Don't forget to book your child's school lunch via ParentPay. We would highly recommend that you book and pay (if applicable) for a week's meals at a time. You can book as many meals as your child requires for the week. You can, of course, book as many weeks in advance as you wish. Please note that this is the only facility for booking school meals.
- **Snacks** Please can we remind parents that we are a healthy eating school and as such encourage children in KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) to bring a healthy snack at break time. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be provided with a fruit snack. Please could we request that parents do not send children sweets in their lunchboxes. Please could we also request your co-operation in keeping our school a nut-free environment in the interests of the safety of our pupils, some of whom suffer from a severe nut allergy. Please avoid giving your children snacks or packed lunches containing nuts (in any form) or foods with any nut content.

- **Contact Information** Please ensure you advise the School Office of any changes to your contact details. It is vital that we have your up-to-date information for all correspondence purposes and in case of an emergency. Please email any changes to **office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk**

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

DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER

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

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

PTA



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[1] 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.

[1] https://uniformerly.co.uk/

SPORTING EVENTS



CLASS NEWS



Black History Month



Black History Month: Learning from Those Who Made a Difference

As part of Black History Month, our children have been learning about inspirational individuals who challenged barriers, brought about change and helped shape the lives of generations that followed.

Importantly, our learning has gone beyond simply finding out what these individuals achieved. The children have explored why they acted, how they created change, and the values and behaviours that enabled them to make a difference. By linking this to our own school values, children have been able to reflect on the qualities they can develop and demonstrate in their own lives.

We have been delighted by the children's enthusiasm, thoughtful discussions and the work they have produced.

When you visit us for parental consultations, please take some time to enjoy the displays in our corridors and ask your child to tell you about their learning. We are very proud to celebrate their work with you.

Author Visit



We are delighted to welcome Matt Davies to Tutshill School on the afternoon of -

Wednesday 18th November 2026.

Matt is a successful local author who is making a return visit to share his newly released book, Beyond the Hive. He will visit Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. His visit will include an assembly, workshops and a special story time. There will be an opportunity to purchase a signed copy of his new book on the day with further book signing at the end of the school day. More details will follow.

Year 3 Art

Step Back in Time with Year 3's Prehistoric Art!

This week, Year 3 stepped into the shoes of Stone Age creators by making their very own prehistoric palette. To replicate the ancient techniques of our ancestors, the children first mixed flour and water to create a thick, binding paste. They then added vibrant natural "pigments" using various kitchen spices to achieve beautiful, earthy tones. They even used real sticks, mud and leaves to apply their mixtures, resulting in some atmospheric and textured masterpieces. It was a brilliant, hands-on celebration of all our fantastic learning about prehistoric art and the classroom smelled wonderfully aromatic too!







AUTUMN TERM 2

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: Tuesday and Wednesday

Year Six: Thursday and Friday

Please ensure your child(ren) have their P.E. Kit for these days.

Parents and Carers' Coffee Morning



Parents and Carers' Coffee Morning

We are delighted to invite parents and carers to our **Parents and Carers' Coffee Morning** on **Wednesday 11th November at 8.45am**.

Our coffee mornings provide a welcoming and informal opportunity to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, meet other parents and carers, ask questions and find out more about topics that support family wellbeing. Each term, we will focus on a different theme, with this term's session centred on **mental health**.

We are pleased to welcome **Young Minds Matter (YMM)** as our guest visitor, who will be able to share information and answer questions about children's mental health and wellbeing.

You are welcome to bring younger children along if needed, making it easier for everyone to attend. Please sign in via the School Office on arrival.

The session will be hosted by **Mrs Driver, Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead**, and everyone is warmly welcome. Further coffee mornings are planned for **March and June**, with details to be added to the school calendar in due course.

We look forward to seeing you there for a friendly and supportive morning together.

If you have any further questions, please contact Mrs Driver via the school office: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk[2]

Show Racism the Red Card Day

Our school community came together on Friday 16th October to support Show Racism the Red Card Day[3], the UK's leading anti-racism educational charity.

It was fantastic to see a vibrant sea of red across the classrooms, with children wearing a splash of red alongside their normal school uniform. From red jumpers and t-shirts to hair accessories, badges, and socks, our pupils showed great enthusiasm. Our staff team also joined in, proudly wearing red items to show our collective commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.Throughout the day, the children engaged in meaningful activities and discussions about respect, kindness and standing up against discrimination.

Thank you so much to all of our families for supporting this important day.



[2] mailto:office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk
[3] https://www.theredcard.org/



Pro Stars Clubs



Holiday Club Information 2026-27

FOREST EDGE FEDERATION

Tutshill School Holiday Club
2026 - 2027

We're delighted to offer our popular Holiday Club, providing children with fun, active days in a safe, familiar school environment during the holidays.

Book Early to Secure Your Place!
Bookings for each holiday club will open on ParentPay during the first week of term, giving families plenty of time to plan ahead and reserve places before the holidays begin.

Reliable Childcare You Can Count On
The Holiday Club is scheduled to run on all advertised dates and will only be cancelled in exceptional circumstances, such as severe weather or an unforeseen power outage.

Great Value, Full-Day Provision
The club operates from **8:30am to 5:00pm** each day at a cost of **£24 per child**.

We regularly review our fees and compare them with other local providers to ensure we continue to offer excellent value for money. We are mindful of rising costs, including staffing and utilities, and remain committed to providing an affordable, high-quality holiday provision for our families.

A Familiar and Supportive Environment
One of the biggest advantages of our Holiday Club is that children spend their day with familiar faces in surroundings they already know and enjoy. Sessions are led by our trusted Sports Coaches, who work with many of the children during the school week, helping them feel comfortable, confident and ready to have fun alongside their friends.

Advance Booking Required
To help us maintain appropriate staffing levels and meet safeguarding requirements, **all places must be booked before the end of term and before the club begins**.

Staffing arrangements are based on confirmed bookings, so unfortunately, we cannot accommodate requests for places on the day. We therefore kindly ask families not to contact Prostars directly to request last-minute bookings.

Summer Holiday Availability
The Holiday Club is available for up to three weeks during the summer holiday period. This allows essential school maintenance, repairs and deep cleaning work to be carried out safely while the site is closed.

Occasionally, availability during half-term breaks may also be affected if contractors need access to the school during holiday periods.

Dates for the Year Ahead
Please see the timetable overleaf for all Holiday Club dates for the 2026-27 academic year.

FOREST EDGE FEDERATION

Tutshill School Holiday Club
2026 -2027

Holiday	Dates	Bookings open at midday on ParentPay
October Half Term	Tuesday 27 October 2026 Wednesday 28 October 2026 Thursday 29 October 2026	Wednesday 23 September 2026
February Half Term	Tuesday 16 February 2027 Wednesday 17 February 2027 Thursday 18 February 2027	Wednesday 6 January 2027
May Half Term	NO CLUB	
Easter Holiday	Tuesday 30 March 2027 Wednesday 31 March 2027 Thursday 1 April 2027	Wednesday 24 February 2027
Summer Holiday	Thursday 22 July 2027 Tuesday 27 July 2027 Wednesday 28 July 2027 Thursday 29 July 2027 Tuesday 3 August 2027 Wednesday 4 August 2027 Thursday 5 August 2027 Tuesday 10 August 2027 Wednesday 11 August 2027 Thursday 12 August 2027	Wednesday 9 June 2027

Your child(ren) will require a full day's food provision, including a packed lunch, snacks and a water bottle.

Please ensure your child(ren) is dressed appropriately for the weather (coat/sun hat) and has a change of clothes/shoes if required.

Diary Dates



MONTH	DATE	EVENT
OCT	2	Reception Class Reading Meeting 2.30-3.00 p.m.
	6	Open Day Admissions Sept 27 – 9.30-10.00 a.m.
	13	PTA Disco – ***'Glow in the Dark' Disco***
	15	Open Day Admissions Sept 27 – 2.00-2.30 p.m.
	23	END OF TERM 1
	23	INSET Day – No Pupils onsite
	26-30	HALF-TERM
NOV	2	START OF TERM 2
	5	Nasal Flu Programme
	11	Parents and Carers' Coffee Morning starts at 8.45 a.m.
	11	Parental Consultations
	12	Parental Consultations
DEC	9	School Christmas Lunch
	10	Rocksteady Concert 2pm
	14	Christmas Performance KS2 Performances
	15	Christmas Performance Reception and KS1 Performances
	17	Christmas Carol Service 9-10 a.m.
	18	END OF TERM 2
	21/12-1/1/27	CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAY
JAN 2027	4	INSET Day – No Pupils onsite
	5	START OF TERM 3
FEB	12	END OF TERM 3
	15-19	HALF-TERM
	22	START OF TERM 4
MARCH	4	Y5 Swimming Sessions start
	25	END OF TERM 4
	26	EASTER BANK HOLIDAY – No Pupils on site
	29/3-9/4	EASTER HOLIDAYS
APRIL	12	INSET Day – No Pupils onsite
	13	START OF TERM 5
MAY	3	MAY BANK HOLIDAY – No Pupils onsite
	28	END OF TERM 5
	31/5-4/6	HALF-TERM
JUNE	7	INSET Day – No Pupils onsite
	8	START OF TERM 6
	30-2/7/26	PGL Y6 Residential
JUL	1-2	PGL Y6 Residential
	21	END OF TERM 6



*1 - **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.uk[4] 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.



*2 - 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:

[4] mailto:attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

- 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.

Admissions September 2027



Admission to Reception at Primary School September 2027

September 2027 Intake

Applications for September 2027 entry into reception will need to be submitted between **early November 2026 and 15 January 2027**. For details on the application process, please see the Guidance and Information Booklet For 2027 Intake which can be found on GCC Website

Key dates

From November 2026

Letters sent out to Gloucestershire residents making them aware the online application window is open. **However, you do not need the letter to make the application**

From 2 November 2026 to Midnight 15 January 2027

Application Window.

Closing date for school applications is **Midnight on 15 January 2027**

16 April 2027

Allocation Day

23 April 2027

Closing date to return reply form accepting the School/Academy place or requesting to be put on waiting list/s

By 19 May 2027

Outcome of Waiting List Requests

Midnight 26 May 2027

Closing date for return of reply forms

Late June 2027 to July 2027

Appeals

School Contact Details

Telephone: 01291 622593

Email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk[5]

Attendance: attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk[6]

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com[7]

[5] mailto:office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk
[6] mailto:attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk
[7] mailto:ptatutshill@gmail.com

Community Page





3 - The Rock Project - Chepstow



4 - St. Briavels People's Choir - The Assembly Rooms, St. Briavels



5 - Chepstow Autumn Walking Festival

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Friday 4th December 2026
10.30am, 1pm & 6pm

LYDNEY
TOWN HALL
Sunday 6th December 2026
Showtimes: 1pm & 3pm

www.ticketsource.co.uk/lemonjellypantos

* Tickets £8 for groups of 20 or more (all tickets subject to booking fee)



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