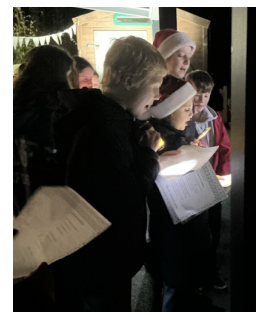




Carols by Candlelight

On Monday evening, we all got into the Christmas spirit as we sang carols with the wonderful Silver Band, ate lots of delicious turkey rolls and enjoyed festive drinks together. As well as being a chance for us to join with the community, it was lovely to hear our older classes being accompanied by live music. Thank you so much to the Parish Council and the hardworking members of Friends of Farrington PTA for making this possible.



Christmas Tree

Thank you very much to Farrington's for the very generous donation of the Christmas tree that you will have seen in the playground. This has been decorated by the children and will continue to be enjoyed in school next week. At the end of the day next Friday it will be looking for a good home for Christmas, so if you don't have a tree yet or would like the chance to win it for your home, please collect a raffle ticket from our Year 6 helpers at the end of the day on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday next week. The winner will be informed on Thursday ready to collect the tree at the end of the day on Friday.



Dr Dolittle

On Wednesday, everyone thoroughly enjoyed an interactive performance of Dr Dolittle from a visiting panto company. It was such a lot of fun, and if you look closely, you may recognise some of the cast members!



Nativity

Well done to Shark and Turtle Classes for their two superb performances of 'Shine Star, Shine' this week. Despite a few last minute casting changes on Thursday evening, all our performers pulled out all the stops and told the story of Christmas through song, dance, and fabulous acting.

Reindeer Run

This afternoon, we have done our annual Reindeer Run in aid of Dorothy House. We will share photos from the event in our Gallery on the website, and the children will bring their antlers home today. If you are able to make a donation to this very worthy cause, please use this QR code:

Mrs Geeson and Mr Turull



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Clubs Offerings for Terms 3 & 4

All Clubs need to be booked using the new Arbor system (even when registering/paying via an external clubs website which ensures we have a list of those attending). If a club is full, please email the office and we will add you to the reserve list. Often places come available which we can then offer to you. Thank you.

Club	Day/Time	Year/s	Leader/Cost
Dance Umbrella Club Collect from the hall	Monday	Reception, Year 1 & 2 (Max 20)	Mrs Frampton & Mrs Huckman No Cost for club however those attending will expect to perform at the Bath Forum on 24th March. Priority will be given to Year 2 children.
Art Workshop (TERM 3 ONLY) Collect from the ramp	Monday	Years 2-6 (Min 12)	Mrs Gina Belford/Belfort Art £35/5 sessions. This club is hugely popular at another local primary school. Please see Arbor for the website link to pay/register.
Lego Club (TERM 3 ONLY) Collect from the ramp	Monday	ALL Years (Max 15)	Mrs Mathieson No Cost
Maths games, TTRS, Doodle Maths, Times Tables (TERM 4 ONLY) Collect from the ramp	Monday	Years 3-6 (Max 20)	Mrs Mathieson No Cost
Creative Writing (TERM 3 ONLY) Collect from the ramp	Tuesday	Years 3-6 (Max 20)	Mrs Oates No Cost
Drawing Club (TERM 4 ONLY) Collect from the ramp	Tuesday	Years 3-6 (Max 20)	Mrs Oates No Cost
Singing Club Collect from the ramp	Tuesday	Years 2-6 (Max 20)	Mrs Frampton No Cost
Musical Theatre Club (TERM 3 ONLY) Collect from the hall	Thursday	2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 (Min 10)	Michelle Rochester £24/6 weeks
Ignyte Sport (TERM 4 ONLY) Collect from the hall or field	Thursday	Years 3-6 TBC	Ignyte Sport <i>Further details to follow via newsletter in Term 3 (this will not be visible on Arbor yet)</i>

**Chargeable club costs are non-refundable if the children do not attend

Arbor & School Grid (No more ParentPay from the end of term)

Thank you to all those who have already signed up and booked their school meals on SchoolGrid the deadline for next term is midnight, Thursday 1st January

#Helpful points: For Arbor breakfast club or chargeable club bookings, please pay first & then book sessions/club (not at the end as previously with ParentPay)

Clubs for Terms 3 & 4 are now available to book on Arbor

Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy on our Local Governing Body (LGB). The LGB is made up of Governors from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experiences, and they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the school. You do not need to have any experience or prior knowledge, as training will be offered. We would

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be delighted to hear from you; please contact Mrs Hazard (Governance Professional/Clerk) or Mr Lynn (Chair of Governors) for more details.

Notices

- **Admission Application for Reception in September 2026** - deadline is 15th January 2026.
- **Christmas Jumpers**- The children are welcome to wear a festive decorated jumper again for our Christmas Dinner Day (17th).
- **Clubs** - All clubs have now finished for this term except for Football Club which ends on December 16th.
- **Music for Schools Lessons** - Lessons have now finished for this term and commence on 15th January.
- **School Dinners** - SchoolGrid is now ready to take your orders for Term 3 (the allergens menu has also now been uploaded).
- **Seal Swimming** - next term it is the turn of Seal Class to swim. Please see ParentPay to consent/pay.
- **SENDIAS** - please click [here](#) for the link to their helpful information including meeting dates.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Young Carers** - you can find helpful information by clicking [here](#).



Diary Dates

December

Wed 17th	Christmas Dinner Day (menu option via ParentPay) Festive Jumpers can be worn.
Fri 19th	Christmas Service (9:00am-10:00am)
	Term 2 ends

January

Mon 5th	INSET Day
	Deadline for Club choices using Arbor
Tue 6th	Term 3 begins for children
	Seal Classes first swimming lesson
	Small Schools Athletics Tournament, Wellsway (details to follow)
Mon 12th	Clubs start this week
Fri 16th	Celebration Assembly (9am in the Memorial Hall)

Friends and Community News

We hope you all enjoyed Carols by candlelight on Monday,
We raised £407.04!

Thank you!

We would like to say a big thank you to Darren Chivers from OHS for covering the cost of all the refreshments, we very much appreciate it!

Also a big thank you to Gary Johnson for giving up his time to cook all the food.





Thought of the Week

'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 - Nicholaes Pietersz Berchem (c.1630)



Seeing Shepherds - Daniel Bonnell (2011)

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?

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



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

