



After two full weeks of having the children in school, everything is back to running pretty smoothly and they are in the routines we were all following before Christmas. We continue to be very impressed with all the attitudes towards learning that we are seeing, as well as how well all the children follow the current guidelines. A lot has been published in the media regarding significant losses of learning but we are finding that in general there are only small gaps that we need to address. The staff have spoken about the types of learning that the children have missed out on and as a result will use time in Terms 5 and 6 to focus on more practical activities relating to the curriculum in areas such as science, art, music and design technology. We will also be increasing the amount of physical activity that the pupils are undertaking in school with research suggesting that only 1 in 5 children were able to keep up the levels of activity during lockdown that they were experiencing beforehand.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Alfie and Tilly, who started with us this week. Alfie has started in Class 3 and Tilly in Class 2 and their teachers have been really pleased with how well they have settled in. I know our children will make them feel part of the Farrington family.

On the last week of term all our teachers will be contacting you for a remote parents' evening discussion. As I have said previously, this will be to update you on how well your child has settled back into school and to comment on their work over the last few weeks. We will send out a letter at the beginning of next week for you to choose a time you would like to talk to your child's teacher.

We wanted to update children and parents about the Year 6 residential trip. As you will have read in the letter from our CEO, Mr Williams, last week the majority of residential trips will not be taking place this summer. However as our trip was prearranged and transferred from last year, should the centre be open and should we be able to ensure it is all Covid secure, then it may still be able to take place. We have been in touch with PGL this week who are receiving further guidance and we will know more before the Easter break. If you have a Year 6 child then please let us know if you have any questions. Should the trip go ahead, both Mr Dix and I will visit the site beforehand to ensure that we are satisfied with what they are providing.

*Mr Turull*

### E-Safety

All children in school take part in e-safety activities throughout the year to teach them to be safe and responsible users of the internet. Many of them have used Google's 'Be Internet Legends' as part of this education. We have received a free 'make your own legends trophies' this week, which every child in the school will be bringing home today (children under 7 will probably need supervision). The packaging has a QR code on it to help you figure out how to construct the trophy. It might be a nice activity to make the trophy together and explore the website to support e-safety at home. [https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en\\_uk/](https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_uk/)

### Farrington Forum

Many thanks for supporting the 10p challenge. £48 has now been sent off to the Midsomer Norton Wellbeing Group - who have been meeting via zoom during lockdown - to support their work in the community. The Forum will meet again soon to decide how to spend their £48.

Mr Dix



### Notices

- **COVID-19 - Please can you keep us informed of any positive Covid tests in your families.**
- **Breakfast Club** - Please remember that we have Breakfast Club available to families from 8am (£3.50 for your eldest child & £2.50 for siblings). We provide breakfast and supervised games, drawing, etc. Numbers are particularly low at the moment, so if we are able to help with any child care before school, book via ParentPay.
- **Music Lessons** - Music Lessons with BANES will start again after easter. All teachers will follow Government Guidelines with regards to COVID testing, distancing and cleaning. If you have any questions please contact the office.
- **Red Nose Day** - thank you for all the money that was brought in today - please bring in any other donations on Monday and we will then count it before sending it to the charity.
- **St. John's Church** - Sunday Service link to join Rev Adam Pitt:  
<https://mailchi.mp/06a109ffcb04/paulton-benefice-zoom-service-13417451>

### Easter Activities from the Friends and EcoWild

**Friends of Farrington Gurney School  
Easter Egg Hunt**

Easter Eggs have been hidden in windows around the village—find them all and you could win a fantastic prize!

Take a guess at the number of Eggs, enter your guess into the draw and all correct answers will have the chance to win a fantastic prize! £2 a guess, enter as many times as you like.

Trail will run from Friday 2nd—Monday 5th April.  
All proceeds go to Friends of Farrington Gurney School (PTA).



**Prizes generously donated by local businesses include:**

- £50 hamper from Georges Garden
- Gift voucher and goody bag from Pigtails Hair Studio Ltd
- Gift voucher from The Farrington Inn
- Gift voucher from Bookbarn International
- Boxes of chocolates from Farrington Gurney Service Station

**How to enter:**

- Drop your guess with your £2 into 6 Gournay Court any time over the bank holiday weekend—make sure you include your name and contact details.
- Pop along to Farrington Gurney Social Club on Saturday 3rd April between 2-4 to enter your guess. The Social Club will also be serving takeaway tea, coffee and soft drinks that afternoon.

 Registered charity number: 1034713



3 days of outdoor adventuring!

# EASTER HOLIDAY ADVENTURES

Craft activities, fire making, den building, nature trails, treasure hunt, woodland games!

For primary age 5-11  
BOOK NOW @ [Ecowild.org.uk](http://Ecowild.org.uk)

**APRIL 5TH, 6TH & 7TH**  
10AM-3PM

£35 Per child  
Discounts available  
Greyfield woods, High littleton, BS39 6YE





## Farrington's Thought for the Week by Mr Marvin

At the moment, we are in the part of the church calendar known as lent. This is the 40 days (or 46 if you include the Sundays) leading up to Easter Sunday where many Christians will give up something that they enjoy. Some Christians will choose to fast, either for one or two days a week or sometimes for a part of every day and many will take it as a time to pause and reflect on how they have lived their lives since last Easter.

Lent isn't in the Bible but it is closely linked to the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, immediately after being baptised. It says that he was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted. Jesus is said to have fasted for forty days and forty nights and was hungry. After this period of time, it says that angels came and attended him, hopefully giving him something to eat. If you have a child in Class 3, they can hopefully tell you this and more.

Many Christians choose not to observe Lent and there are other people who aren't Christians who think it's a good principle and will give up something for Lent. It is often something that they find difficult to do without. For some it is chocolate, others it may be crisps, or maybe it's that favourite TV programme that you really hate to miss. Some people may choose to give up eating meat for Lent or drinking alcohol. Any of these need serious dedication! One of the children in Class 3 compared it to New Year, a bit like a resolution (although giving up something for Lent only lasts 46 days and not 5 or 6 days like most New Year's resolutions).

I think many of us may well have struggled to observe Lent this year. We have already given up so much during the past 12 months, why would we even consider giving up one of the few pleasures we have left to enjoy? If you have managed to stick to your "Lent vow" then well done you – it's the fifth Sunday in Lent this week so you're almost there!

So instead of giving something up, why not take up something. Even though we are 2/3 through Lent, it's not too late to start. One way that Christians sometimes observe Lent is to think of ways to be generous and kind to others. About ten years ago, an organisation called Stewardship came up with a generosity challenge for Lent called 40acts. Each day, the person who has taken up 40acts is given a challenge that they are supposed to achieve. To make it easier, there are always three levels – red, orange and green – so that if you find the green too hard on one particular day, you can go for completing the orange or red challenge. It is a really effective way of making Lent "more than just giving stuff up".

In the book of Acts, chapter 20, Paul is talking to the leaders of the church in Ephesus. In verse 35 he says

*"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (Acts 20:35)*

He quotes from something Jesus was believed to have said. Although this can't be found in the Gospels, it is very much in the style of Jesus and it reminds us of all that God has given us, including giving up his own Son to die on the cross for us.

So this Lent time, why not take something up instead. Why not look for ways that you can be generous towards others and bless them. It's not too late to start...

