



Contacting the school

We just wanted to remind you of the best ways to contact the school when you have questions, issues or concerns that you would like answering or addressing.

For all administrative issues (school dinners, payments, medical appointments) you should contact the school office in the first instance. This can be by phone (01761 452419) or by email - office@farrington.mnsp.org.uk - whichever you prefer. The office is staffed from just after 8:00am to 4:00pm and emails are often picked up outside of these hours. Voicemails can be left out of hours as well which will always be picked up in the morning and acted upon.

For questions or concerns relating to your child in class (homework, uniform, friendship problems) then you should either contact the class teacher on the class email address (e.g. dolphin@farrington.mnsp.org.uk) or call the school office to arrange an appointment to meet with the teacher. Should you not be satisfied with the conclusion to the issue, you can then escalate your concerns to Mrs Geeson (cgeeson@farrington.mnsp.org.uk) and if you are still not happy, then on to Mr Turull (dturull@msnpartnership.com). Please note that you may receive an email response outside of working hours, but that is not to be expected. Most teachers work from before 8:00am until around 5:00pm and are not required to work further outside of these hours, even though many of them do!

Aside from this, the school website - www.farringtongurneyschool.co.uk - including the weekly newsletter - has the majority of information you should require, as well as any information sent out through Arbor.



Dog Safety Assembly

Yesterday we enjoyed an assembly from the Blue Cross this week about Dog Safety. We heard all about Blue Cross Barnaby and how we should always remember the Three Cs - Check, Call and Count when approaching a dog.

National Storytelling Week

Across the school this week, we have been learning different stories which we shared with the rest of the school this morning. Turtle Class told us the story 'Whatever Next', Shark Class did 'The Chimpanzees of Happytown', Seal Class performed 'Where the Wild Things Are' and Dolphin Class gave us a rousing version of 'Green Eggs and Ham.' Praise for the performances included children really liking the actions that the classes did, the way that everyone was joining in, clear confident voices and the dance of the Wild Things! It was a really lovely celebration of the value of storytelling and we are looking forward to building on this in the future.





TURTLE CLASS

Year One have been working on using Capital Letters for names and have loved making posters of their favourite characters as their Red Rainbow Challenge this week. Reception have enjoyed using clay to make pinch pots and a special surprise that will come home next week!



SHARK CLASS

Year 2 have had fun learning the story 'The Chimpanzees of Happytown', designing invitations for parties like the one that they have in the story, and thinking about how they would decorate a Happytown house.



SEAL CLASS

We really enjoyed learning 'Where the Wild Things are' for National Storytelling week this week! Seal class performed it to the school with great enthusiasm. In PSHE, we showed great teamwork skills. We are going to be designing a garden for people facing a challenge. Our initial ideas are very creative!



DOLPHIN CLASS

This week, we have set up an investigation to see which conditions mould (a microorganism) grows best in for Science. We have finished our playground structures in DT. To make these, we used construction skills of sawing and using a hot glue gun to fix together.



Notices

- Clubs - Term 4** Ignite Sport are able to offer an after school sports club next term for all years and shall be presenting in assembly on Tuesday. Please see last week's newsletter for more details.
Belford Art - after a successful club in term 3 Gina will also be returning to school in Term 4 running her club on a Monday evening. You can book and see details [here](#).
Music Theatre Club ends next week and due to popularity will return in Terms 5 & 6.
- Residential Trips** - The final installment is due on 6th February for both the Year 4 & Year 6 residential trips.
- School Nurses Team** - A message from the school nursing team that should you wish to contact them, this can be done by calling 0300 247 0050 or email hcrq.bathnesspa@nhs.net. There is also helpful information on their website which can be found [here](#).
- 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.
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Diary Dates

February

Mon 9th	Children's mental Health Week
Wed 11th	Y5/6 Gymnastics Event at Writhlington (12:30-3pm)
Thurs 12th	Shark Class singing morning, St Mary's Church, Bathwick (details to follow)
Fri 13th	Celebration Assembly (9am in the Memorial Hall)
End of Term 3	
Mon 23rd	Term 4 begins
Tue 24th	Netball Match vs Chew Stoke
Wed 25th	Year 6 Lifeskills Trip

March

Mon 2nd	Scholastic Book Fair in School this week
Fri 6th	Celebration Assembly (9am in the Memorial Hall)



A Lidl something from us



Your child has taken part in a **Lidl Foodies** workshop at school, so here's a little something towards buying more of the fresh fruit they've been exploring. This coupon is for your use only, can't be shared, and is valid for one-time use only. Once it's gone, it's gone - so don't miss out!



Scanning the code will take you to the coupon sign up form. Enter your email to receive your code for use in the Lidl Plus app.

Subject to availability, 7,000 coupons available. Coupons can be redeemed in the Lidl Plus app 02/02/2026 - 01/05/2026. Coupons valid for 14 days after being entered into the app. 1 coupon per account. Full coupon T&Cs apply, see 'Coupons for You' in the Lidl Plus app for more information. 18+, GB residents, Lidl app required. Full T&Cs apply: <https://www.lidl.co.uk/lidl-plus-terms-of-use/10025414?hidelbanner=true>

www.nationalschoolspartnership.com/initiatives/lidl-foodies/



After school art club

Monday's for 5 weeks

During term 4 the children will be making their own concertina sketchbooks. This is a fabulous technique and the sketchbooks are in themselves a work of art. Children can choose to use these sketchbooks in an abstract way or use them to sketch in - the choice is theirs.



£35 for term, all materials provided.

Art club helps children build confidence with painting and collage and learn to paint in an expressive way.

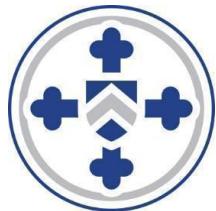
To book: www.ginabelfordart.co.uk/after-school-art-club



GINA BELFORD ART

www.ginabelfordart.co.uk





Thought of the Week

'But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.'

(Luke 15:20)



The Return of The Prodigal Son (etching) - Rembrandt Van Rijn (1636)

The story of the Prodigal Son

turns up in RE lessons a few times while the children are at school. For Christians, the story is important, because it tells a story that gives a real example of what God is like.

Most of the time, when Jesus told a parable, his listeners (including us) seemed ok with the outcome - The Good Samaritan, The Unmerciful Servant, The Sower etc. But with The Prodigal Son, we often feel that the son has got off a little bit too easily. Jesus

must have preempted this, which is why he included the other son in the parable ([Luke 15:25-32](#)).

Jack Graham, a pastor of a baptist church in Texas, has this to say

about it. 'This isn't a father who can't wait to punish his sinful son...who has written him off as wasted and worthless. This is a loving, caring father who can't wait to embrace and welcome him. He runs down the road to meet him...What you see...is a picture of the Father's love for you...eager...excessive...approachable...abundant.'



Forgiving Father - Frank Wesley (1950)



Prodigal Grace - Mike Moyers (2010)

For Christians, this is what they believe God is like. A God, who's not like an ancient, grumpy headteacher or judge, who looks down on us disapprovingly, but a God who gives us another chance. And he doesn't offer us forgiveness begrudgingly, as if to say "I'll let you off this time, but next time you'd better watch it!". No this is a God who is loving and caring, a God who runs to embrace us and welcome us. This is a God whose love is eager, excessive, approachable and abundant. Surely this is the sort of love that we all need?