

Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

A place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness

Newsletter 1 - September 11th 2026



Hello from Mr Snell!

Welcome back to a brand new school year! It's been an absolute pleasure getting to know you and your children this week as I begin an exciting journey with you as your new executive headteacher - thank you for making me feel so welcome! Seeing the children return to school and get stuck in from day one has been brilliant to see and I look forward to seeing what they all achieve over the coming year. I love working in schools having been executive headteacher at Welton Primary for 15 years as well as working in a number of other schools in Bath and London. My vision and values are deeply rooted in what's best for the children and I look forward to working closely with you and the school team to help Farrington go from strength to strength. You will most often see me on Mondays and on Wednesday mornings however I will very much take the opportunity to be in the school on other days of the week, when I can. As I am sure your children will tell you, I particularly like being in classrooms talking about what they are doing and joining in with their learning! You are welcome to make contact with me through the usual channels at any time - telephoning or emailing the school office or catching me in the playground. I look forward to our partnership. With best wishes for a happy Term 1, Mr Snell.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to the parents who came along to our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions this week. If you were unable to attend and have any queries about class processes, learning or day to day questions, please contact the teachers on the class email addresses which can be found on the [school website](#) under the 'Our Classes' tab.

Fizz Pop Science

Our year certainly started with a bang, or rather a pop, this morning when Atomic Alice visited again with a bubble-based Fizz Pop Assembly. With clubs starting next week, please remember to sign up on Arbor if your child is interested in joining. More information can be found below.



Mrs Geeson and Mr Snell

News from the classes



TURTLE CLASS

It has been a wonderful start to the year for Turtle Class as they have got to know the school, adults, classroom and each other. Next week they will be staying for lunch and we are really looking forward to spending more time with them as they join our school family.



SHARK CLASS

The children have all settled really well into their new classroom and are learning the Shark Class routines. Everyone has worked really hard this week on our class book 'Cinderella' this week and enjoyed the practical maths lessons.



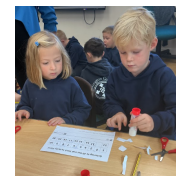
SEAL CLASS

What a lovely start to the year! Seal Class have been a pleasure to teach this week. The year 3 pupils have settled well into their new class and routines and the year 4 pupils have been excellent role models showing their maturity and helping their younger classmates. We have started our French unit for this term and have been learning how to introduce ourselves and in PSHE, we had a challenge to pass a ball around a circle using just our feet. This demonstrated our great teamwork! Well done Seals!



DOLPHIN CLASS

Dolphin Class have had a great first week back. We have created poems using modal verbs, started our maths unit on decimals and investigated thermal insulators in science. We have also started our art unit focusing on portraits by free drawing a continuous self portrait in only 2 minutes.



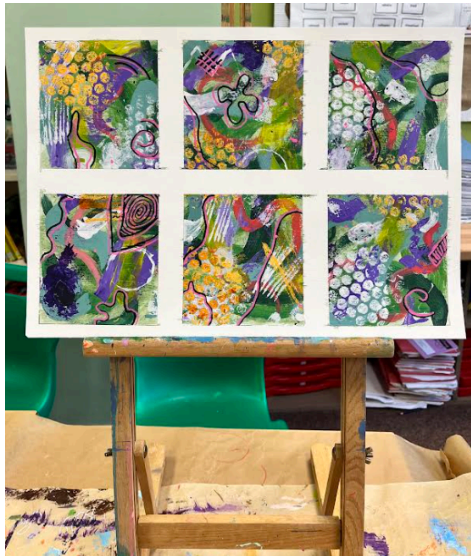
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See below some of the lovely work completed at the Art Workshop during the Summer Term. This club will run again this term on Mondays. The children created expressionistic abstract paintings using a variety of tools and techniques coupled with the magic of the masking tape reveal. They each created 6 abstract paintings which they can either keep together or separate to frame individually. Aren't they fabulous!!



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Notices

- **Clubs** - All clubs start next week (Martin Phillips Football Club started this week).
Please book the following clubs now to avoid them being cancelled due to low uptake:
Thursdays: Children's Choice of Dance/Disco Moves T1 Y1-6 *extended to years 5 & 6*
- **ADDITIONAL CLUB "Chess Club"** - will now be running on a Monday lunch time for Years 2-6 in Dolphin Class with Mr Snell .
- **Dinners** - You may have noticed that the new menu allows and serves a main dessert only on Fridays; fresh fruit and yogurt are offered for the remainder of the week. This is to offer a healthier alternative. We thought it would be helpful to let you know that this change was implemented to align with updated legislation and food standards guidance, which also informed the overall meal selection. Please remember to place your dinner orders via School Grid by the Thursday midnight deadline for the following week.
- **Flu Vaccination (Nasal Spray)** - Please consent via the email sent this week, scheduled for Tue 20th Oct (not Thur 29th).
- **Music for School & WEMA Lessons** - due to start back week beginning 14th September.
- **Open Mornings** - details which have been added to the website and can be shared with you or any friends who have school age children starting next September. Our school open mornings are being held on Tue 29th September or Thur 19th November (9:30 - 11:00). Registration is via email or telephone to the school office.
- **Reception Class** - Correspondence from the B&NES School Nurse team was sent Wednesday for parents to complete a questionnaire. The link is here to the [questionnaire](#).
- **Seal Class Egyptology Day** - has been booked for 6th October and has been added to Arbor for parents to action.
- **Reception Year - Message from the School Nurses Team.** Please refer to the email sent to you Wednesday to complete the New Entrant Digital Health Questionnaire. Please do so by clicking [here](#) asap. Thank you.
- **School Uniform** - Please ensure that ALL uniform is clearly labelled to avoid it getting lost next year.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Swimming** - this term it is the turn of Dolphin Class to swim - there is a small charge of £4/week purely for the transport which remains unchanged and this can be paid weekly or for the full term in advance.
- **Universal Credits support including holiday, after-school & breakfast clubs** - If you pay for childcare while you go to work, Universal Credit can pay some of your childcare costs. This includes holiday clubs, after-school clubs and breakfast clubs. If you live with a partner, you both need to be working, unless your partner cannot look after your children. Please click [here](#) for further information.
- **Year 6 Transfer to Secondary School** - letters were sent home in school bags early this week.

Diary Dates

September

Mon 14th	New reception intake start at 8:35am and finish at 12:45am
	Clubs start this week (Martin Phillips football starts on the 7th)
Mon 21st	New reception intake attend all day finishing at 3:15pm
Wed 23rd	Dolphin Class Bikeability Training Day 1 Group 1 (Details to be emailed next week)
Thur 24th	Dolphin Class Bikeability Training Day 2 Group 1 (Details to be emailed next week)
Mon 28th	Individual & Sibling Photos with Nigel Coles (AM)
Tue 29th	Opening Morning 9:30am
Wed 30th	Dolphin Class Bikeability Training Day 1 Group 2 (Details to be emailed next week)

October

Thur 1st	Dolphin Class Bikeability Training Day 2 Group 2 (Details to be emailed next week)
Tue 6th	Egyptology Day for Seal Class please sign up on Arbor
Thur 20th	Flu/Nasal Spray Vaccination



5 reasons to get your child vaccinated

1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have

4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record

5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c 12 September
2026

For any ticketed events, visit our Virtual Library or Eventbrite for details.
baneslibraries.co.uk/groups-events/

Bath Central Library

Storytime

Tuesday 10.30 - 11.00 am

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Wednesday 10.00 - 10.30 am & 11.00 - 11.30 am

Keynsham Library

Storytime

Thursday 10.30 - 11.00 am

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Tuesday 9.30 - 10.00 am & 10.30 - 11.00 am

Midsomer Norton Library

Storytime

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00 am

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Monday 11.00 - 11.30 am

Summer Reading Challenge 2026 - Read to the Beat

Have you been a part of the Summer Reading Challenge this year?

Saturday 12 September is the last chance to pick up your medal and certificate, so make sure you visit one of our libraries!



Family Support & Inclusion Day

Come together, find support, and see what's out there for your family



Family Support & Inclusion Day - for parents, carers and professionals

Wednesday 14th October 2026

Doors are open from 9:30am - 7pm, join us at any time

Apex City of Bath Hotel
James Street West, Bath, BA1 2DA

Ever wondered what support is out there for your family? Not sure where to start or who to talk to? Come along, meet the teams and hear more from services. Pre-book your place or just drop in on the day!



Scan here for more information and to find updates on the event
banespcf.co.uk/event/family-support-inclusion-day



After school art club

Term 1 - Mondays for 5 weeks

GINA BELFORD ART

Art club helps children build confidence with painting, collage and drawing in an expressive way.



After school art club is available to children from year 2 to year 6. Each term we create one main project to bring home. We spend most of the session painting where I encourage expressive mark making to help the children find their own artistic voice. We also make time to draw and colour so there's something for everyone.

£35 per term, all materials provided.

To book: www.ginabelfordart.co.uk/after-school-art-club



GINA BELFORD ART

www.ginabelfordart.co.uk





Thought of the Week

‘When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.’ (Matthew 9: 36)



At the start of a brand new school year, it seems appropriate to review some of the values that we all hold dear to us. Lots of schools have values that embody their vision and ethos. Some examples are love, hope, forgiveness, perseverance and courage.

One key value for many schools is compassion. Compassion is very closely linked to the values of love and trust; we can only truly show compassion, if we first love and we can only receive compassion, if we first trust the person who is showing it.

In our Bible verses today, it says that Jesus showed compassion to the crowds. In the original Greek, this means he was deeply moved in his inner being. Robert Solomon in his book ‘Following Jesus in a Fallen World’ put it like this:

‘It was a profound response that was rooted in our Lord’s love for people. With the eyes of divine love, Jesus saw the people in their true condition.

Yes, many of them were poor and struggled to survive. Others might have had some resources but were lonely and miserable within. Jesus saw their true needs.

He saw them as harassed people. They were people who had been robbed of their rest, either by their own making or because of the uncaring or cruel ways of society. They were exhausted just coping with the daily challenges of life. They were not meant to live like that.’

It sounds very contemporary - people struggling to manage, feeling harassed, miserable and often lonely. In our enlightened and progressive world, how is it that so many of us still feel like this?

It is easy when we are busy and preoccupied not to see people as people. We might view them as colleagues or maybe fellow human beings. Often we can view them as a distraction or a nuisance and if they behave selfishly whilst driving, we might use all sorts of colourful terminology to describe them.

I hope that we too can show compassion to those around us as Jesus did. I hope that we can break the pattern of society and take time, even if it is just a moment to find out how the people in our lives really are. I hope and pray that we too would be moved in our inner being when people share their worries or concerns with us - that we can show them genuine compassion.

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36

