



Covid and Sickness

As a result of an increase in both Covid and general sickness, we have put some enhanced measures in place to minimise infection. We have doubled up the cleaning of touchpoints, reinstated some of the bubbles whilst the children are indoors and upped the number of reminders the children get about regular hand washing and sanitising. Once again, it was disappointing not to be able to hold our Celebration Assembly as planned today but we had been advised to avoid large inside gatherings until the amount of cases reduce.

Farrington Forum Appeal

A big 'thank you' for the overwhelming response to the Bags of Hope appeal. The way the school community supported this was unbelievable. Mrs Williams took a fully-packed people carrier to Bridgwater and these bags are now on the way to children and families in need.

Year 6 Cross Country

Well done to our trio of girls who ran their socks off to achieve 3rd place in the Cross Country event at Somevale this week. They achieved 66 points with Ornella leading the charge with an impressive 5th place overall.



Allotment News

You may have noticed the ongoing work our community volunteers have done on the allotment. A group of volunteers, including some of the children, have relaid the paths with bark, and we are now in a position to purchase a new shed courtesy of a kind grant of £550 from the Sperring Trust in Midsomer Norton. We are also looking for parents to donate bedding plants. If these are put under the hedge by the allotment, then our volunteer team will plant them up with the children.



Parent Forum on Tuesday

To ensure the free flow of information, we are holding our 2nd Parent Forum on Tuesday 15th March in the Village Hall from 8:45am until 9:15am. Mr Turull and I will be there to discuss some ongoing plans for the school as well as being able to answer any questions you may have. If you cannot make it, please email us via the school office with any observations or questions you may have.

Lifeskills - Year 6

After a break of 2 years, it was good to be able to take a group of children across to Lifeskills in Bristol. The children thoroughly enjoyed the visit and learnt many lessons about how to keep themselves safe and spot potential dangers in everyday life.

New Starter - Year 4



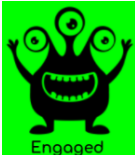
We would all like to say a huge Farrington Gurney welcome to Jude who has started with us in Year 4 this week. I'm sure Class 3 will make him feel very welcome.

Mr Dix and Mr Turull





This Week's Ace Learners

 <p>Agile</p>	 <p>Compassionate</p>	 <p>Engaged</p>
<p>Maybel - Year 1 Freya - Year 2 Rosie - Year 3 Josh Haskins - Year 5 Alfie - Year 5</p>	<p>Esme - Reception Olivia - Year 2 Paris - Year 2 Fleur - Year 3 Arran - Year 4 Isla-Mae - Year 4 Lotte - Year 4 Rosie - Year 6</p>	<p>Kayden - Reception Albie-Blu - Reception Finn - Reception Sebastian - Reception Ivy - Reception Ruben - Year 1 Charlie - Year 2 Holly - Year 3 Grace - Year 3 Freddie - Year 4 William - Year 5</p>

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Hopefully you will have noticed the new clothes and textiles recycling collection bin in the gravel car park this week. You can find a full list of the items that can be donated here: <https://cgcollections-ltd.co.uk/howitworks>. Friends of Farrington Gurney School will receive funds for items donated, so this is a great way to clear out your unwanted clothes, raise money for the school and make a positive contribution towards our village's recycling efforts.

We will be holding a school uniform amnesty in the summer term, where you can bring along good condition school uniform your children have outgrown for another child to make use of, and potentially find the next size up for your child. If you can, please keep hold of any items until then, more details to follow after Easter.



WHAT WE TAKE: (Good condition/re-usable)

- ✓

Clothing
Paired Shoes
Handbags
Belts
Bed sheets
Duvet Covers
Pillow cases
Soft toys

✓

WHAT WE DON'T TAKE:

Items that are wet, damaged, stained or washed out.

- ✗

Pillows and Duvets
Cushions
Books
Bric-a-brac
Electrical items

✗



Notices

- **COVID update** - We have had 14 cases this week.
- **Absences** - Please remember to report absences (inc. symptoms) to both school & Super Stars.
- **Breakfast Club** - Please book via Parentpay by Thursday midnight for the following week.
- **Clubs** - All clubs are running as usual.
- **Dinner Bookings** - please remember to book options by Thursday midnight for the following week.
- **EcoWild - Easter Holiday Club 11-14th April**. A fun-filled holiday club in the woods. Expect playing lots of games, creating nature art, drinking hot chocolate, cooking tasty snacks and making new friends under the green canopy. See the following link: <https://bookwhen.com/ecowild#focus=ev-siu8-20220302100000>
- **Library Service:** Please see the following link [here](#) to find fun activities and events at our local libraries.
- **Seed Swap** - All are welcome to the Seed Swap 'Seedy Saturday' - an amateur gardeners' fair - that's happening in Timsbury on Saturday 12 March, see: <http://www.seedysaturday.org.uk>
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Team Bath Artistic Swimming** - at the University of Bath are running 2 free taster sessions for children aged 7 and over on 27th March and 3rd April. It's a great opportunity for children to try a completely new type of swimming. Please see the links [here](#) & [here](#).
- **Wembley Family Day out - Women's FA Cup Final** - Thank you to those who have now paid for your tickets. If you have not done so please make payment via ParentPay as soon as possible.

Public Health

Key messages to communicate to parents/carers

- Children who are unwell should not attend the setting and should remain at home until their acute symptoms resolve. **This has always been the case.**
- **IF** these symptoms develop into cough, temperature, changes to taste and smell, current advice remains to isolate and PCR test for COVID-19
- **IF** the test is negative for COVID-19, return to setting once well (acute symptoms resolved)
- **IF** the test is positive for COVID 19, follow advice to isolate and return once well, in line with [COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts](#)
- Children and young people who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who live with someone who has COVID-19 should continue to attend the setting as normal.

This guidance above is current, but further national guidance for the period 1st April onwards is due to be published, and will set out the steps that people with COVID-19 symptoms should take to minimise contact with other people from this point in time, when free asymptomatic and symptomatic testing will no longer be available.

Diary Dates

March

Tuesday 15th	Parent Forum at 8:45am; Class 1 Trip to Westonbirt Arboretum
Friday 18th	Red Nose Day - wear something red (donation appreciated)
Wednesday 23rd	Parents Evening for Class 4 1:30pm - 6:30pm
Friday 25th	Celebration Assembly (2:30pm in the Memorial Hall)
Monday 28th	Dance Umbrella at Bath Forum
Thursday 31st	Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics Event at Writhlington

April

Wednesday 6th	Parents Evening for Classes 1, 2 & 3 1:30pm - 6:30pm
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Farrington's Thought for the Week by Mr Marvin

As a school, we were blown away by the amount of bags of hope we received this week and last. Mr Dix, Mrs Williams and the Farrington Forum did some sterling work organising the collection and distribution of items for Ukrainian refugees in Poland. This included necessary items, like packeted food and nappies, but also things for the children who have had to leave everything behind, including their favourite toys. There were plenty of sketch books, pens and pencils along with tennis balls, bouncy balls and even toys for dogs. The pictures give you an idea of just how much was collected.



The whole experience reminds me of a verse in the Bible. The apostle Paul was writing to the early Christians in Rome and there is a section nearer the end of his letter where he talks about sharing with those in need and practising hospitality. He finishes the section with this verse.

'Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.'

(Romans 12:21 – New International Version)

Or in another translation...

'Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.'

(Romans 12:21 – The Message)

Both Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Stephen Cottrell, the Archbishop of York, have condemned the Russian attack on Ukraine as *"an act of great evil"*. The generosity and kindness of so many people over the last few weeks is a really clear example of not being overcome by this evil, but of overcoming this evil by doing something good.

I pray that these bags will reach the most needy Ukrainian families at this time and also pray that the support for these displaced people would continue in the coming weeks and months.

