



We like to fill our school newsletter with good news stories about things that have been happening during the week at school, but unfortunately today I have some sadder news to share with you. After four years working at the school, our inimitable Head of School Mr Dix has decided that it is time to move on.

During this time his impact on the school cannot be underestimated. As you will know, not only has he been a fantastic teacher to all of the children in Years 5 and 6 over the last few years - while also enjoying teaching a few sessions further down the school each year - but he has also been driving the current school vision forward. He has been key in improving communication between school and families and I know he will be missed by parents and carers as much as he will by the children and staff.

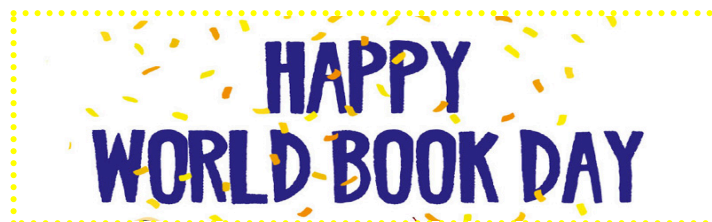
Mr Dix will be with us until the end of Term 6; after Easter we will be recruiting for a new member of staff to take on his role. We will make sure we give him a fantastic Farrington send off in July!

Mr Turull



World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day today in school - the children love this day of the year as can be seen in the photographs below!



Look out for more photos on our Instagram account.

Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

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

Newsletter 23 - March 8th 2024



The Value of being Agile

Last week we asked for your opinions on how you feel we have embedded the value of Compassion since the launch of our new vision in September. If you have time, please review the aims below for the school community to be agile. Feel free to add any comments on the form [HERE](#)

What Agile looks like

Staff & Governors	We aim to embrace new challenges and initiatives with positivity. We take on different roles and are flexible in all areas of school life. We adapt to situations as they 'ebb and flow'. We try to be proactive and forward-thinking and seek opportunities to spread the good news of the bible to bring a better and more hopeful world.
Pupils	We push ourselves really hard and don't give up easily. We like taking on new challenges and know that it is fine to find things tricky. We adapt to changing environments and situations.
Parents	We can show agility by 'offering our ideas' and by 'remaining open' and 'working with the school during times of change' through 'clear, timely communication from school and home'.

Notices

- **Clubs** - There will be no Welly Walking club or Microbit Club next week. All other clubs are running as usual.
- **Dance Umbrella** - Please pay for your tickets on ParentPay.
- **FSM** - HAF Programme details were emailed home to you yesterday.
- **Grassroots Sports Easter half-term holiday Club information** - can be found in the office foyer.
- **Keyboard Lessons** - will not be run next week.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) 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

Tue 12th	Y6 Cross Country - Somervale 4pm
Fri 15th	Celebration Assembly 9:00am
Mon 18th	Year 6 Residential Week to the Isle of Wight
- Fri 22nd	
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



School

Family Camp 2024

Friday 21st June – Sunday 23rd June 2024

Please come and join us for the Farrington Gurney School Family Camp 2023. We always have lots of fun! A chance for kids to be kids for the weekend, and parents to sit back and relax. There are fire pits to hire, so we always enjoy some toasted marshmallows. Good toilet and shower facilities, as well as a pizza van and coffee hut. So you really don't need 'all the gear' to join in. You can also visit for the day.

Don't delay, book now! Details below:

Pitch Availability and charges are all online www.petru paddocks.co.uk

- Select the dates: 21st June – 23rd June 2024
- Select **Pre-named family group** from the drop-down
- State our **exact group name 'Farrington Gurney School'** in the Group name field.

If you want to pitch with the main group, please select **GRASS PITCH**.

Powered grass pitches are in a line and will be a short distance away

Powered **Hardstandings** are in a line a 2-minute walk away

Bell tents will be pitched near the group, but other accommodation options are in a separate field, so fine to stay in but will be a 2-3 minute stroll from the rest of the group.

If you have a problem with the booking process, please either

email: webbiz@petru paddocks.co.uk or call: 01934 257055

Day visitors are welcome on site from 10am. They will be asked to park in the visitor's car park, register at reception and pop a few shekels into the charity tin. They are welcome to stay till 10pm when gates are then closed.

Please do take a look at their [rules](#) and their [terms and conditions](#).

Volunteering Opportunity

Lifeskills have created a fantastic realistic village which enabled Farrington Gurney's pupils to learn how to deal with difficult and potentially dangerous situations, in a safe and supportive environment. The year 6's learnt about road, cyber and railway safety, how to deal with hazardous scenes set up in kitchens, living rooms and at a substation. They learnt some basic first aid and practised making emergency phone calls. Each year Lifeskills welcome over 10,000 children to the centre. Lifeskills is based in South Bristol, in the Create Centre and they are currently looking for volunteers to help take children on tours. Volunteering at Lifeskills is really flexible, fun and a great way to learn new skills. If you'd like to visit the centre and learn more about volunteering, call; 0117 922 45 11 or email; volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk.



Community News

Seedy Saturday

The 14th Seed Swap, Potato Day & Green Fair

Entry £2
UNDER 16s
FREE

Saturday 9 March 2024
10am - 2pm

The Conygre Hall, Timsbury, BA2 0JQ

- Bring seeds to swap or make a donation if you have no seeds to exchange
- Browse heritage and organic seeds, potatoes, onions, shallots, garlic and plants for sale
- Purchase local preserves, crafts, home-grown and plant-based products
- Pick up growing tips with inspiring expert talks and advice from local growers
- Fun displays and activities for all the family
- Find out about and get involved locally with groups dedicated to gardening, wildlife and sustainable lifestyles
- The Kitchen Café serving drinks, snacks and homemade cakes



Get Seedy! with Seedy Saturday

Swapping • Sharing • Growing • Learning

www.seedysaturday.org.uk • seedswap@getseedy.co.uk

skills
CONNECT

Employment &
Skills POD

MIDLIFE WORK REVIEW

Information and advice on work, wealth and wellbeing for 45+

Wednesday 24th April

Apex Hotel, Bath

10am-3pm

FREE



Are you over 45 and looking for support for the next stage of your employment?



Are you looking to support your 45+ workforce?

THEN THIS EVENT IS FOR YOU

EmploymentSkills_Pod@bathnes.gov.uk

www.achieveinbathnes.co.uk

@AchieveBathnes

SCAN FOR MORE
DETAILS.

Drop in on the
day or prebook.



**WEST OF
ENGLAND**
Combined Authority

Bath & North East
Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

**ACHIEVE IN
B&NES**

The Employment and Skills Pod is funded and managed by the West of England Combined Authority, led by Metro Mayor Dan Norris, and delivered by Bath and North East Somerset Council in partnership with Skills Connect.



Thought of the Week

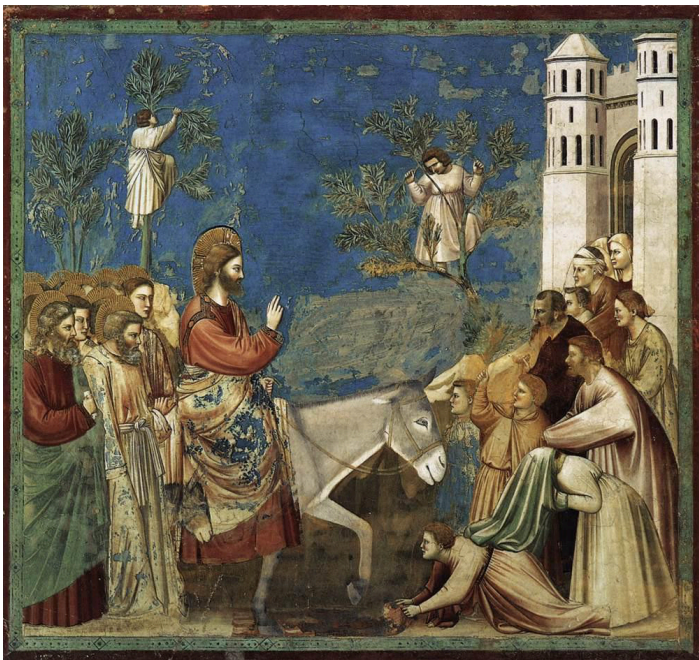
'Shout and cheer, Daughter Zion!

Raise your voice, Daughter Jerusalem!

Your king is coming!

**a good king who makes all things right,
a humble king riding a donkey,
a mere colt of a donkey.'**

(Zechariah 9:9)



'Entry Into Jerusalem' Giotto di Bondone (1305-6)

For the next few weeks, we're going to take a look at the Easter story. The event we often start with is Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

In Giotto's depiction of this scene, Jesus is shown in profile, which is derived from the Roman tradition of coinage. It is seen as the most noble way of presenting a figure. Jesus is also moving from left to right, which is the way we are meant to read the scenes that he painted in the Scrovegni Chapel. The artist is helping us to move through the narrative from one scene to the next, with the different frescoes depicting the movement of time.

The way that Matthew writes the event in his gospel clearly points to Jesus being the Messiah ([Matthew 21:1-11](#)). Up until now, Jesus has often wanted people to remain silent about him, but now, less than a week before his death, Jesus is declaring quite clearly that he is the promised Messiah, who all the prophecies had written about.

Firstly, he arrives in Jerusalem on a donkey, a clear fulfilment of a prophecy from the book of Zechariah, written about 500 years before his birth. It's a grand entrance and people wave palm branches and throw down their clothes and blankets for him to walk on. This shows that the people clearly believe that he is the Messiah and they also sing out in praise and celebration, again fulfilling what was written in Zechariah.

So why did Jesus arrive on a donkey? Well if a king arrived on a horse, it was to prepare for war. But if a king arrived on a donkey, it symbolised his arrival in peace.

So, Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem was a clear sign that he was the Messiah and that he was also a king. At this point, the crowds accepted this and worshipped him as their king and Messiah. His arrival meant he was coming in peace, but donkeys were also a symbol of service, humility and suffering. Jesus arrived in peace, but his arrival also pointed to his act of humble service on the cross, where he suffered and died for all.

