



I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our children and families at the beginning of the school year; I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and are well-rested ahead of the new term. We have all been very pleased with the attitude of the children on their return this week, ready to learn with enthusiasm and interest. They have all been very excited by the new pergola in the playground which has already been used for both learning time and relaxing at break.

For those families who are new to the school, we send out a weekly newsletter every Friday. It includes important notices from the school office, informs you about the Friends of Farrington Gurney (our PTA), the Farrington Forum (our school council) and diary dates, as well as other relevant information. Our newsletter is the main means by which we communicate with you, so please read it every week so that you continue to be updated with what is going on at school. If you do ever have any queries you can always contact us by phone or email or pop into the office at the beginning or end of the school day.

Thank you to all the parents who completed the questionnaires last term. We are reading through them and will send out the breakdown of responses in next week's newsletter. We will also send out information about the key areas for improvement based on your responses and comments.

We now have a couple of children in school with potentially severe allergies to nuts. We will send out a letter next week regarding this but please can we ask that at the moment no products containing nuts are sent into school. There will be more details in the correspondence next week.

I look forward to working with all of you this year; please do not hesitate in coming to see me if you have any comments or questions about our school, I am always interested to hear the views of parents, carers and children. I want us all to continue to build on the improvements we saw last year and the positivity that the school community has, ensuring that we provide the best education for all our pupils.

Mr Turull

Notices

- **Asthma** – if your child uses an inhaler then please ensure that there is one available for them in school at all times. Please also check the date as some of the ones in class before the summer break had expired.
- **Breakfast Club** – a reminder for those of you that haven't yet booked breakfast club, please do so for the rest of term to ensure we have adequate staffing ratios.
- **Clubs** – we have started collating all the clubs' replies. We will send out the allocation list with the newsletter at the end of next week. All clubs start on the week beginning Monday 16th September. Any club cancellations will be notified through the school newsletter in advance or if we are unable to run a club on the day, for instance through illness, we will call/email you to let you know.
- **Dinners** – there have been some changes to the Trust dinner provision over the summer holidays which now means our dinners are being cooked and delivered through Longvernal School. Whilst the menu remains the same until the end of Term 1, we have been asked that you ensure that all meal bookings are made in advance for the whole term. Thereafter any occasional ad-hoc changes can be made through Mrs Hazard in our school office.
- **EcoWild** – sessions will be starting for children in Reception and Year 1 on Wednesday 18th September. Please look out for the consent letter which will be coming home in the school book bags at the beginning of next week.
- **Nuts** – we are now a nut-free school until further notice – please see paragraph above.
- **School Photos** – Nigel Coles will be in school on Wednesday 25th September to take the children's individual photos and photos with any sibling in school. We are able to offer parents who also have pre-school siblings a joint photo. Please arrive earlier to the school library at 8.30am if you would like to take up this opportunity.
- **Swimming** – Year 2 and 3 start their 12 weeks of swimming next Tuesday at Midsomer Norton Swimming Pool. Letters have been sent home this week. Please return your consent form to your child's class teacher.
- **Wellies** – please can all children bring in a pair of wellies to keep in school on the racks.



Secondary School Open Evenings

MNSP Trust Schools

Norton Hill – Thursday 19th September
Tours from 5:00pm – 7:30pm
Headteacher presentations at 5:00pm and 6:15pm

Somervale – Thursday 26th September
Tours from 6:00pm – 8:30pm
Headteacher presentations at 6:00pm and 7:15pm

Writhlington – Thursday 12th September
6:30pm – 8:30pm

Other local secondary schools

Chew Valley – Thursday 19th September
6:00pm – 9:00pm

The Blue School, Wells – Thursday 3rd October
6:00pm – 8:00pm

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Have you seen our new outdoor learning space? The children are looking forward to working in it this year. Thanks to everyone who raised funds – we will have an official opening later this term!



Pupil Premium Funding – Free School Meals

Are your children currently receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals at a school in B&NES? Are you currently receiving one of the benefits listed below?

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400)
- Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (Without Working Tax Credit) with an annual household income below £16,190
- Working Tax Credit Run-on which is paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit

Did you know that if you are, you may qualify your Primary School for £1,320 worth of Pupil Premium Funding? Please contact The Free School Meal Team on 01225 394317 to check your entitlement. All we need from you is your date of birth and your national insurance number.

School Diary Dates

September 2019

- Fri 6th** Meet the Teacher (2:30pm)
Tue 10th Swimming Lessons start for Years 2 and 3 (weekly for Terms 1 and 2)
Fri 13th Assembly at 2:30pm (hall)
Mon 16th After-school clubs start
Wed 18th Piano/Keyboard and Guitar lessons start (BANES)
EcoWild sessions start for Reception and Year 1 (weekly for Term 1)
Thu 19th Cello lessons start (BANES)
Fri 20th Music for Schools Lessons start
Wed 25th Individual Photos
Fri 27th Assembly at 2:30pm (hall)

October 2019

- Fri 4th** Harvest Festival (2:00pm at St John's Church – to be confirmed)
Tue 8th Full Governing Body meeting
Fri 25th Term 1 ends