Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School Fulfilment, Forgiveness, Foundation

Newsletter 15- January 6th 2023



2023 - Happy New Year!

Happy New Year to all members of our school community. We hope you had a relaxing and fulfilling time with family and friends.

The children have settled back into their routines well, and have been full of stories of their festive celebrations.

School Vision Outcomes

Thank you for the responses to the survey sent before Christmas. We had 48 replies and the outcomes fed into our INSET Day discussions around creating a new school vision. There were some very thoughtful responses in the free text boxes - which will form part of our thinking. As we develop our new vision, we will no doubt be canvassing you for your thoughts again.

We thought you might like to see the headline results. The percentages are of people who ranked the statements as 'important' or 'very important'.

1	 Be a compassionate person Improve their confidence and self-belief 	98%
3	Be inquisitive about the wider worldBecome a responsible citizenBuild team working skills	93%
6	Achieve their full academic potentialTo be able to problem solve	91%
8	Gain a love of learning	89%
9	Gain creative skills (arts, music etc)	74%
10	 Improve their physical fitness through sport 	70%
11	Be offered a number of trips and events	63%
12	Learn and practice the Christian faith	24%

Mr Dix & Mr Turull

Farewell

We would all like to say a huge goodbye to our Ukrainian pupil Zakhar who is moving house to Bath next week and therefore, also moving school. We will all miss his positive attitude, his thirst for learning and his ever-present smile! Class 4 will keep in touch so we know how he is getting on.



Notices

- Admissions For those with pre-school age children the closing date for on-line Reception 23/24 applications is Sunday 15th January.
- Clubs Clubs start next week. There are still spaces available in many clubs (not Archery).
 Please contact the office if your child would like to join.
- Music Lessons Music for Schools & BANES
 Music Lessons start next week.
- **St. John's Church -** See <u>here</u> the link to the weekly church events.
- Swimming Class 4 will continue swimming from next Tuesday. Please refer to the letter sent home last term.

Diary Dates

New dates and amendments in blue

January 2023

Fri 27th

Mon 9th	After School Clubs begin
	Girls' Football Tournament
Tue 10th	Class 4 Swimming
Wed 11th	Young Voices Choir (Birmingham)
	Class 2 Ecowild
Thurs 12th	Woodwind lessons start
Fri 13th	Keyboard/Strings lessons start
	Celebration Assembly (Class 1&2
	showing work)
Fri 13th	Year 6 Parents Camp & SATs Meeting
	in Class 4 3:15pm.
Wed 25th	Y5/6 Badminton Tournament at

Next Week's Clubs

Celebration Assembly

No Eco Club Monday 9th as Mr Dix is at Girls' Football Tournament

Wellsway School

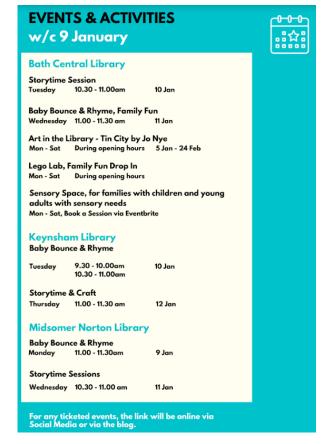
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Join a group session to discover how to make easy, healthy budget friendly recipes in person or online

- Free recipe book and NEW video recipe links
- Support with meal planning and budgeting
- Encouraging children to eat balanced meals
- Ingredients provided or funded with £30 voucher

Upcoming start dates (one session per week);

- Wed 18th Jan 15th Feb, 4-5:30pm at Castle Primary, Keynsham
 Mon 23rd Jan 27th Feb, 4pm-5:30pm at Paulton Scout Hall (no session 13th Feb)
- Thurs 2nd Feb 9th March (no session on 16th Feb) 5-6pm Online
 Wed 1st Mar- 29th Mar, 4- 5.30pm at St Michael's Primary School, Twerton, Bath
- Mon 13th Mar- 10th April, 4-5.30pm at St Saviour's School, Larkhall, Bath (no

Contact the Community Wellbeing Hub to book on Tel: 0300 247 0050 Email: BATHNES.thehub@hcrgcaregroup.com







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Thought of the Week

'When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.'

(Matthew 2:10-11)



Visit Of The Three Wise Men - Jesus Mafa (1973)

Although Christmas is finished, the 6th January is the traditional date when Epiphany is celebrated. In many countries around the world, the three magi or kings are remembered and people celebrate how a star led them to Jesus. 'Epiphany' comes from the Greek word 'to reveal' as it is seen as the time that Jesus was revealed to the world. Children often receive gifts during Epiphany to remind them of the gifts the wise men gave Jesus.

But what of those gifts? They seem a bit unusual, don't they? Not the sorts of gifts you'd give a child.

The gifts all held significance though and as people who studied the stars and read about prophecies from different ancient cultures, they would have known about a promised Messiah after studying the Old Testament texts.

Gold was one of the gifts. I suppose at least Mary and Joseph could have sold it to buy things they actually needed! But giving Jesus gold was referring to him as being a promised king.

Frankincense was an oil that was even more precious than gold. This oil could be made into a perfume which was said to have 'a heavenly scent' or a 'divine aroma'. This was meant to signify that Jesus was coming as a holy leader, or priest, guiding people towards God. It could have also meant that he was also God himself.



The Adoration Of The Kings - Zanobi Strozzi (1433-34)

Finally myrrh. This was said to have medicinal properties, but it could also be used to create an exquisite perfume. Myrrh, though, was used most commonly to anoint the dead.

These wise men would have read the prophecies explaining that this promised messiah, king, priest and Son of God would also become a sacrifice, to take the punishment in place of everyday people.

This is why for Christians all over the world, the visit of the magi is so significant, because they gave gifts that explained so clearly who Jesus was and what he came to do.



The Adoration Of The Magi - James Tissot (1886 - 94)

A message from the Church

A big thank you to everyone from school who went to the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve.....it was a happily packed church....

Donations of £267.70 have been sent to the Children's Society.....many thanks for your support.