



Children's Mental Health Week

We have had a very successful week, which started with a relaxed Wellness Day on Monday. As you may well be aware, wellness days were introduced at our school several years ago to complement the curriculum work the children complete. We have always felt that it is important to recognise and promote the importance of physical and mental health and to find time in school to come off-timetable to do so. As well as the activities the children took part in on Monday - including designing, creating and decorating coasters, making pop-up books and yoga - the children have also had lunchtime activities such as decorating biscuits. We are already starting to plan our Wellness Week for the summer term so it is as enjoyable and worthwhile as last year.



Year 5 Maths Event

Six of our talented mathematicians attended the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership maths event this week which took place at Norton Hill School. They were split into groups with children from nine other Trust primary schools and were given a range of mathematical challenges to try and conquer. Our pupils were a real credit to the school, mixing well with children they had not met before and using all their mathematical skills and knowledge to try and figure out all the answers. Well done to Reuben, Ralph, Tabby, Olivia, Toby and Charlie. There will be events for the other year groups in Key Stage 2 between now and the end of the year.

Learning in Science and Maths

This year the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership has put in place primary leads for both science and maths. We have had a few visits from the science leads and this week one of them joined our own science subject leader, Mrs Mathieson, for a learning walk. She was really impressed with the learning that was taking place throughout the school and in some classes, could not even find any room for improvement! We will be welcoming the maths leads to the school shortly after half-term and as we have been focusing a lot on mathematics this year, we are confident that the visit will be just as successful. Many thanks to Mrs Mathieson for her work on this over the last few weeks.

Mrs Geeson and Mr Turull



Just a reminder that we have the Book Fair next week from Monday 10th - Friday 14th February from 3.15pm-3.45pm on the playground if the weather is looking fine, or in Turtle Class if not. Please come along and have a look at the fantastic books we have on offer - every book purchased raises money for the school! This is a cashless event so you can either scan the QR code on the day and pay online, or you can purchase vouchers before on the website <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers>

Notices

- **Clubs** - all clubs are on next week and there is still availability at Times Table Rockstar (Mon) and Board Games (Thurs). Years 3 - 6. Please contact the office.
- **Dance Umbrella Tickets** - KS1 Dance Club & Dolphin Class - Please see the email sent Tuesday morning updating you all on the ticket allocations and how to purchase additional tickets to those the school has allocated to you.
- **Medication & Asthma Plans** - Please remember to update the school on any Asthma Healthcare Plans which have been updated/revised with your GP. Similarly, can you ensure inhalers or medication you have requested school to hold is in-date.
- **Reception Year National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) and Vision & Hearing Screening** - Parents of Reception pupils please see the email correspondence sent via school from the Nursing Team yesterday.
- **Road Closure** - there will be a road closure from February 11-14th on Main Street to complete gas works. Please visit <https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/traffic-order/main-street-farrington-gurney> for more details.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Year 6 Lifeskills Trip** - the deadline to consent/pay for the Year 6 Lifeskills trip after the break is Monday 10th February. Please see ParentPay. Thank you to those who have already actioned this matter.
- **Year 4 & Year 6 Residential Trips** - the final instalment is due today. We will not be able to take children if the full payment has not been received. Thank you to those who have already completed their payments.

Diary Dates

February

Tue 11th	Safer Internet Day
Wed 12th	Shark Class Trip to Radstock Museum (AM - Packed lunch required)
Fri 14th	Celebration Assembly
	End of Term 3
Mon 24th	Term 4 begins
Tue 25th	Year 4 Residential Meeting (3:30pm)
Wed 26th	Year 6 Lifeskills Trip (PM - Packed lunch required)



Community News

Village Pollinator Party

We're pleased to announce our next Pollinator Party is **Sunday 16th March at 11am** in the Village Hall. It kicks off with a fashion show of pre-loved/re-loved clothing! There will be plenty for the less fashion-minded too: we are kicking off an aluminium recycling project to help fund initiatives in the village (thanks to RJKing) and to go with that, you can make your own can crusher. Why? The flatter it is, the more recyclables can travel in a single van, the fewer vans on the road. (Also, kids find it VERY satisfying flattening the cans!)

We have some wonderful talks on moths and butterflies, how to get plastic out of the oceans, and on green initiatives in neighbouring villages.

Not forgetting: Seed bombs and a free lunch! And... Plant giveaway: all plants chosen to attract beautiful butterflies to our beautiful village.

So put the date in your diary now – and bring the whole family!

And don't forget the litter pick on **February 16th at 9am**. *Free hot drinks and cake for all litter pickers!*



ANNOUNCING THE GRANDFRIENDS HOBBIES CLUB

Are YOU between 8 and 15 years old?

Would you like to explore a range of great hobbies with our GrandFriends?

Then you are warmly invited to come to our new **HOBBIES CLUB!**

Everyone from all over Bath and North East Somerset is welcome, especially if you don't otherwise get to spend regular enjoyable time with the Grandparent generation.

Ideas for hobbies include a doodle mural, mini gardens, paper craft & origami, biscuit baking, nature painting, science projects, chess and checkers, quilting, and more.

We'd love to hear your ideas too!

Wednesday 12th February 2025

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Wednesday 26th March 2025

3.30 to 5.30pm

at St Alphege's Hall, Oldfield Lane, Bath, BA2 3NN

Note for Parents and Guardians.

Healthy refreshments and all materials provided. Suggested contribution £5 per child.

Please arrange for children to arrive by 3.45pm and be collected at 5.30pm prompt.

Club Leader and DSL, Lavinia Thomas Buhagiar: lavinia@grandfriends.uk 07713400071

Get in touch to find out more.



Charity Registration Number 1203669

The B&NES Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) is holding a Parental Knife Crime Awareness event on Monday 10th February 2025 at Chew Valley School.

These events are aimed at parents and carers who would like to know more about the dangers of knife crime or are concerned that their children are at risk; increasing awareness of key issues surrounding knife crime, empowering you and your children to make informed and positive decisions to stay safe.

You will have the opportunity to hear from a guest speaker with lived experience who has been personally affected by knife crime, the work of the VRP, B&NES local authority and community sector to support families, followed by a panel discussion with the opportunity to ask questions.

The Bath & North East Somerset Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) is a multi-agency partnership that aims to prevent and reduce violence in the area. We work to understand and address the root causes of violence, to prevent further violent crimes from occurring in the future. We provide resources and support the work of professionals and community groups who help children at risk or involved in serious violence.

For queries, please email VRP_Events@bathnes.gov.uk.

Or book your ticket now on Eventbrite:

Chew Valley School: <https://KnifeAwarenessChewValley.eventbrite.co.uk>





Thought for the Week

***'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.'* (John 1:1 NIV)**



For the next few weeks, we're going to look at one of the gospels a little more closely. The Gospel of John is quite unique because unlike the other three gospels that share a lot of content, about 92% of John's gospel is unique.

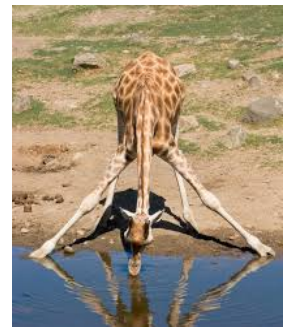
It is widely accepted that it was written by John, one of Jesus' disciples. It is also believed to have been written about 100 AD, so he would have been rather old. It seems to have been written for a range of people, which would have included Jews, but John does explain some of the Jewish customs and the surrounding geography for those who weren't Jewish.

John decides to start his gospel with these words, which seem to be more Old Testament in content because he is talking about the beginning. But unlike the creation story in Genesis, John's intention is to point out that Jesus, or the 'Word of God', was there right at the beginning of everything.

Now, I don't know your thoughts about the origins of the universe, but it really boils down to two options:

1. A huge explosion of energy occurred and that energy became matter, bringing about galaxies, stars and planets (along with a lot of cosmic dust and debris), or
2. An almighty and all powerful being (maybe 'God') decided to create all things, with a sense of purpose and meaning.

If you think no one was behind it all, then it is likely that anything the Bible has to say about the concept of creation won't mean much to you. But sometimes, we do scientific gymnastics just to remove the possibility of God. Like, for example, trying to work out a reason why giraffes might have evolved long necks and even longer legs by chance, when they don't even eat leaves from the tops of trees. In fact, they have to bend down to reach their food and even further if they want to have a drink. It doesn't look very comfortable! Isn't it more likely that they were designed by an imaginative and creative God, who also has a sense of humour!



Back to John's Gospel though. This claim at the start would have been very controversial. Many tribes and cultures were polytheists, which meant they believed in many gods. But, John takes it a step further by suggesting that the Jewish monotheistic belief in one god might not be entirely true, something that could have gotten him into a lot of trouble.

But John was convinced about this. Having spent 3+ years with Jesus, he felt compelled to tell others about this man and all that he is. He was also keen to let everyone know that Jesus was more than just a man, that he was part of the trinity, this imaginative and creative God, who had brought everything into being!

