Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

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



Newsletter 17 - January 19th 2024

#### **SENDIAS** Parent Meeting

We are pleased to offer an opportunity for parents to meet with SENDIAS. They advise families who have any concerns about their children's Special Educational Needs (SEN) or indeed any parents concerned with their children accessing learning in school. They offer impartial advice and support for parents.

They will be in school on Friday 2nd February between 3:15 and 4:15.



Let Mr Dix know if you would like a slot to get some advice on any SEN related issues.

### Parent Survey 2022-23 Update

As we near the midpoint of the academic year, it is worth looking back on the progress we are making against the 4 main areas of concern raised by parents and carers at the end of the 2022-23 academic year.

# Concern 1 was about uniform and PE kit not being consistent.

As a result of this we sent out an updated uniform policy and said we would monitor school uniform/PE kit more thoroughly.

We have been more vigilant around this and have contacted a few parents regarding school uniform on an individual basis, and indeed some parents have contacted us ahead of sending their children into school in other clothes when items have been in the wash, or new uniform have not yet been purchased for a variety of reasons.



The same applies to shoes, some parents have let us know when children are arriving in alternative footwear ahead of new purchases, or because of medical needs.

A link to the uniform requirements can be found <u>here</u>.

Next week we will look at the second concern, which was about behaviour.

#### Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies within school. One is for a qualified Teaching Assistant to join us as our Intervention Teaching Assistant, and the second vacancy is to join us as an School Meals Supervisory Assistant SMSA to complement our hardworking lunchtime team. Both vacancies can be viewed <u>here</u>.

Please see or email Mr Dix or Mrs Hazard for more further information.

Mr Dix and Mr Turull

#### **Notices**

- **Breakfast Club** Please book your places for this term via ParentPay.
- **Clubs** All clubs are running as usual next week.
- **Library events** see <u>here</u> the link for exciting events happening in our libraries.
- Seal Class please see email sent today regarding Canva Education accounts for computer classes.
- **St. John's Church -** Please see <u>here</u> 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

Fri 26th	Celebration Assembly (9:15am Village
	Hall)

#### February 2024

Fri 2nd	Girls' Football Afternoon KS2 only)
	SENDIAS Parent Meeting 3.15pm
Wed 7th	Year 6 Lifeskills Trip
Fri 9th	Celebration Assembly Cancelled
	(Village Hall boiler being replaced)
Thu 8th	Year 5 Downside Art Day
	(see ParentPay)
Fri 9th	Last Day of Term 3
Mon 19th	Start of Term 4
	March 2024
Mon 18th	Year 6 Residential Week to the Isle of
- Fri 22nd	Wight
Tue 26th	Dance Umbrella (KS1 Dance

Club and Dolphin Class 6:30pm)
Easter Service (9.30-10:30am)
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 17 - January 19th 2024



#### Friends of Farrington Gurney

Please email fofgs@hotmail.co.uk with quiz teams and drinks requests by Saturday 27th Jan. As mentioned last week, no quiz experience required, there will be a fierce contest for the wooden spoon!

Our curry night is planned for 24th Feb. Full details will be provided next week.

The next PTA meeting will be held on Wednesday 31st Jan at 8pm in the Farrington Inn. All very welcome.

Just a reminder that our clothes bin in the car park provides a great regular income, please pop any unwanted clothing in if having a clear out!!!





**Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School** place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness

Newsletter 17 - January 19th 2024



# Thought of the Week

'Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.'



(Luke 1:1-4)

'The Four Evangelists' by Jacob Jordaens (1625-30)

I've been thinking a bit more about the validity of the Bible and was reminded of a piece of writing, imagining the four Gospel authors together in 'the writers' room', being commissioned to write their Gospels.

"Ok, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, I have a job for you. I know you've had no training or prior experience, but we need you to write the most influential works in literature. As for the timing, we'll have to move on this unfortunately. It would have been better to wait a couple of centuries before inventing our legends; that way none of Christ's contemporaries could contradict our story. But we are where we are: the apostle Paul has forced the pace, writing his letters to churches around the Mediterranean...The story seems to be working, so now we need you to fill in the details. Please can you write the origin story for our Hero?...Are you up to it?

"It won't be easy. We need this to be the life and times of the greatest figure in human history -God but also man, sinless but fully alive, pure but with profound depths, the Judge of the world but with bottomless compassion. the fulfilment of all Jewish hopes but with a global appeal, a man in time but a man for all times. We need a Hero with heart-melting kindness yet steely determination. We need him blasting the self-righteous and befriending sinners. We need sublime ethical teaching to fall from his lips - the kind that builds civilisations. We need extraordinary miracles from him - the kind that would have been noticed (and could therefore be contradicted) by the generation to which you're writing. We need a credible narrative arc whereby he remains impeccably righteous but is nonetheless condemned as a blasphemer. And we need it all to stand up to scrutiny: scriptural, theological, geographic, linguistic, literary and historical. It needs to be believable both near and far, now and later, for those who've lived through these times and for all generations to come. Got it? Now get to work!"

(taken from 'The Air We Breathe' by Glen Scrivener)

As you can see, this would have been an impossible task. When you read the Gospels, you begin to ask yourself "Which genius came up with this?" Jesus' teachings alone have stood the

test of time and are still seen as sublime wisdom 2000 years later. But where did that genius come from? The authors? Or did they basically report the genius of the Hero that they or others heard?

It's certainly worth a look...

