



## Vision and Values Worship

Well done to our Vision and Values team who led worship on Thursday morning. They presented to the rest of the school with great confidence on this term's Christian Value of TRUST.

Children as leaders is an area of our provision we are justly proud of - well done team!



This Week's Learners of the Week	
Compassionate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blake</li> <li>Charlotte</li> <li>Harry</li> <li>Alissia</li> </ul>
Agile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ava</li> <li>Noah</li> <li>Tabitha</li> <li>Freddie</li> </ul>
Responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leo</li> <li>Josh</li> <li>Amelia</li> <li>Summer</li> </ul>
Engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alana</li> <li>Edward</li> <li>Charlotte</li> <li>Fleur</li> </ul>
Well Done - Keep up the Good Work!	

## Get your voice heard - The Big Ambition Survey

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel De Souza has launched an initiative called 'The Big Ambition' which is aiming to collect the views of parents and children across all schools in the country.

The survey covers all stages of education and asks you to confirm which school your child/children attend so some questions may not be relevant to your child. There is also the option to fill out a free text box to expand on your opinions.

You can access the survey [here](#).

## Wellness Day

Next Friday sees the Wellness Day for Term 2 in the form of Christmas Art Day.

It is a chance for the children to be off curriculum and enjoy plenty of festive art and crafts and sing some songs.

Please send your child into school with an old shirt or apron as we are sure there will be paint and glitter involved.

Mr Dix and Mr Turull

## House Points for Good Manners & Tidiness (Last 2 Weeks)

Ferentone	Mogg	Gournay	Azelin
15	25	12	18
Total so far this term			
Ferentone	Mogg	Gournay	Azelin
29	49	33	37

## Friends of Farrington Gurney School

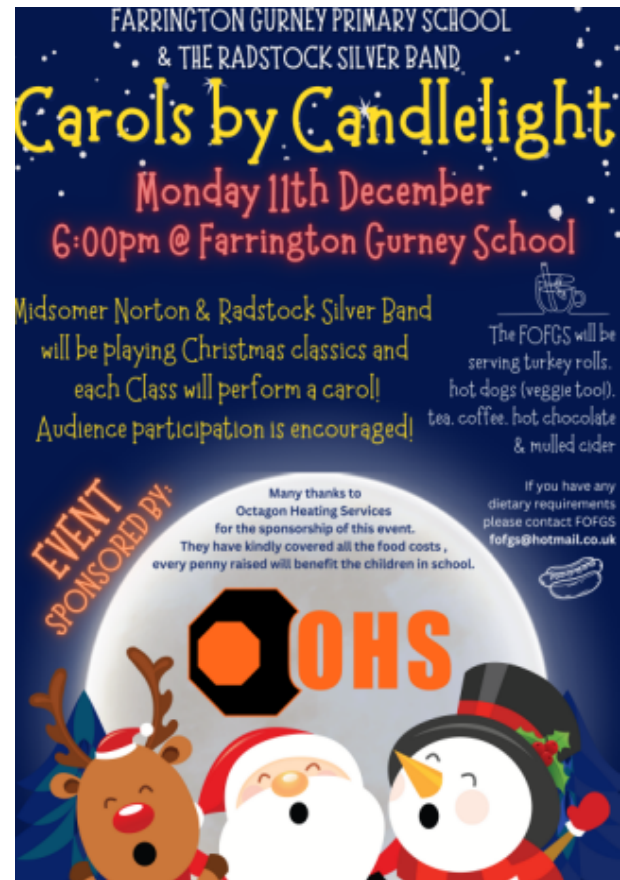
Hope everyone is looking forward to the disco tonight, the bar will be open, hot dogs available and a tuck shop, please bring change. Children must be supervised at all times.

All tickets to our wreath making workshop next Wednesday are sold. If any become available last minute then we will contact people on the waiting list. It is set to be a fantastic night for which we would like to say a massive thank you to Sue Foxwell, Fleur & Rose Clements' grandma. She has not only offered to run the evening free of charge but also provided all materials as a donation. We are very lucky to have such supportive family and friends. This event will therefore raise an amazing £300.



## Notices

- **BANES Keyboard Lessons** - end on the December 8th
- **Car Park Work Party** - More gravel is due for delivery on Tuesday, so Mrs Wellman will be looking for volunteers to help get the car park back into action by offering some physical labour. If the delivery is made, are you able to help on Saturday 2nd December at 11am?
- **Clubs** - Running Club is cancelled due to the Benefice Concert.
- **Christmas Dinner** - Is on 13th December. A final reminder has been sent home to parents of those who have not today, so we can ensure we haven't missed anyone.
- **Christmas Jumper Day** - Is on 7th December raising money for Save the Children. Please send your child dressed in a festive coloured or styled jumper with usual trousers, skirt etc. A £1 donation is advised; if you are able to.
- **Library events** - see [here](#) the link for exciting events happening in or libraries.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Turtle/Shark Class Trip** - Please consent/pay via ParentPay.



## Community

### Diary Dates

New dates and amendments in blue

#### **November 2023**

- Tue 28th Football matches v Clutton/Welton at Norton Hill Astro (finishes at 5pm)
- Thu 30th Shark/Dolphin singing at Christmas Concert @ Paulton Church 4:30pm start

#### **December 2023**

- Mon 4th Flu Immunisations AM
- Tue 5th Pantomime Performance AM
- Thur 7th Save the Children Xmas Jumper Day
- Fri 8th Celebration Assembly 2:30pm
- Mon 11th Carols by Candlelight 6pm start
- Tue 12th KS1 Nativity in the hall 2pm start
- Wed 13th Christmas Dinner Day
- Thu 14th KS1 Nativity in the hall 6pm start
- Mon 18th KS1 Trip to Wookey Hole
- Tue 19th Christmas Carol Service in St John's Church (9:15am)
- End of Term 2





## Thought of the Week

***'The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness;  
the darkness couldn't put it out.'***

**(John 1:5)**



Have you ever noticed how much difference one little candle can make in a dark room? It's like one moment, you're surrounded by darkness and you can't see a thing. Then just that one little flame can make all the difference. Suddenly the darkness has gone. It's not wonderfully clear and bright either, but the 'shroud' has dispersed and you begin to see things again.

Light is often used as an analogy for hope. If darkness represents difficulty, deceit, death and despair, then light represents the opposite - happiness, hope, love and life.

So many religions and beliefs throughout history have enjoyed light and have used it to symbolise these things. Since the dawn of agricultural civilizations and the development of human cultures, sun worshipping has been a common theme. This includes the Ancient Egyptian belief in the sun god Ra and the Ancient Greek belief in the sun as Helios. Many Native American tribes still honour the traditions of sun worship by practising a sun dance every year to renew their bonds with the earth and the growing season.

In the Jewish religion, Hanukkah is celebrated every November/December and commemorates the miracle of light that occurred when Judah rededicated the Temple to God in the second century BCE. It's believed that one day's worth of oil was able to keep the menorah alight for eight days until new oil could be prepared.

Diwali is celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhis and some Buddhists and is known as the festival of lights. Although for each faith it marks different historical events and stories, the festival represents the same symbolic victory of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance and good over evil.

For billions of people around the world, light is something to celebrate, especially when there is so much darkness around. The symbolism of light is obviously very clear in the Christmas story and during Advent, which starts next Sunday.

Our verse today is taken from the beginning of John's Gospel. He talks about 'the Life-Light' and here John, who was a disciple, is referring to Jesus. He is the 'Life-Light' that blazes out of the darkness. If darkness represents despair and death, then surely Jesus represents hope, love and life. Jesus even referred to himself as the 'light of the world'.

Light is important - whether we were alive 1000s of years ago, where the sun was the only source of light or whether we are alive now, with lights in every room and even on our phones. We need light and without it, we can't survive. Maybe this is why John and Jesus used light as an analogy.

