



On Tuesday it was Internet Safety Day and during the week, all the classes have been looking at different elements of staying safe online. Statistics show that over 50% of primary school aged children in the UK own a mobile phone. While they are often more accomplished at using them than their parents, children do not always have the maturity to use them safely and responsibly and therefore educating them in school about this has become increasingly important. It is not just mobile phone use that we look at in school, but all forms of esafety and cyberbullying. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about what we are teaching about this in school.

Next week we will be finishing term with our now well-established Wellness Day on the Friday. The teachers have planned a range of activities to help our children relax and think positively, with sessions in art, PE and outdoor learning for them to experience. We are also really happy that we can do these activities in houses for the first time this year, meaning that children in all year groups will be able to mix together. We will share many photos of the day on our website and Twitter account. Please can all children come to school that day in their PE kit.

After staff illness last week, we are hoping that at last we can hold a celebration assembly altogether in the Memorial Hall next Friday. We will start at 2:30pm, please come along if you would like. There will be the usual mix of certificates, classes showing what they have been learning during the term as well as giving out bibles to our new starters.

Mr Turull

Citizenship and Character Awards

As you may recall, in the autumn term we sent home the Citizenship and Character Award passport booklets. I am aware that many families have enjoyed completing some of the activities and are ready to send their passports back into school so that the children can share their stories on what they have achieved so far.

We have decided to spend the first part of Wellness Day next Friday (last day of term) giving the children some time to feedback on the exciting activities they have completed.

At the end of the year we will issue certificates as stated on the back page of the passports.

Jubilee Celebrations

We are beginning to think ahead to the extended Bank Holiday celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. It will be a landmark moment in all our lives and, if we as adults think back to the Jubilees we have taken part in, we can recognise the importance of making this year's celebrations special for our pupils at Farrington. The last week of term 5 will be a Wellness Week, where, amongst many other activities, we will dedicate time to being creative and learning all about the Queen.

With all this in mind, we will be joining the village celebrations planned for Saturday 4th June. Although at the early stages of planning, the village Jubilee Committee recently met for the first time and have started to pencil in ideas for a whole village celebration. As we find out more details, we will share them with you. If you would like to be involved in the planning of the event, Mike Hedges is your village contact.

Advanced notice: World Book Day - 3rd March (first week back after half term) - Dressing-up encouraged!

Mr Dix



Writing Competition

February Writing Competition

"Happily ever after."

Submit a short story or poem of 500 words or less to
bookbarn@bookbarninternational.com for a chance to win
a £10 Bookbarn voucher

Only open to UK residents aged 5 - 16. Please
include a title for your piece, your full name,
age and address. Must be submitted by
27th February.

Our friends at Bookbarn are offering our children to enter their monthly writing competition. The story needs to be titled 'Happily Ever After' and be less than 500 words. The winning entry wins a £10 Bookbarn voucher.

Entries can either be sent via email:

bookbarn@bookbarninternational.com,
or dropped down to them directly. Happy writing and good luck!

Notices

- **Breakfast Club** - Please book via Parentpay for Term 4.
- **COVID update** - We have two new pupil cases this week.
- **Clubs** - All clubs are running as usual next week.
- **Dinner Options Term 4** - Dinner options can now be made via ParentPay for Term 4 and on 1st March pudding will be Pancakes for Shrove Tuesday.
- **Spare Clothes** - our infant classes would be very appreciative of any pants and socks that they can use for spare clothes if a child has an accident during the day.
- **St. John's Church** - Sunday Service Link can be found [here](#).
- **Year 6 Residential** - Final payment for the Year 6 Little Canada trip is due on 17th February.

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

We're looking to see some of you tonight at our annual quiz night. Please bring cash for your team entry (£20 per team) and cash for the bar. We will have drinks and snacks available, and your pre-ordered drinks will be there for you. Please come in through the main door, we will likely be holding the quiz in class 3 due to numbers.

We will be running a cake stand at the Table Top Sale in the village hall on Sunday 13th February-cake donations gratefully received for us to sell! Please bring any donations to drop off on Friday 11th and leave them in the outdoor classroom, or bring along to the village hall at 11am on Sunday. Please write down any allergens included in your bakes to ensure we operate safely.

We will be confirming a date for the school camping at Cheddar soon!

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Quiz
Night!

Friday 11th February
8pm, class 2

Teams of 4, £20 per team
Pre-order a chilled bottle of prosecco
(email fofgs@hotmail.co.uk).
Bar available on the night.
Let us know if you're entering a team
so we have an idea on numbers!



Diary Dates

February

Friday 11th	FOFGS Quiz Night
Friday 18th	Wellness Day
	Celebration Assembly in the Village Hall (2:30pm)
	Year 6 Residential Meeting (3:30pm)
	Term 3 ends
Monday 28th	Term 4 begins

March

Thursday 3rd	World Book Day (dressing up encouraged)
Monday 7th	Year 6 Cross Country Event at Somervale School
Wednesday 9th	Year 6 Lifeskills Trip
Tuesday 15th	Class 1 Trip to Westonbirt Arboretum
Friday 18th	Red Nose Day (details to follow)
Monday 28th	Dance Umbrella at Bath Forum

COP26 Artwork

Our school was given the opportunity to take part in producing some public art for display at the RUH in Bath. The purpose of the art was for children to creatively show what the phrase : 'A Healthy Planet' meant to them.

The children in Class 4 rose to the occasion to produce some stunning images, which are now on display at the hospital. The artwork is available to purchase by members of the public with a donation being made to their charity which supports resourcing the children's ward.





Farrington's Thought for the Week by Mr Marvin

When you're out doing some shopping, do you ever find yourself taking a look at the magazines? Have you ever noticed how annoyingly well the people on those covers look? Perfect faces, toned bodies and smiles with symmetrical shining white teeth?

Now I know this is done to make people buy these magazines, either because the magazine has untold secrets of how you too can look like this or because the people themselves are being interviewed and maybe they'll let slip their hidden gems on how they manage to look so good. Personally, I never buy them as no diet or fitness regime is ever going to make me look like Chris Hemsworth!

For many of these celebrities, looking the way they do will probably include a professional dietician, a personal trainer and at least one domestic servant who does all their cooking and cleaning. They will also pick up and look after their children, just so they can spend more time looking after themselves.

Another factor is that often the photos we see have been tampered with. The verb "photoshop" has now been around for 20-30 years, but before that it was known as "airbrushing". The point is, what we actually see on the front covers of these magazines are often not how the celebrities really look.

Our world is so obsessed with image, but the reality is none of us have that "perfect look". Even the richest and most successful actors and singers still need to be "touched up" before their photo goes public.

Someone once quipped 'what Mother Nature giveth, Father Time taketh away'. Even if we have been blessed with good looks and a toned body, it is only ever temporal. There is nothing wrong with looking our best and taking care of ourselves, but there is much more to us than our outward appearance. It would be a mistake to only focus on our outside decoration and not appreciate and cultivate our inner qualities as well.

'Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.' (2 Corinthians 4:16)

St Paul wrote this to the Christians in Corinth, to remind them not to focus on what is temporal but on what is eternal – that although daily our bodies are getting older and weaker, many people believe that their spirits will live on beyond their time on earth.

Whatever you believe, it is still important to get a balance. Do you consider what sort of person you are as much as how good your appearance is? Is your attitude towards others a kind and considerate one, making time for your loved ones as well as making time for your health regime? We're not here forever, so let's make our time here more meaningful, investing in others as well as ourselves.

