



Car Park

A massive 'thank you' to the team of parents who toiled so hard on Tuesday morning to patch up the car park. It is much improved and the school is very grateful for your endeavours. Please ensure you drive slowly through the car park to avoid further potholes or damage to vehicles.

Year 5 Visit Clifton Cathedral

Year 5 visited Clifton Cathedral on Monday afternoon to take part in a carol concert attended by 500 other children.



Our school proudly took on the task of reading the bible extracts. Each of the five children reading did so with great clarity and confidence. Well done Year 5.

Carols by Candlelight



We are looking forward to our community event: Carols by Candlelight this coming Monday. As well as having The Radstock and Midsomer Norton Silver Band, we will also have our own recorder group and cellist playing.. There will

be mulled wine, warm food and plenty of singing. The QR code will open up the order of service.

Class 3 Trip to Aerospace

'On Wednesday, Class 3 set off on their trip to Aerospace Bristol. When we arrived, we were asked to plan a route for the Mars rover while it was collecting samples



from the planet. The children were able to plan the route successfully. We visited one of the last remaining concordes and even had the opportunity to go inside! The exhibition hall was very exciting with lots to see. All in all, a great day out!'

Weather Alert

As we are currently in the middle of a weather alert for cold weather, please ensure that you are sending your child to school dressed appropriately for playtimes and lunchtimes outside. There should be no reason for us to shut the school as snow is not forecast, but please remember that we will always post a message on our website and send an email to all parents should the school need to close.

Mr Dix & Mr Turull

Diary Dates

New dates and amendments in blue

December 2022

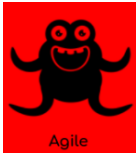

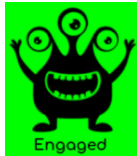
Mon 12th	Carols by Candlelight in school 6pm Farrington Forum's Cake Sale
Tue 13th	Nativity - Classes 1 and 2 (2:00pm) Class 4 - Music for Schools catch up lessons
Wed 14th	Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day (£1 Voluntary donation to Save the Children) NO Class 1 Ecowild
Thu 15th	Nativity - Classes 1 and 2 (6:00pm)
Fri 16th	Christmas Church Service 9:15am (St John's Church) - all welcome! Last day of Term 2

January 2023

Wed 4th	Children return to school
Mon 9th	Girls Football Tournament
Tue 10th	Class 4 swimming
Wed 11th	Young Voices Choir (Birmingham)



This Week's Ace Learners

 Agile	 Compassionate	 Engaged
Agile Ashley	Compassionate Courtney	Engaged Eddie
Mollie M Sid Ollie E Ella G Molly C Seb R Archie	Olivia B Georgia M Colby George M Bertie Xander Freya	Elias Amber Holly C Martha Harry Kayden Isabella A

House Points Winners (Last 2 Weeks)

Ferentone	Mogg	Gournay	Azelin
32	21	19	23
Termly Totals			
106	80	79	89

Well done to Ferentone on winning the House Points for the autumn term. They will have a special treat of Construction in the Reading Lodge next week with Ms Mason.



Notices

- **Christmas Cards** - The children can bring Christmas cards to school to post in the school Christmas Post Boxes for their friends or teachers. They will be sorted by our school elves and delivered to class in the last week of term.
- **Christmas Jumper Day** - This will be on Wednesday 14th December with a suggested donation of £1 for Save the Children. Children can wear a festive jumper instead of their school jumper/cardigan.
- **Clubs** - all clubs have now finished for the term. The club's letter for Terms 3 & 4 can be found by clicking [here](#). Please note that Mad Science (Years 1-6) have extended the deadline to next Wednesday if you would like to register your child/ren. Should you have any problems with the site email: rhys@madsciencesouthwales.co.uk.
- **Eco Wild** - has now finished for Class 1. It is the turn of Class 2 to enjoy Ecowild next term. An information letter has been sent home. NB) There is no need to sign and return this. The first session will be on Wednesday 11th January.
- **Library Service** - Please see the following [link](#) relating to all that is happening in our local libraries.
- **Nativity Performance Infant Collection** - all infant children need to be picked up from the hall next Tuesday after the performance please.
- **Santa Dash** - please return Santa Dash Sponsorship money in aid of the Air Ambulance by Monday - this is the last call, thank you!
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Swimming** - Class 4 will enjoy swimming from next Tuesday. Please refer to the letter sent home and return consent as soon as possible.



Thought of the Week

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

We look forward to the carols by candlelight on Monday. Please come along with family and friends (remember a travel mug if you have one and money for food / drinks). Many thanks to all those who have volunteered to help.

We are also looking forward to the nativity performances next week. We will be serving hot drinks and cake / mince pies so please bring some money with you.

The tea-towels and coasters have arrived. They look amazing. You should now have received your orders. **There are a few spare tea-towels so please let us know if you missed out on ordering.**

Reminder on a date for the diary, the quiz night will be held on Friday 3rd February. Full details will follow in the new year.

Farrington Forum Christmas Cake Sale - Monday 12th December

Raising Money for Air Ambulance Wiltshire

Please remember to send in Christmas themed cakes for our Christmas Cake Sale on Monday morning. We are really looking forward to seeing how much money we can raise for Air Ambulance Wiltshire to add to our fundraising efforts during our recent Santa Dash.

Please leave cakes on the table in the outside classroom when you drop your children off. For those with allergies, please ensure any home made cakes are clearly labelled with ingredients.

Thank you so much.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Farrington Forum - Henry (R), Ella (Yr1), Fletcher (Yr2), Charlotte (Yr3), Zeta (Yr4), Xander (Yr5), Liv & Isabelle (Yr6)

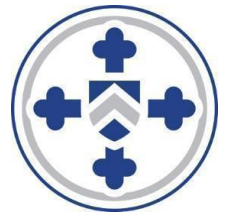
'And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby...An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified..."Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today...a Saviour has been born to you...This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'" (Luke 2:8-12)



The Annunciation To The Shepherds - Nicolaes Pietersz Berchem (c. 1630)



Seeing Shepherds - Daniel Bonnell (2011)



The Angel And The Shepherds - James Tissot
(1886-94)



The Adoration Of The Shepherds - Rembrandt
Harmenszoon Van Rijn (1646)

With this part of the Christmas story, I am reminded again that God didn't send the angels to tell King Herod or the important leaders or the chief priests about the birth of the Messiah, the angels were sent to tell shepherds. These would have been very poor men who were shunned by society. People saw them as the lowest of the low and they were considered as unclean because of the work they did. They spent all their time with dirty smelly sheep, their manure, their blood from cuts and scrapes and the insects that buzzed around them. They were never considered clean enough to worship with God's people and were generally treated as outsiders.

What a wonderful thing it is that God saw them as worthy and welcomed them to come and witness the birth of Jesus. Jesus went on in his lifetime to specialise in welcoming people who were considered as unclean and unwelcomed by others. Those who were ignored and ostracised were now included and accepted.

What a message this is. For Christians around the world, they know that whoever they are and whatever they've done, God sent Jesus to be born and later to be crucified, to take their place in dying for the wrong things they have done and continue to do. It now means everyone is welcome to spend their life reconciled with him.

Surely the idea that everyone, no matter what, is welcomed and accepted is the true meaning of Christmas?