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

Newsletter 22 - March 1st 2024



SIAMS - Church Inspection

On Wednesday we had our church school inspection, the focus of which was to look at the impact of our Christian vision, and how this drives our school to enable children to flourish.

The full report will be available to you in around three weeks' time, and we are really looking forward to sharing this with you. We both felt very proud of our whole community as we listened to the numerous positive comments we received during the summary feedback.

Many thanks to our children, staff, governors and parents who met with the inspector and gave their honest opinions and shared experiences of being part of our community.

Year 6 Hoodies

There was a buzz of excitement as the box of leavers' hoodies arrived in school this week.

The children have been supplied with these by the Friends of Farrington Gurney School ahead of their residential trip to the Isle of Wight in a few weeks' time.

We have been very lucky to have such a dedicated group of parents who have worked so hard in raising money for the additional opportunities and resources for the children. The PTA are still low on numbers and with many of our long-standing members with children in the juniors, they could really do with some new members to boost their ranks.



Men's Shed

Our friends from Men's Shed visited us this



week and met with Arran, our eco leader, and presented him with bird 3 boxes they had made to be placed around our site encourage birds to visit us and make it their home. Mr Rideout, our caretaker, is pictured with

the children and Men's Shed team. He will now be looking at suitable places to locate the boxes on site.

The Value of Compassion

Having launched our vision in September, we are now looking at the impact of our value of Compassion so far on school life. If you have time, please review the aims below and feel free to add any comments on the following google form: HERE

Staff & Governors	We speak to parents, children and each other in a calm, compassionate and kind manner. We care for the wider well-being of everyone, both in and beyond the classroom. We ensure our actions mean all within our school community feel valued.
Pupils	We help each other and look after our classmates. We let people join in. We think of others before we think of ourselves. We don't boast, we share our learning. We live with big hearts.
Parents	We see Farrington as a 'patient, kind, respectful' and compassionate school and we understand that the role of schools is 'hard and layered'.

Mr Dix and Mr Turull

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Farrington Gurney CofE Primary School **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

office@farringtongurneyschool.co.uk 01761 452419 £11.79 - £11.98 ph / 61/4 hrs/week

Notices

- Clubs No Welly Club on Monday as Mr Dix and Mrs Huckman are unavailable. Microbit Club will not be on the 7th or 14th as Mr Marvin is not in school on those days.
- Dance Umbrella Please pay for your tickets on ParentPay.
- **St. John's Church -** Please see <u>here</u> the link to the weekly church events.
- Year 4 Residential Trip The final payment for the trip is now due please (via ParentPay).

Diary Dates

March 2024

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)

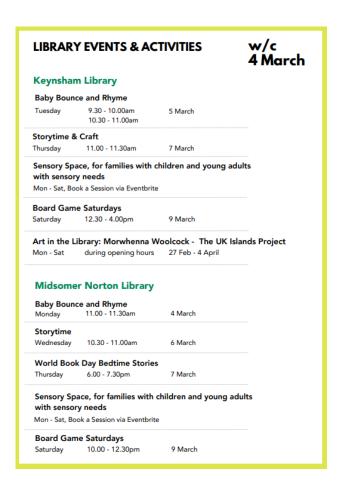
End of Term 4



Friends of Farrington Gurney

Everyone had a fantastic evening last Saturday at the curry night. Food was amazing and it was a really nice evening socialising. Many thanks to all those who came and supported the event. We raised an impressive £700, the amount helped by Noah's Ark Zoo donating some of the ingredients. A final massive thank you to Gary Johnstone for giving up his time to cook the food.

Please save the date of Saturday 27th April for the next school disco. We are holding the disco on a Saturday to avoid taking the hall from the majorettes on the Friday, of which many school children attend.



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Thought of the Week

"A farmer went out to sow his seed...Some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

(Matthew 9:3-9)



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.

This parable is one of the most well known, but often the least understood. Later on, in verses 18-23, Jesus explained the parable to his disciples. But for many people the meaning of the parable was hidden.

The parable itself is clearly showing the distinction between those who will hear, understand and take onboard what is being said and those who may hear the message, but aren't able to take it in for different reasons.

Let's look at the four different types of soil. The seed in the parable is meant to be Jesus' teachings. So, it isn't the seed that is different each time, it's the "soil" it falls on. The soil refers to people's hearts. Those who have hearts like the path are too "hard" to receive a message of love and forgiveness. It's snatched away from them before they have a chance to respond. For those who have "rocky" hearts, their response is too shallow. As soon as it gets difficult to trust and follow God, they give it up and go back to their old way of life. For those with "thorny" hearts, their lives are too cluttered for them to fully commit themselves to God - other things are more important.

In the parable, Jesus mentions a final soil those who have hearts that hear and understand God's message and it makes a difference in their lives.

Christians would usually consider themselves to be of the last soil, those whose lives have been changed by Jesus' message. But often, Christians can behave like one of the first three soils; either too hard to listen, or too shallow to change or too consumed with other things to make God and others a priority.

All too often, we get wrapped up in ourselves and what we're doing. So much so that we forget to pay any attention to the people around us, those who really do need our help and support. I hope this week that we will be more willing to listen to those that are hurting, even when it is hard to do, and that people will be more important to us than our stuff. As Jesus said 'whoever has ears, let them hear.'

