

Families Matter

Issue 30 - May 2015

Hello... We hope you've all been making the most of the sunshine that we have been having and have got everything crossed that it continues! By now, families with children due to start school in September will have received their primary/infant-junior school allocation and accepted the place or requested a reconsideration. Read on for more information including key dates and what happens next.

Primary/Infant-Junior Admissions

If you have requested a reconsideration for your child's school place, the outcome of these will be available after **Friday 15th May**.

The closing date for the return of reconsideration reply forms is **Friday 29th May**.

If a place is offered under reconsideration, your original offer will be withdrawn and given to another child immediately. This place then cannot be offered back to you.

If you are unsuccessful in gaining a place at the reconsideration stage, you have a legal right to appeal if you think you have exceptional circumstances supporting why your child should have a place at your preferred school. The appeals procedure involves completing and returning an appeal form and your case will be decided by an Independent Appeal Panel at a meeting to which you are invited. The appeals will usually be held from June.

Further information and downloads are available at **www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions**

Alternatively, the admissions team can be contacted by telephone on **01452 425407** or email **school.admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk**

Online Check - Free Fun and Learning for 2 year Olds

Do you receive benefits or working tax credits and have an annual household income of less than £16,190? If so, your child may be entitled to a funded place at a childcare setting of your choice for up to 15 hours a week (term time).

You can now check if you are entitled by visiting our **new** Citizen Portal (**www.gcca2yofunding.com**) after your child's second birthday. Once you have registered on the portal, you will be able to input all the relevant information and the system will advise if you are eligible. Please ensure that you have your National Insurance number to hand.

Children may also be entitled to statutory funding if they meet one of the following:

- They have a Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or a current statement of Special Educational Needs
- The child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance
- They are in the care of the Local Authority or they have left care through special guardianship, adoption order or child arrangements order

You can submit an application for statutory funding by using the same citizen portal.



The Key is a special, proactive information service for any family in Gloucestershire with a disabled child or young person (from birth to twenty five years). Key members benefit from receiving information that is customised to each family, depending on the child's abilities and interests, disabilities, age and location. Any family with a child with additional needs, medical or educational, can join The Key, or leave it, at any time they wish. It is completely FREE and CONFIDENTIAL. The Key are also able to help with networking between families for mutual support when consent is given. Members can also receive free leisure passes.

To register or find out more please contact **0800 0093443/01452 425844** or email **thekey@gloucestershire.gov.uk**



Family Information Service



If you would like to receive your copy of this newsletter automatically or have any suggestions, email us at **familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk**.

0800 542 02 02 or 01452 427362





Playgroups, nurseries, pre-schools and schools can support the health and wellbeing of the children they teach by taking part in the British Nutrition Foundation's (BNF) Healthy Eating Week.

Last year approximately 1.75 million children and young people took part and the impact of the week was highly rated by those involved!

The aim of the week is to further promote healthy diets and being more active, as well as improve the understanding of where food comes from and cooking. This year, BNF have set 5 new challenges which are a great way to engage the whole school community as well as trying something new!

The five challenges are:

- Have a healthy breakfast
- Have 5 a day
- Drink plenty
- Get active
- Try something new

To register your setting or school to receive free resources to support health and wellbeing at your school, simply visit www.foodfactoflife.org.uk.

Fathers Day - 21st June



You will need:

- Sheet of craft foam
- Foam stickers/things to decorate
- Photo (or drawing)
- Sheet of card
- Ribbon to hang
- Glue

Instructions:

Cut out a rectangle of craft foam bigger than your picture.

Fold the foam in half and cut out a rectangle in the middle, leaving you with a frame about 3cm wide.

Decorate the frame with foam stickers/cut-outs etc of your Dad's favourite things.

Glue the picture to the back of the frame.

Glue a loop of ribbon to the top.

Cut the card to the size of your frame and glue it to the back.

More ideas for Father's Day and other special events can be found at www.activityvillage.co.uk

What's On?

More **FREE** activities and half term fun can be found on our website www.glofamiliesdirectory.org.uk

Roman Gloucester Tour - **Fridays 8th & 22nd May** This tour takes you across the centre of Gloucester and includes a fascinating story of Roman Gloucester along the way. £4 per person Pre-book your space on 01452 396131

Bat Walk at the Museum in the Park - **Friday 15th May**. Join Stroud Valley Project (SVP) bat experts for a bat detecting walk around the park. Take a torch and meet in the Museum courtyard at 8.30pm. Booking necessary, call SVP on 01453 753358. Cost £4 per person.

May Half Term Activities at Chedworth Roman Villa - **Saturday 23rd to Sunday 31st May**. Enjoy a variety of hands-on activities each day. Some activities include a small charge to cover cost of materials.

Holiday Activities at Tewkesbury Sports Centre - **Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th May**. Lots of sports and activities including puppets, bookmarks, cookie making and much more. Limited spaces, booking required. Call 01684 293953.

Nature Printing at Museum in the Park, Stratford Park Stroud - **Sunday 28th June**. Drop in and have a go at creating colourful prints using leaves, weeds, bark and other nature finds. 11am - 4pm for children and adults, donation for activity.