



It has been great to welcome the children back to school after the Christmas break. They have certainly returned full of energy and enthusiasm, which has been lovely to see.

On the last day of term we were delighted to hand out the first of our Bronze Headteacher Award badges to children who had consistently across Term 1 shown all the learning behaviours of being agile, compassionate and engaged. Well done to Charlie and Toby in Class 2, Fleur, Rhys, Olivia, Bow & Finley in Class 3, and Ruby, Emily, Freya, Bobby and Ornella in Class 4. We look forward to spotting more children in the spring term.



Awaiting us on our return to school were a number of notes and letters from local care homes residents who wanted to thank our children for taking the time to send them Christmas cards. All children in school took part in this initiative, coordinated by Ms Mason, and it was obvious from the replies that these cards had brightened up the days of a number of people. One particularly nice reply was from a resident who wrote: 'Please tell her (Olivia - Class 2) that I loved the picture she did so beautifully, I think she is a very clever girl. I wish her and her family and all of you at Farrington Gurney a very happy Christmas.'

We are aware that, due to the current levels of COVID infections, at different points of the term we may have children isolating at home. As well as making home life difficult, it also presents us as educators with some additional challenges as well!

On our Inset Days we spent some time planning ahead for the eventuality of having part of the class in school and part at home. If your child finds themselves having to self-isolate, we will endeavour to have them using google meet to be with us 'live' in the classroom. If your child is unwell with the virus, they should solely focus on recovering, but we have found that children have generally been well enough to complete school work during their isolation, and therefore we will be encouraging them to join us online.

Mr Dix and Mr Turull

Christian Distinctiveness Parental Survey - Please complete the following survey regarding your views on our Christian offer: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1YowGg17lt37crSxViV6GN3cBj37y6ll3ZPkYTEbqEcY>

Notices

- **COVID update** - We have had 5 new cases this week among our school community over the week.
- **Christingle Candle Collection** - the church would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and to thank all the families who returned a Christingle collection candle. They are happy to say £127 was raised.
- **Clubs** - start back next week (excluding Dodgeball & Chrome book - see below).
 - Children in Ms Mason's Jigsaw and Games Club - please bring either clearly labelled each week.
 - Those who have joined the Chromebook Club please remember this is in Term 4 (not Term 3).
 - Dodgeball Club was undersubscribed on this occasion so has been cancelled. A refund will be issued by Premier Sport.
 - Cross Country club is cancelled on Monday 17th & 24th as Mr Dix is at sporting fixtures.
- **Dinner** - please remember that the deadline for school meals is Thursday midnight for the following week and it would be helpful if you completed this for the whole term.
- **EcoWild Term 3** - Class 3 have EcoWild this term; please remember your kit on Wednesdays.
- **Emails home from the office** - We have been made aware that before Christmas a few families did not receive emails from the office (ie: Clubs letter, MAT Communication and Newsletter). If you are experiencing any issues please contact the office. We are trying to resolve this issue.
- **Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccinations** - Take place next Tuesday, 11th January for those who consented.
- **St. John's Church** - Sunday Service Link can be found [here](#).
- **Swimming Term 3** - Class 4 will swim this term; please remember your swimming kit on a Tuesday.



Diary Dates

January

Monday 10th	After School Clubs start again
Tuesday 11th	Flu Nasal Immunisation (for those who have consented via link emailed home) Class 4 Swimming begins
Wednesday 12th	Class 3 EcoWild begins
Thursday 13th	Class 3 We the Curious Trip
Friday 14th	BANES Music Lessons start again
Monday 17th	Year 5 and 6 Sportshall Athletics Tournament (Wellsway School)
Wednesday 19th	Year 6 Height and Weight Measurement
Monday 24th	Year 5 and 6 Badminton Tournament (Wellsway School)

Farrington's Thought for the Week by Mr Marvin

At the start of a new year, there are often lots of thoughts going through people's heads. Should I be making resolutions? Is it about time I did something to improve my health? Isn't it about time I put away the Christmas decorations? How long before one of us comes down with Covid?

At the beginning of January, many people around the world will celebrate Epiphany, the visit of the Magi to baby Jesus. Although we remember them as part of the Christmas story, for many people the beginning of January is seen as an extra time of celebration and blessing.

At the start of this new year, whether you are making resolutions, or starting a new fitness regime, or you've already put away all your decorations, I hope that it will be a time of blessing. Although the weather is a bit miserable and Covid hasn't gone away and it is now properly January (the Monday of all the months!), I really hope that you will find some peace, joy and blessing as we go into this new season.

'The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.'
(Numbers 6: 24-26)

The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:
The LORD make his face shine upon thee,
and be gracious unto thee:
The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace.

Numbers 6:24-26