

Date	Activity
2024—2025	
2 Dec	Rocksteady Concert—2.30pm
2 Dec	Phonics Evening—5pm
4 Dec	FOGS Panto Trip
5 Dec	Y2 Grand Exhibition @ 2:30pm
5 Dec	Natter and Know How—8:45—9:45
7 Dec	FOGS Christmas Craft Fair
12 Dec	Reception Nativity 9:30 am
16 Dec	Y5/6 Carol Concert at Church—2:15pm
17 Dec	Y3/4 Christmas Production 2pm
18 Dec	Y3/4 Christmas Production 9:30 am
18 Dec	Y1/2 Carol Concert at Church—2:15pm
19 Dec	Christmas Dinner Day
19 & 20 Dec	Christmas Jumpers can be worn
20 Dec	Term 2 Ends—2pm finish
6 Jan	Inset Day
7 Jan	Term 3 Starts
8 Jan	Reception 25 Open Morning 9:30 am
13 Jan	Choir at Young Voices
14 Feb	Term 3 Ends
24 Feb	Term 4 Starts
11 Apr	Term 4 Ends—2pm finish
28 Apr	Term 5 Starts
6 & 7 May	Yr R & 6 Height, Weight & Vision (Yr R only) Checks
w/c 12 May	Year 6 SATS (all Year 6 children MUST attend)
23 May	Term 5 Ends
2 June	Term 6 Starts
18 July	Term 6 Ends—2pm finish
New Event or Change of Date/Time	
FOGS Event	

Dear Grangefield Community,

What a bustling fortnight we've had at Grangefield! Our children have been out and about, showcasing their sporting prowess both on and off school grounds, at bowling events, football tournaments and of course today's cross country event.

Our Reception children had quite the treat with a visit from the fire brigade. Don't worry, it wasn't an emergency—just an exciting planned experience that left our littlest learners wide-eyed and full of questions!

The air is starting to buzz with festive cheer as rehearsals for our Christmas performances get underway. I can't wait to see what magical moments our talented children will bring to the stage this year.

Looking ahead, I'm keen to organise an online safety talk for parents in the Spring term, led by the Police cyber team. Your input is crucial, so please complete the survey to help us choose the best time for this important event: <https://forms.gle/NspUvJprVW1hxNVn7>

As always, it's a privilege to be part of such a vibrant school community. Here's to another fantastic fortnight ahead!

Mrs Gemma Kydd, Head Teacher

Absences

As we are in the midst of the winter bug season, we are noticing an increase in illnesses and bugs, such as stomach bugs and colds. We are aware that sometimes it is tricky to decide whether they should stay at home or not when they are unwell, especially this time of year when there are lots of exciting things happening at school. The NHS has a handy website—<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If you have exciting events planned in the lead up to Christmas, which may mean your child has to be absent from school, please be honest with us. We often find that parents have told us their child is ill or there is a family emergency, only for the child to tell us they've been on an exciting day out. The absence will be marked as unauthorised, however, unless the absence is greater than 5 days, no further action will be taken.

Please report all absences to the school office at admin@grangefield.gloucs.sch.uk or 01242 671003.

Free School Meal Vouchers—Christmas Holidays

We would like to make you aware of the holiday Free School Meal (FSM) voucher scheme that Gloucestershire County Council is currently offering to families in Gloucestershire.

Applications for holiday FSM vouchers for December 2024 Winter holiday will be open from midday 25 November until midday on 6 December. Voucher emails will be sent from week commencing 16 December. Please check your junk/spam folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there.

If you have not received your vouchers by 23 December, please submit a query via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#).

The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive Pupil Premium (benefits-related) free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. **GCC are unable to consider college and sixth form students, nor children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from reception to year 2) - they are not eligible for this scheme.**

Families who have signed up to the scheme or who are already registered will receive a total of £15 per child.

To find out more about the scheme and to apply, you can visit our [FAQs | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

To ensure we reach all those who are eligible, we are encouraging parents that have not previously signed up, to sign up as soon as they can.

Please note GCC check eligibility for the scheme by cross-referencing with the term-time free school meal register, so please make sure you are registered beforehand. You can register by visiting the [apply for free school meals](#) page.

Using vouchers – vouchers need to be used will only be awarded once the parent has registered for the scheme and cannot be backdated. Vouchers are valid for 6 months, although should be used in the holiday period in which they are awarded. If vouchers are not claimed and have expired, they cannot be re-issued. Vouchers not received should be queried via the Microsoft Form [HERE](#) by the end of the holiday period.

School Dinners

KS2 parents, please ensure that your ParentPay accounts are credited with enough funds to cover school dinners before they are taken. Our current school debt is £210.66 across 18 people, so please clear any outstanding debt, as soon as possible, as this could affect your child's ability to be able to have a hot dinner.

If you need any assistance or support, please contact the school office. Please be advised that meal prices are now costing £2.71.

Library Books

Please look at home for any school library books which may have not been returned to school.

Children in Need

A big thank you for all your donations during our Non Uniform for Children in Need, we raised £387.25

Phonics and Early Reading Information Evening

There will be a presentation about how early reading and phonics are taught at Grangefield including the opportunity to see some resources that are used. This will take place on Monday 2nd December at 5pm in the school hall.

Donation Requests

We are looking for any donations of old headphones with a regular jack—not bluetooth, preferably over the ear not in ear ones.

Lunch Boxes

A reminder that lunch boxes should not contain any nuts or nut based products, this includes Nutella spreads and dips.

Christmas Events at Grangefield

Here are some reminders on the Christmas events happening at Grangefield over the next few weeks of term:

Wednesday 4 December—Panto Trip for Years 3 and 5

Children must bring with them a packed lunch to eat on their return to school. Children will also be allowed to bring a small snack with them to eat whilst at the Panto, this can be a small packet of sweets, some popcorn or a small packet of biscuits, but please NO nuts or nut based products.

Saturday 7 December—FOGS Christmas Craft Fair

See FOGS page for more details

Thursday 12 December—Reception Nativity Performance—9:30am

Tickets are available to purchase via ParentPay until Wednesday 4 December at 12 noon. As per the previous newsletter, the number of guests have been capped, with 2 tickets available per child. Any remaining tickets will be re-released after the initial deadline date.

Monday 16 December—Years 5 & 6 Carol Concert—2:15pm

This is taking place at St Michael's Church in the centre of Bishops Cleeve. If you haven't already done so, please complete this [google form](#), informing us of collection arrangement for your child.

Tuesday 17 December—Years 3 & 4 Christmas Performance— 2pm

Tickets are available to purchase via ParentPay until Wednesday 4 December at 12 noon. As per the previous newsletter, the number of guests have been capped, with 2 tickets available per child. Any remaining tickets will be re-released after the initial deadline date.

Wednesday 16 December—Years 3 & 4 Christmas Performance—9:30am

Tickets are available to purchase via ParentPay until Wednesday 4 December at 12 noon. As per the previous newsletter, the number of guests have been capped, with 2 tickets available per child. Any remaining tickets will be re-released after the initial deadline date.

Wednesday 16 December—Years 1 & 2 Carol Concert—2:15pm

This is taking place at St Michael's Church in the centre of Bishops Cleeve. If you haven't already done so, please complete this [google form](#), informing us of collection arrangement for your child.

Thursday 19 December—Christmas Dinner Day

Dinner options have now been given to the kitchen, who are now preparing for their busiest meal of the school calendar. Unfortunately we are now unable to add any additional meals to this number, so if you selected packed lunch or did not select a hot meal option for your child, they will need to bring the packed lunch in with them. We will send a text message nearer the time with your child's option.

Thursday 19 December & Friday 20 December—Christmas Jumper Days

Children will be allowed to wear Christmas Jumpers to school on these days. This will replace their school jumper or cardigan; all other uniform must be worn

Don't forget school finishes at 2pm on Friday 20 December



Look Who's Talking!

We are excited to be talking part in 'Look Who's Talking!' again this year. The children will be having a class discussion about this during school.

During the first week back after Christmas, children will be encouraged to tell their class about something that interests them.

Last year one of our children came second place at the county finals.

If you have any questions please speak to your child's class teacher.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING! 2025

An Oracy Competition for Gloucestershire's Infant, Junior and Primary Schools

Our school is very excited to be taking part in the 'Look Who's Talking!' competition, along with lots of other schools in Gloucestershire!

What is oracy and why is it so important?

Oracy is the ability to express ourselves clearly and communicate with others effectively, through spoken language.

By teaching our children to become more effective speakers and listeners, we are all helping to give them the tools they need to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them.

How will the competition work?

Your child will get the chance to talk to their class for two minutes, about any subject that they choose and then a 'Star Speaker' will be chosen. Star Speakers from every class will then get to talk in front of the whole school. Those winners will then go on to the next stage and will represent our school in the competition, with lots of other local schools! The grand final will be on 04.04.25, which you can come to, if your child is a representative for our locality.

what can your child talk about?

Children can talk about *absolutely anything* that they choose to, for up to two-minutes. They can use any props that they wish to, which will help with their talk, but just cannot use any technology, so no Powerpoints slide shows please.

How can you help them at home?

- * First of all, please help them to think about what they would like to talk about. The more interested they are in the subject, the more passionate their talk will be! What are they interested in? What excites them? It might be a toy, their pet, a book, something they have seen on TV, their favourite sports team, something they have learned about from you at home - or anything else! It really can be anything at all!
- * They will need to plan and rehearse their speech, so please listen to them practice and give them lots of encouragement!
- * Make sure they are speaking with big voices, nice and clearly, so everyone can hear their talk and learn about their chosen topic.

Thank you for your support!



Hamper Scampers

Every year, the Hamper Scamper initiative, led by @CCPCharity, brings the magic of Christmas to some of the families in our community with food hampers/gifts. With their help, we make sure that those facing a change in circumstances or additional financial pressure have equal opportunity to enjoy the festive season. Can you donate?

Find out how to get involved and help make this season a brighter one for those who need it most:

<https://ccp-hamer-scamer.raisely.com>

Reception Admission 2025

The facility to make an online application for Reception 2025 admissions is now open until Wednesday 15 January. Please share this information with anyone you know that has a child starting school next September.

If there is a sibling link (current Year R to Year 5) within the school, an application will still need to be made, please also ensure that you provide the sibling details. If no sibling details are entered, your application will only be based on your address, and if you live in the outskirts of Cleeve or surrounding villages, your child's school place with their sibling could be affected.

If you have any queries about applying for a place at school for your child, please contact Co-ordinated Admissions

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/

Creative Play

Thank you for your donation for our creative play bins, we have now filled one of our bins, we have two more to go.

Please see Class DOJO for items we are looking for. We are very excited to share these with children soon.



Seren's Wish

As Christmas is quickly approaching and I'm sure many of you will be busy with Christmas shopping. Could I ask you consider adding a gift for Seren's Wish Charity to your shopping list. See the link to their Amazon Wishlist. Thank you, Mrs Lack!

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1B6AW13EC56LL?ref=wl_share

Friends of Grangefield (FOGS)

Disco Night Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Children in Need disco. You all raised an incredible £908.15. FOGS will be donating £454 to Children in Need. That's amazing! Thank you.

Winter Fair

The excitement is building and giving us all the festive tingles! We can't wait for the craft fair and we are really lucky to have a special guest dropping in again this year. You can pre-book your ticket to meet him in his grotto here <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fogsbc/> Every child will receive a gift.

There's some wonderful stalls this year, perfect for Christmas shopping and crafts for the children whilst enjoying a hot chocolate, mulled cider or a hot pork roll.

Winter Raffle

Raffle tickets have now been sent home.

Exciting Prizes Await! We have some fantastic prizes up for grabs, and you don't want to miss your chance to win! Checkout our Facebook page to find out what you can win including £100 cash, meal vouchers, a BMW for the weekend, cinema vouchers, a slow cooker and more!

Please return your raffle ticket stubs to school by **Friday 6 December** to be in with a chance of winning.

Every ticket you purchase helps support our school and its activities.

Winners will be drawn at the Christmas Craft Fair.

Easyfundraising

Please remember to use easyfundraising when you do your Christmas online shopping this year.

Over 8,000 retailer including eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos and M&S will donate to FOGS for **FREE** when you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can raise donations when you buy anything from decorations and festive food shopping to gifts like toys, jewellery, tech, experiences and more!

All donations directly benefit the children at school. All you have to do is use easyfundraising when you're ordering the things you'll be buying anyway. With the donation reminder its even easier.

It's completely free and doesn't take long.

[Easyfundraising Website](#)

Stay up to date

To stay up to date with FOGS events and announcements, like and follow our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofgrangefield>

To contact us about anything, please reach out at grangefieldpta@grangefield.gloucs.sch.uk



Cheltenham Young Artists

We're thrilled to announce that Grangefield will be taking part in the Cheltenham Young Artist 2025 competition! This year's theme is 'Winter Moments', inviting children to showcase their creativity by capturing the essence of winter—whether through breathtaking scenes, festive celebrations, or winter sports.

Participants are encouraged to create an A4-sized artwork using any of the following mediums: paint, pencil, crayon, pastels, or ink. Please note that oil paints, collages, and photography are not eligible for this competition.

A total of 50 winning pieces from the local area will be proudly displayed at the Gardens Gallery in Cheltenham, offering a fantastic opportunity for young artists to shine!

Submission Details:

Deadline: Friday, 13th December

KS1 Entries: Submit to Miss Symonds

KS2 Entries: Submit to Mr. Hyde

We can't wait to see the wonderful creations you come up with!

Warm Regards

Mr Hyde



Cheltenham Young Artist 2025
Theme: **WINTER MOMENTS**
Any aspect of Winter from Scenes to Sports to Festivities

Primary & Secondary Prizes

We invite pupils to enter **one A4** artwork
Closing Date: Friday December 13th 2024

Top 25 from each section will have their art framed and exhibited at the **GARDENS GALLERY**
Saturday & Sunday JANUARY 11th & 12th 2025

For further information and rules ask your teacher or visit www.gardensgallery.co.uk

Gardens Gallery, Montpellier Gardens, Cheltenham GL50 1SW

Sponsors: Paragon Gallery, Cheltenham Round Table, Cheltenham Arts Council, Art Union



Cleeve CHRISTMAS Cracker Trail
And festive fun day!
Saturday 7th December
11am - 3pm (Last map sold)
@The Kings Head - Bishops Cleeve

Buy your maps here! £5 per map

Follow the trail to complete the anagram and claim your prize (1 prize per map)

Biscuit decorating, Refreshments, Sweetie treats, Kids Christmas Crafts, Face glitter & tattoos, Santa visit, Stalls, Raffle, Kids / family Christmas professional photo shoot

Map available on MyWall.com



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Family Christmas Services at St Michael's

Friday 6 December
3.30pm-5pm Christmas Craft and Tree Decorating

Sunday 8 December
11.15am Christingle Service

Sunday 22 December
6.30pm Cakes and Carols

Christmas Eve: Tuesday 24 December
2pm Nativity Service
4pm Nativity Service

Christmas Day: Wednesday 25 December
10.30am Family Holy Communion

We are here for you.
Get in touch:

✉ admin@stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk
☎ 07354 874617
🌐 stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk
📧 stmichaelsbishopsleeve
📷 stmichaelschurchbishopsleeve



EXCLUSIVE WINSTON'S WINTER GLOW

WINSTON'S WISH WW
Giving hope to grieving children

ADULTS: £20
CHILDREN (3-16): £10
UNDER 3S GO FREE

Use code School10 at winstonswish.org/winterwander to receive an exclusive 10% discount!

Wander the spectacular illuminated trail at Winter Glow. This is an exclusive event raising funds for Winston's Wish - supporting bereaved children across the UK.

4.30PM SUN 1ST DEC

WINTER GLOW, THREE COUNTIES SHOWGROUND, MALVERN WORCESTERSHIRE, WR13 6NW
WINTERGLOW.CO.UK

Winston's Wish is a Registered Charity Number 1061359 (England and Wales), SC041140 (Scotland).

SCAN ME! 



MAD HOLIDAY CAMPS
AGE 5-11 ACTIVITY DAYS

Christmas CAMP

CHRISTMAS JUMPERS! CHRISTMAS CRAFTING!

DECEMBER
MONDAY 23 08:30-3PM

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING??

GAMES, COMPETITIONS

MAD XMAS GIFT FOR ALL ATTENDING



MOVE MORE CAMPS
EVERY CHILD THRIVES

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Parents' Relationships Matter
Gloucestershire

A FREE online
parent group
session for
separated
parents in
Gloucestershire

Getting it right for children



When parents are separating or separated, children can often get caught in the middle.

Getting it right for children is a free online course designed to help you parent co-operatively. It can help you to develop positive communication skills, so that you can sort out disagreements and find solutions together.

You will learn:

- How to stay calm and listen as well as talk.
- Why it's helpful to see things from a different point of view.
- What to do to stop a discussion from turning into an argument.
- Skills for finding solutions and making compromises.

Getting it right for children Group Course

How do I access a group?

Groups take place in one 2hr session over Microsoft Teams. You will need access to Wi-Fi, a smart phone, laptop, or tablet. And its free!

Who is it for?

- Anyone with a parenting role for a child or young person
- Adoptive Parents
- Foster Parents
- Guardians/family members with parenting role

NOTE: If both parents wish to take part, they will be invited to attend separate groups.

How do I book on to the next group?

For more information about future *Getting it right for children* group dates or to book on contact: The Family Information Service.

Email: Familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Parents' Relationships Matter
Gloucestershire



FREE 2hr ONLINE
GROUP SESSIONS
FOR PARENTS IN
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Arguing better

Disagreements are a normal part of life, and most couples argue from time to time. The way you approach these conversations can make a big difference to you, your partner, and your children.

Arguing better is a free online course to help you manage difficult conversations, avoid conflict, and improve things for your whole family.

You will learn:

- Where stress comes from and how it can affect you.
- Ways to recognise stress and talk about it.
- How to support each other through difficult times.
- What causes arguments and how to stop them.

Arguing Better Parent Group Sessions

How do I access a group?

Groups take place over just one 2hr session on Microsoft Teams. You will need access to Wi-Fi, a smart phone, laptop, or tablet. And its free!

Who is it for?

- Anyone living in Gloucestershire with a parenting role for a child or young person under 18 years old
- Adoptive Parents
- Foster Parents
- Guardians/family members with parenting role

Parents are welcome to attend alone, with a partner, friend, or family member.

How do I book on to the next group?

For more information about future *Arguing Better* group dates or to book contact:

The Family Information Service.

Email: familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk

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instax

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Make your own Photo Bauble!

Sat 14th Dec

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WHAT CAN I MAKE?

- Photo Bauble
- Personalised Wrapping Paper
- Festive Photo Frames
- Instax Christmas Cards
- Personalised Mugs

HOW DO I JOIN?

Register for free on our website, then turn up between 9:00 - 12:30. Families welcome!



SAT, 14 DECEMBER 2024

CLIFTON CAMERAS, STAVERTON TECHNOLOGY PARK, CHELTENHAM, GL51 6TQ

COME JOIN US! 01242 339285 www.cliftoncameras.co.uk/Coming-Events @clifton_cameras



Fun Science

FESTIVE STEM CLUB 2024/25

10am-3pm, 23 Dec & 3 Jan

Suitable ages 4-11, £30 per day / £55 both

Book now: tinyurl.com/funscixmas24