



*We are now at the halfway point in the school year and after a busy few weeks, I am sure all the children and staff are looking forward to a week's break.*

*Following a few incidents in recent weeks, we have made the decision to stop children bringing in their own footballs for the school playground. These footballs often cause concern for the children if they are kicked over and some of them are very firm, which potentially make them unsafe. We have purchased balls that are more suitable for the playground and the children will be able to use these for break times and lunchtimes instead.*

*We have had a few queries from parents regarding DoodleMaths and Purple Mash for online learning at home. Each of the teachers has clarified with me what the children are meant to be doing.*

**DoodleMaths:** *Class 1 pupils have just recently received their logins and can use these at home if they would like; Class 2 have specific tasks set for them based on their school learning that week. Pupils in Classes 3 and 4 have 5 or 6 questions a day which if they complete they can then access the games on there; the aim for some children is to get the biggest streak possible (by completing tasks successive days).*

**Purple Mash:** *None of the teachers are setting home learning on this, although children in Class 3 have a shared class blog which they can write on and access (after Mr Marvin has accepted the posts) and Class 4 do sometimes log in independently at home.*

*We have set parent consultation dates in Term 4 as Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. We have slightly different timings with the Tuesday session beginning at 2:30pm which will hopefully prevent some of you having to hang around if you want an appointment straight after school. The sign-up sheets are now in the office or if you are unable to come in, then please call or email us and we will add you. As always if neither of those dates is possible please speak to your child's teacher about meeting at a different time.*

*The lunchtime staff are going to trial a new system where each week 6 children who behave well every day in the dinner hall get selected to sit on a special table for their Friday lunch, with a few extras to enjoy such as squash. We will start this on the first week back and let you know how it goes.*

*A reminder to parents of children in Classes 2 and 3 that there will be rugby coaching provided by Bath Rugby starting on the first day back in Term 4. All children need to have their PE kits in school for this including shoes suitable for the field (i.e. trainers not daps please). Our policy is not to stop children taking part in PE if they do not have their kit as it is just as important a subject as any other. However, we have very limited spare kit in school and no spare footwear.*

*I hope you all have a great break and will see you back in school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.*

**Mr Turull**

### Notices

- **Breakfast Club** – we have not had many bookings for Term 4 yet; please can you book as soon as possible if you would like your child to attend, so we can arrange the appropriate staffing levels. The first Tuesday of Term will be Pancake Day when Breakfast Club will have pancakes as an option.
- **Clubs** – there will be no Chrome Book Club on the first week back; all other clubs on as usual.
- **School Dinners - NEW MENU** – You will be please to know there is a new Spring/Summer menu which is available from next term. You can see it on either ParentPay or the website.  
**Booking** - ParentPay is now set up to receive your dinner options for Terms 4-6. Please remember that meals need to be book by Saturday mid-night for the following Monday/week.
- **Uniform** – please can you make sure all uniform is named as we have a considerable amount of unnamed items around the school. Lost property can be found by the lunchbox racks in the Infant central area and the Junior hub.



### PE and School Sport

Term 4 often proves to be very busy with sporting events and festivals. So far the following have been arranged:

- Fri 28/02** Football match against Longvernal at Somervale School
- Tue 03/03** Year 6 Cross Country at Somervale School (all Year 6 invited)
- Wed 04/03** Year 5/6 Gymnastics at Writhlington School (team of 9)
- Wed 11/03** Football match against Farmborough at their school
- Mon 23/03** Dance Umbrella performance for KS1/EYFS Club
- Mon 30/03** Dance Umbrella performance for Class 4

We will update you on more events as they are arranged.

### Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Eight teams competed in our quiz last Friday and a fabulous £450 was raised! Thanks to all who participated and especially Mr Marvin for being our quizmaster. Thanks also to everyone who wrote the questions and a special thanks to Dominos for providing the pizza free of charge.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Re-usable clothes collection  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Opening of the new outdoor classroom  
September 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> - Family Camping weekend, Petruth Paddocks in Cheddar

Our next FoFGS meeting will be taking place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at the Farrington Inn, please join us if you can.

### Book Week and Author Visit

A reminder that we have the author and illustrator, Mark Robertson, visiting our school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. He is going to deliver different workshops based on his current book titles. The children have read some of his stories in school and are very excited about his visit! He will be selling books in Class 4 after school.

We also have visits to the Bookbarn planned on the second week back with each class going on a separate morning (Class 1 by minibus, with the other three classes walking across the fields – wellies essential!). We are also encouraging any parents who are available to come and read to a class. If that is something you could do, the sign-up sheet is in the office.

Finally, children will be able to come to school dressed as a character from a book on World Book Day itself – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

### School Diary Dates

#### February 2020

- Mon 24<sup>th</sup>** Term 4 begins  
Author/illustrator visit  
Rugby coaching for Classes 2 and 3  
No Chrome Book Club
- Tue 25<sup>th</sup>** Swimming for Years 4–6 continues  
Year 5/6 Speak Out competition
- Wed 26<sup>th</sup>** EcoWild for Years R and 1
- Fri 28<sup>th</sup>** No Assembly

#### March 2020

- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>** Book Week (see box on right)
- Tue 3<sup>rd</sup>** Year 6 Cross Country tournament at Somervale School
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup>** EcoWild for Years R and 1  
Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics tournament at Writhlington School
- Thu 5<sup>th</sup>** World Book Day
- Fri 6<sup>th</sup>** Year 3 Cookery at Norton Hill  
Assembly at 2:40pm