# Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

A place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness





Year 5 Charity Sale

There was a flurry of action at the end of last term as our Year 5 children held a charity sale of cakes and homemade jewellery. Despite the rain starting bang on 3:15pm, the children raised £20 for the RSPCA and £65.86 For Cancer Research UK. Well done team!



#### School Vision

Last term we looked at the steps we have put in place to address the main concerns raised by parents in July's Parent Survey. A couple of parents noted that this 'review' was quite useful showing the actions we have already put in place.

In September, after consulting widely for many months with children, parents, staff and governors, we launched our new school vision that resulted in our Christian-based vision of our school aspiring to be:

A place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness.

Over the next few weeks, we will be looking at each of our 4 values in turn and looking at how you feel they are being embedded so far.

Our School Values		
Compassionate	We care about others!	We look after and show kindness to all. We share what we know with others and demonstrate modesty in all we do.
Agile	We always keep going!	We enjoy taking on challenges. We are okay if we get things wrong and are positive and open to new ideas.
Responsible	We take ownership!	We respect our property and use resources carefully. We take care of ourselves, our friends, our community and the wider world.
Engaged	We are interested!	We are inquisitive and curious and find out new things by asking questions, we find out more in our own time and take pride in our work.

### Dolphin Online Across Europe!

This week, Dolphin Class spent some time online getting to know the school in Greece who will be visited by some of our Year 5 children in June.

During the 45 minute get together via googlemeet, the children gave a presentation about our school and then listened to the presentations from both High Littleton and Wellow - who will be on the trip with us - as well as Despina and her class in Athens

We are hoping to be able to share final details about the trip soon with the seven Year 5 children and their families who have elected to take part in this first for our school!

Mr Dix and Mr Turull

#### **Job Vacancy**

If you know anyone who would be interested in joining our hardworking lunchtime team as a School Meals Supervisory Assistant (SMSA) please ask them to email or call the office.
£11.79 - £11.98 ph / 61/4 hrs/week

## **Notices**

- Clubs Next week all clubs will run as usual.
   Microbit Club will not be on the 7th or 14th.
- **Dance Umbrella** Please refer to the email sent home on Thursday.
- Knife Crime Awareness Event for Parents and Carers - Please refer to the email sent home on Wednesday.
- **Library events** see <u>here</u> the link for exciting events happening in our libraries.
- Reception National Child Measurement
   Programme please refer to email sent home this week if you wish to opt out.
- **SIAMS Inspection** please refer to the email sent home on Thursday.
- **St. John's Church -** Please see <u>here</u> the link to the weekly church events.

# **Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School**

A place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness

Newsletter 21 - February 23rd 2024



# **Diary Dates**

New dates and amendments in blue

## February 2024

Wed 28th SIAMS Inspection

#### March 2024

Fri 1st Celebration Assembly 9:00am

Wed 6th Parent Consultation Sessions (1:30pm -

7:00pm) REARRANGED

Fri 8th World Book Day

Tue 12th Year 6 Cross Country at Somervale

4pm

Fri 15th Celebration Assembly 9:00am

Mon 18th Year 6 Residential Week to the Isle of

- Fri 22nd Wight

Tue 26th Dance Umbrella (KS1 Dance

Club and Dolphin Class 6:30pm)

Thu 28th Easter Service (9:30am-10:30am)

End of Term 4

## **Friends of Farrington Gurney**

We are really looking forward to our Curry night tomorrow (Saturday 6pm in the village hall). A repeat of our huge thanks to Gary Johnstone for preparing the food. For those coming, please remember your tickets!

Our next monthly PTA meeting will be held next Wednesday, 28th, 8pm in the Farrington Inn. It would be great to see some new faces!

# #DOWNSIDE SCHOOL

MR ANDREW HOBBS, HEAD, INVITES YOU TO OUR OPEN MORNING SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024 FROM 9.30AM-1.00PM

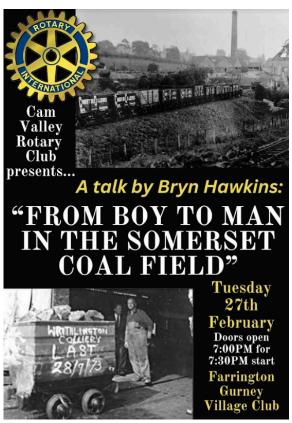
Individual meeting with the Head
Guided tour of Downside School and grounds with pupils
Opportunity to meet academic and pastoral staff and pupils
Lunch provided by our award-winning caterers





Find out more and reserve your place please contact Issy Hartnell: admissions@downside.co.uk | +44 (0)1761 235103 | www.downside.co.uk





## **Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School**

A place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness

Newsletter 21 - February 23rd 2024



## **Thought of the Week**

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock."

(Matthew 7:24)



The Bible records a lot of what Jesus said, stuff that people still remember and quote 2000 years later. A lot of what Jesus had to say he told through parables. But how did they work? Well here's a "parable" to explain how parables work.

Metal detectors let out sound when they pass over metal. Parables are a bit like 'heart detectors'. They pass over hard or shallow hearts and there is no sound. But when someone hears the parable and it makes an impact in their heart, then the sound is made. Jesus' parables clearly show the distinction.

Soon after Jesus shared about salt and light, he went on to talk about the wise and foolish builders. Now, if you're old enough like me, you may well remember the song about these two. Here's a link to the song if you're interested -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exRIIFvHJFA.

The parable focuses on Jesus' teachings and how making them foundational in our lives can make a real difference. Christians and many other people do build their lives upon the Bible and specifically the teachings of Jesus, a bit like building their lives on a rock.

As the parable states, there will still be difficulties in life and storms to face, but if your life is built on something strong and stable, then you will be able to stand in the end. Holding onto Jesus' promises and following his good advice, which is still applicable today, makes this all possible.

For those of us that don't build our lives on Jesus' teachings, this parable can still apply. Many of us are given good advice throughout our lives, from parents, carers, teachers and other significant people in our lives. As we grow up, we don't always want to listen, but I'm sure many of us can look back and pinpoint a time (or times) when someone's advice really did make a difference to our situation.

Let's take onboard the good advice and teaching we are given and build our lives upon it. Sometimes it may be difficult and hard to take on, like making foundations in solid rock, but in the end it will be for the best. Better to persevere and stand strong through our trials than to crumble and collapse like sandcastles!

