



Outstanding Religious Education Award

On Friday 8th December, Rebekah Guy, advisor to BANES Sacre, came in to present the school with a WIRE Award for outstanding Religious Education work in school.

To receive the award, we had to make a visit to a place of worship that wasn't a church, a member of staff had to attend an RE meeting and we had to hold a religious event in school. Year 1 and 2 visited the Progressive Synagogue on 15th June 2023 and on Friday 16th June Years 3-6 had a Hindu Dharma with Indira Mistry. We hope to continue the RE visits and visitors in the coming year. Well done Farrington!



Raising Awareness of Young Carers

Following on from our information on October 20th please see [here](#) the link to the Carers' Centre detailing what they can offer young people who look after someone. Please make your class teacher, Mr Dix or the office aware if we can give support to any young carer.

Dance Umbrella Tickets

As a school we have been allocated 80 tickets for the Dance Umbrella in Bath on 26th March. We are working on two dances in our school, one in Dolphin Class and one for the Key Stage 1 club. Based on the number of children potentially taking part, it would mean that we would need 90 tickets for each family to have 2 tickets. Past year's experience is that for a variety of reasons not all families will require both tickets. Therefore we are setting up a Google Form which will go live on Tuesday lunchtime at 12:00pm - you will be able to use this to request your 2 tickets (or 1 if you prefer) on a first come first served basis. Tickets cost £9.90 each which will subsequently be added to your ParentPay account. The google form will explain in more detail. To avoid disappointment please respond at your earliest convenience after the form goes live.

Mr Dix and Mr Turull

Notices

- **Breakfast Club** - Please book your places for this term via ParentPay.
- **Clubs** - There is still availability in several clubs. Please let the office know if your child would like to join.
- **Library events** - see [here](#) the link for exciting events happening in our libraries.
- **Reception 2024 Closing Date:** The application closing date is Monday 15th January 2024. Applications need to be made through the BANES website.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Year 6 Lifeskills Trip** - Please pay/consent for the trip to Lifeskills by January 26th. Thank you.

Diary Dates

New dates and amendments in blue

January 2024

Tue 16th	Year 4 Residential Meeting in the Church Hall at High Littleton Primary School from 4.30-5:00pm.
Thu 18th	Stay and Cafe Assembly in Church (9:15am)
Fri 26th	Celebration Assembly (9:15am Village Hall)

February 2024

Fri 2nd	Girls' Football Afternoon (Key Stage 2 only)
Wed 7th	Year 6 Lifeskills Trip
Fri 9th	Celebration Assembly Cancelled (Village Hall boiler being replaced)
Thu 8th	Year 5 Downside Art Day
Fri 9th	Last Day of Term 3
Mon 19th	Start of Term 4

March 2024

Mon 18th - Fri 22nd	Year 6 Residential Week to the Isle of Wight
Tue 26th	Dance Umbrella (Key Stage 1 Dance Club and Dolphin Class)
Thu 28th	Easter Service (time tbc)
	End of Term 4

Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

A place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness

Newsletter 16 - January 12th 2024



Friends of Farrington Gurney

We are looking forward to our annual quiz on Friday 2nd February. See full details below, please get your teams to us!!!! All quiz abilities are very welcome, it is a relaxed evening to just have a bit of fun (without the kids!!!)

We are also planning a curry night on Saturday 24th February. Full details and a menu will be shared soon but please save the date for now!

Next PTA meeting will be held on Wednesday 31st Jan. Please do come along if you have any ideas to share. No other time commitment at all necessary!!

Second Pollinator Party

Sunday 4 February is the date the 2nd pollinator party will be hosted in the village, aimed at promoting biodiversity.

It won't be quite as lavish as the one in July (it is, after all, winter!) but will include a nature walk, a cooking demo with a bread-and-soup lunch, a seed swap, details of a proposed group plant purchase scheme, and the announcement of several other community projects. Everything is free. Everyone is welcome. More details will be posted on the Farrington Gurney We Love You page and on www.farringtongreen.com Help keep Farrington Green!

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Quiz Night

Quiz Details

- Friday 2nd February 2024
- 8pm
- At School
- Teams of 4
- £10 per person (includes food)

Bar Available on the night
(please pre-order prosecco / lager / beer / wine / GnT / soft drinks)

Please email: fofgs@hotmail.co.uk
To pre-order your drinks
&
Let us know if you'll be entering a Team!

Bath College

Are you trying to help your child through Key Stage 2 maths, but finding it a bit more difficult than you thought?

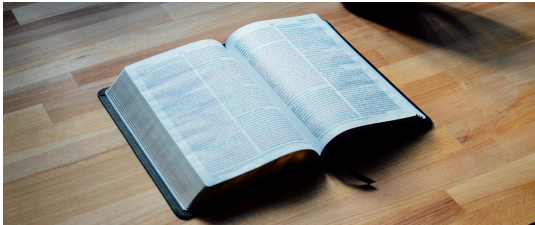
Bath College are running a four week course, from 18th January to 1st February, covering Key Stage 2 topics.

If you are interested, then please contact us on:
01225 328822 or acl@bathcollege.ac.uk



Thought of the Week

'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.'
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)



I was challenged this week by a comment made by a comedian on a popular celebrity panel show. When discussing the use of language within the Bible, they misunderstood the facts being presented and came out with the sarcastic comment 'Are you saying to me that there's something in the Bible that might not be exactly real?'

The person in question knew that this comment would be popular and was rewarded with resounding applause from the audience. Although, had the panel show been discussing language within the Qur'an or some other Holy Text, I'm not so sure that they would be so keen to mock.

The Bible is viewed by many as something that can be mocked and joked about. "It's all a load of nonsense, isn't it really. I mean the texts are so old now so how do we know they are accurate and weren't just made up."

The same could be said about most other documents from history. The quote 'History is written by the victors' is often attributed to Winston Churchill, although its origins are unclear (even the quote about whether historical documents are inaccurate is inaccurate!).

When it comes to knowing how much truth we should accrue to 'historical documents', there is a lot of discrepancy. But certainly in the case of the Bible, there is some evidence that stands up to historical scrutiny.

Firstly, there are literally thousands of Biblical manuscripts. There are no original writings of

Biblical books, because these would have been written on animal skin and other materials that have deteriorated, but there are an incredibly high number of copies of original Biblical writings. It is the best attested document of all ancient writings, with its closest contender being Homer's *The Iliad* with only 600 existing copies.

Secondly, archaeology has repeatedly confirmed the accuracy of Biblical places, events and people. Thousands of archaeological finds have corroborated the accounts of the Bible, and such evidence quickly puts an end to allegations that the history recorded in the Bible is suspect.

Thirdly, the original writings were faithfully preserved. The Dead Sea Scrolls discovered in the 1940s allowed scholars to compare Old Testament manuscripts that were separated by hundreds of years. This included a newly discovered copy of Isaiah which predated the earliest known copy of the book by 1,000 years. When the documents were compared, they were nearly identical, except for some minor spelling or stylistic differences, showing just how faithful the scribes were when copying the Scriptures.

Finally, the New Testament itself was written shortly after the events it recorded. All four gospels were written 40-60 years after Jesus' resurrection and Paul's letters to the Galatians and Ephesians were likely to have been written 15-20 years after the time of Christ. These dates are remarkably early for ancient documents and because of the close proximity to the actual events, the writers would have been in a position to know if they were true or not. There would have also been living eyewitnesses who could have discredited these texts if they weren't accurate.

So maybe not everything in the Bible is true, but as a 66 book document it does seem to stand up to some historical scrutiny.

(adapted from 'Reasonable Theology' Clayton Kraby - <https://reasonabletheology.org/reliability-bible-4-quick-thoughts/>)

