



We hope you enjoyed reading the Ofsted Inspection report that we emailed out this week. If you would like a paper copy, then please come and see us; the report will be added to the Ofsted website next Monday. We were all very pleased with the findings of the two inspectors who visited us in January. Our drive to improve phonics this year was seen very favourably and the inspectors were also pleased with the work we are doing to improve mathematics and R.E. across the school. Credit must go to all the children that the inspectors spoke to. They interviewed groups for reading, maths and R.E. as well as the Farrington Forum. They also spoke to children at break time, lunch time and story time. Not only did they ask these children about their learning in a specific area, but also about how happy and safe they felt in school. As staff we were not allowed into any of those meetings, but both inspectors spoke afterwards about how polite, well-behaved and articulate the children were. These positive comments once again made us very proud of all of our pupils.

After consultation with parents and discussion with Governors we have made the decision to keep three afternoon classes for one more year. The parent responses through the Google Form were split down the middle; 14 favoured three classes, 14 favoured four classes and 4 were happy either way. Thank you to the 32 respondents for their views. The trend was for parents of younger children to favour the three classes while parents of older classes preferred the four classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. What was clear is that for those parents who weren't so keen on three classes, more clarity needs to be given as to how these work for children in Years 4, 5 and 6 (some had thought that all learning on these afternoons was done in one large class of 38, whereas this has only been the case for dance and swimming). Therefore, from Easter onwards we will give you outlines of what is happening on those afternoons.

As you will be aware we have been trialling assemblies every two weeks, with a slightly later start time. Having done this for half the year the decision has been made to keep assembly to every other week, but bring it back to the old time of 2:30pm. If you have been in assembly recently you will have noticed that it can be a rush trying to fit everything in, so the extra 10 minutes will certainly help. We should therefore end up with the children leaving school on time from now on!

Mr Turull

Notices

- **Clubs** – all clubs will take place as usual next week.
- **Dance Umbrella Tickets** – payment can now be made for your tickets via ParentPay.
- **Farrington Forum** - £118.59 was raised from the Valentine cake sale and Art competition.
- **Parent Consultations** – please sign up in the office for Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th March. Contact us if you are unable to make these dates and we will try and find another suitable time.
- **School Dinners** – please remember that we need bookings completed by Thursday evening for the following week so that the kitchen has enough of each item.

Author/Illustrator Visit



On Monday, we were really pleased to welcome Mark Robertson – an author and illustrator – into the school. He led a whole school assembly where he talked about his journey as an author and illustrator. He brought in some real life dragon horns and dragon eggs which the children were allowed to hold.



Mark also read some of his fantastic stories and the older children took part in a dragon drawing workshop with him. All the pupils were inspired by the visit; many thanks to Mark for such a great day and to the FoFGS for funding the event.





Speak Out Competition

Well done to all three of our Year 6 children who attended the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership Speak Out competition this week. They were up against eight other schools and chose the title of 'Should Christmas be cancelled?' Although we didn't win, we got a prize of £100 from the Trust towards resources, which our three intrepid speakers can decide what should be purchased. Thanks to Mrs Glover for training them and attending the evening.



Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Monday 9th March: Clothes Collection

Following the success of the past two collections, we have booked another collection on Monday 9th March. We will receive 50p per kilo for re-usable clothes. Bags will be brought home in the next few days; large black sacks are also fine if you can fill more than 1 bag. You can see a list of what can and can't be accepted [here](#). Please ensure bags are dropped off in the outdoor classroom before 9am.

Friday 20th March - Outdoor classroom opening

Saturday 20th June - Farrington Gurney Village Day;

Please see the Facebook posts for more details about village day, and the planned 'It's a Knockout' competition, run by the Rotary Club.

Family Camping weekend: September 5th and 6th, Petruth Paddocks in Cheddar.

Our next Fofgs meeting is on **Wednesday 4th March** at the pub - do join us if you can.

Book Week

Visits to the Bookbarn are planned next week. Children can bring up to £1 to spend on a book; they will be given one book for free so do not need to bring any extra unless they would like to.

All classes except Class 1 will be walking across the fields. Given the current weather, please ensure they are wrapped up warm. They will wear their wellies and coat; if you would like to send them with waterproof trousers to go over their school trousers, that is fine. Class 2 are going on World Book Day itself, so can wear their costumes or bring clothes to change into for the journey.

We are also looking for any more parents who are available to come and read to a class next week. The signup sheet is in the office for you to add your name to. All children can also come to school dressed as a character from a book on World Book Day itself – Thursday 5th March.

School Diary Dates

March 2020

- Mon 2nd** Book Week: Class 3 to Book Barn
Rugby coaching (Classes 2 and 3)
- Tue 3rd** Book Week: Class 4 to Book Barn
Year 6 Cross Country tournament at Somervale School (4:30pm)
- Wed 4th** Book Week: Class 1 to Book Barn
EcoWild for Years R and 1 pm
Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics tournament at Writhlington School
- Thu 5th** World Book Day
Book Week: Class 2 to Book Barn
- Fri 6th** Year 3 Cookery at Norton Hill
Assembly at **2:30pm**
- Wed 11th** EcoWild for Years R and 1 pm
Football match against Farmborough at their school
- Thu 12th** SPORT RELIEF (due to Class 1 trip on Friday)
- Fri 13th** Class 1 Trip to Westonbirt Arboretum