

Smartphones, social media and screens

Thanks to those parents who were able to join the Parent Information Session run online by Papaya on Monday 26th January. For those who would like to watch the recording, it can be found [here](#). We very much recommend that you do as it was very informative with lots of helpful and practical tips and advice. If you would like to support PAPAYA's work and help more young people to thrive in the digital age, donations of any amount are warmly welcomed—via JustGiving or a regular gift: [Donate to PAPAYA](#)

British Values - Tolerance

On Tuesday, we marked Holocaust Memorial Day with an assembly focussed on the British Value of Tolerance. We discussed the value and importance of different opinions, beliefs and attitudes.



Badminton Tournament

Well done to Freya, Tabby, Charlie and Toby who put themselves forward for a Badminton Tournament on Thursday. Despite limited experience of playing, they (quite literally) threw themselves into the games and had a great time, improving their skills match by match.



School and Family Service

We would like to welcome everyone along to a short service at St John's Church next Wednesday (February 4th) at 2.45pm. Reverend Pitt will lead us in a whole school worship which will finish at 3.15pm. Please could we ask that children be collected from the church at the usual school pick up time. If they are going to Super Stars, then staff will walk them back to school.

Mrs Geeson and Mr Turull



TURTLE CLASS

Turtle and Shark Class took full advantage of the dry weather on Wednesday and went out to find micro habitats. We had a great time exploring carefully and investigating what animals live in our local spaces.



SHARK CLASS

Children in Shark Class have done some fabulous independent writing this week using ideas that we have gathered over the past few weeks. They are really proud of their work and the improvements that they can see since their first independent writing in September.



SEAL CLASS

We have been working hard in Maths this week. The children in Year 3 have been learning about measures. They have explored different units of measure and have been thinking about which unit would be best to measure different items. Year 4 pupils have been looking at the relationship between the 3 and 9 times table. We played a game where we counted up in 1s and said oak everytime we reached a multiple of 3 and oak tree when we reached a multiple of 3 and 9. We noticed that every third multiple of 3 was a multiple of 9.



DOLPHIN CLASS

Dolphin class used their class book 'Kensuke's Kingdom' to write a setting description and character description this week. We have learnt about microorganisms and planned an experiment to carry out next week to find out which conditions encourage mould to grow.



Absence from School

Please remember that if you are planning for your child/ren to be absent from school it is your responsibility for parents to complete an absence form with both legal parents named and having signed it, before submitting this to the school office at least 3 weeks before the planned absence. Please click the link [here](#) to find a downloadable MNSP Absence form and details relating to this. If you fail to complete a form, the absence will be automatically refused and marked as unauthorised. A fine may be incurred from the Local Authority for 10 or more unauthorised sessions.

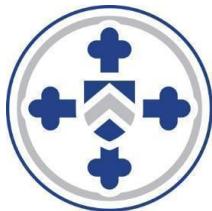
Notices

- **Clubs** - all clubs are running as usual next week.
- **Clubs - Ignite Sport** are thrilled to be coming to Farrington Gurney Primary School on Thursdays in term 4 to deliver afternoon PE lessons and an exciting after school sports club. The club is for children in Reception through to Year 6 with the activities and sports tailored accordingly. Our aim is to engage and inspire as many children as possible by providing positive experiences of sport and physical activity. We achieve this by creating learning and sporting environments which celebrate effort over ability, enable all participants to feel confident and safe, respected and trusted, and which foster positive self-reflection and self-worth.

Please book your child's place either by using the QR code on the flyer, via this link - [Farrington Gurney Term 4 Sports Club](#) or by visiting our website [Ignite Sports Coaching for Schools in Bath & Surrounds](#). The price is £36 for 6 weeks. Weekly sessions finish at 4:30pm.

- **Seal Swimming** - please contribute via Arbor for next week's transport to MSN pool if you have not already. Thank you to those who have.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Residential Trips** - The final installment is due on 6th February for both the Year 4 & Year 6 residential trips.





Diary Dates

Mon 2nd
Wed 4th

National Storytelling Week
Reception Year Height & Weight Programme with the School Nurse Team

Mon 9th
Wed 11th
Fri 13th

Family Service at St. John's Church (2:45pm). Please collect from church at 3.15pm.
Children's mental Health Week
Y5/6 Gymnastics Event at Writhlington (12:30-3pm)

Mon 23rd
Tue 24th
Wed 25th

Celebration Assembly (9am in the Memorial Hall)

End of Term 3
Term 4 begins
Netball Match vs Chew Stoke
Year 6 Lifeskills Trip

March

Mon 2nd
Fri 6th

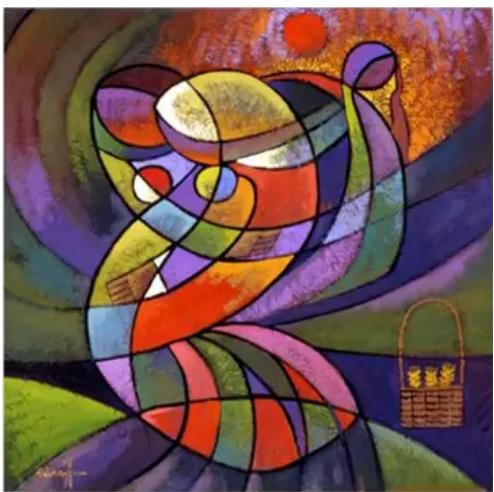
Scholastic Book Fair in School this week
Celebration Assembly (9am in the Memorial Hall)





Thought of the Week

'Boaz replied, "I've been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.'" (Ruth 2:11-12)



Ruth and Naomi - He Qi (2001)

If you don't know the story of [Ruth](#), it is well worth a read. It would make a brilliant BBC Sunday evening drama serial.

In the story, Naomi, her husband and her two sons leave Judah during a time of famine and set up home in the neighbouring country of Moab. While they are there, both Naomi's sons marry Moabite women, but unfortunately soon after this, Naomi's husband and sons die. We're not told why they die, but Naomi is then left with her two daughters-in-law, who she encourages to stay in Moab so they can marry again, while she returns to Bethlehem in Judah. One of her daughters returns, but Ruth decides to stay with Naomi, telling her she will stick with her whatever happens.

For an elderly widow and her foreign daughter-in-law, returning to Judah isn't easy. Life for widows and single women in those days was

difficult without a man and their only means of survival was for Ruth to 'glean' or pick up any grain that was left behind by the harvesters. Ruth chooses a field that is owned by a man called Boaz, who fortunately is a close relative of Naomi and is legally obliged to help a family member in serious difficulty - like Naomi.

Boaz soon takes a shine to Ruth and after Naomi intervenes and suggests that Ruth 'declares' her love for him too, Boaz proposes. By the end of the book, Naomi, who had been left destitute with no family or finances, soon ends up with a supportive family and a grandson in her arms. It is a wonderful story of faithfulness and provision. What is particularly special about this story is that Ruth's son, Obed, turns out to be the grandfather of David, the future model king of Israel. Obed, Boaz, David and even Ruth are also part of Jesus' genealogy in [Matthew 1](#).

For a story that was written about 2½ thousand years ago, it is amazing how relevant it still is. Ruth was an immigrant, possibly even an illegal immigrant as she had no reason to come and live in Judah. It is likely that many people eyed her with suspicion or even as a threat. Ruth is surprised when Boaz treats her so kindly and even asks him why she has found favour with him, referring to herself as 'a foreigner' ([Ruth 2:10](#)).

Boaz is often seen as a 'type of Christ' because of the way he accepts Ruth and shows her love and kindness. Christians believe that God sees everyone as worthy, regardless of their background or their history, as long as they want him involved in their lives. Ruth is just one of the many examples of people who have experienced that love and acceptance.



The Story of Ruth - John August Swanson (1990)