



Dance Umbrella

Class 4 took part in the Dance Umbrella event at the Forum in Bath on Monday night. They had been working on their performance 'Resilience' for a number of weeks with Michelle Rochester and did themselves proud with a very creative, confident and expressive show in front of a very large audience. A snippet of their performance can be found on our Twitter feed. Well done to the children and a huge thanks to the staff for preparing them and giving up their Monday evening to supervise and support them.



Golf Try-Out at Farrington Golf Club

It was a pleasure to take a dozen children up to Farrington Golf Club on Tuesday after school for a taster session. Children from Reception through to Year 6 were able to practise their putting on the putting greens and access the driving range to pick up some top tips from our host Josh Summers. The new hi-tech tracking system at the driving range meant the children could both see how far they were hitting the balls, and play a virtual game at the same time. Farrington Park runs a junior club and is more than happy for parents and children to contact them should they want to join and try out a new sport. The contact is: Josh@farringtonpark.co.uk



Visions and Values Team and Celebration Assembly

It was nice to see the whole school community meet twice this week now that our temporary restrictions have been lifted.

Mr Marvin supported the V&V team in creating their first whole school Collective Worship. The team came up with the idea of each child bringing a piece of Duplo to the hall to build a tower that signified our collective strength. Well done team.




We did it! We finally managed to hold a Celebration Assembly after many false starts! Again, it was such a pleasure to see so many faces join us - from next term onwards we will be meeting every two weeks to celebrate our marvellous learners.



Mr Turull and Mr Dix



This Week's Ace Learners

		
Agile Ashley	Compassionate Courtney	Engaged Eddie
Fletcher - Year 1 Olivia - Year 2 Georgia - Year 3 Grace - Year 3 Owen - Year 3 Rosie - Year 3 Josh H - Year 5 Freya - Year 5 Seb - Year 6 Polly - Year 6 Ornella - Year 6	Otto - Reception Ella - Reception Paris - Year 2 Ollie - Year 2 Fin - Year 4 Seb - Year 5 Emily - Year 5 Ben - Year 6	Edward - Reception Sebastian- Reception Kayden - Reception Charlotte - Reception Magnus - Reception Esme - Year 1 Charlie - Year 2 Zeta - Year 3 Grace - Year 3 Olivia - Year 4 Bow - Year 4 Isla-Mae - Year 4

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

We are having our next Friends of Farrington Gurney School meeting next Wednesday at 8pm at the Farrington Inn. All are welcome to come along and find out about the plans we have in place for the coming months. If you have anything you'd like to share at the meeting, please do feel free to pop along and join us.

Thank you to those who have joined our 'occasional PTA help' WhatsApp group - the more the merrier so if you want us to add you please let us know - fofgs@hotmail.co.uk. No pressure, no commitment, just helps us share the tasks out at bigger events such as school discos, which we can only run going forward with the support of volunteers on the night. Next disco is provisionally planned for July so we're beginning to plan ahead for that. Please keep feeding the textiles recycling bin in the bottom car park!

Diary Dates

April

Monday 4th - Friday 8th
 Tuesday 5th
 Wednesday 6th
 Friday 8th

Year 6 Residential Week
 Final swimming for Year 5
 Parents Evening for **Classes 1, 2 & 3** 1:30pm - 6:30pm in school
 Easter Service - 9:30am for Classes 1 and 2; 10:15am for Classes 3 and 4
 Term 4 ends

Monday 25th
 Tuesday 26th
 Wednesday 27th

Term 5 begins
 Class 3 Swimming
 Class 4 Ecowild
 Class 1 Height, weight and vision screening



Notices

- **Banes Music** - Music lessons for this term have finished today, returning the first week back.
- **COVID update** - We have had no new cases this week. We will not continue reporting on this from next week with the change in Government guidelines.
- **Clubs** - All clubs are running as usual however no cross country as Mr Dix is away on the Year 6 camp. A letter detailing the clubs available for this term can be found [here](#) and was emailed to parents earlier this week. Clubs start in the first week of term 5 and will run for 10 weeks. Please submit your child/rens choices by Wednesday 6th April. We will send the allocation list out with next week's newsletter.
- **Dinner Menu** - there is a new dinner menu created by Catering with all options on the 3 week rota being renewed and can be found on the website or by clicking [here](#). This menu will continue until the Autumn half term. Please remember to book by midnight on Thursday 30th April for the first week back and ideally it would help if you are able to book a whole term in advance.
- **Ecowild** - please return the consent letters sent home for Class 4 who will be taking part in Term 5. Class 2 will have their turn in Term 6.
- **Library Service** - Please see the following link [to see what's happening this month at our libraries](#) & remember, that they are free to join, and offer a wide variety of resources all for free! Find out more at www.librarieswest.org.uk [book review form](#).
- **Learning an instrument (Y3-6):** If your child would like to join others who learn an instrument at school please contact the following: BANES Music Hub at music@bathnes.gov.uk for vocals, cello, keyboard & strings or Music for Schools at info@mfsf.org.uk or 0345 3752466 for recorder (from Y2) and all woodwind instruments. Lessons incur a cost which is paid directly to each provider.
- **Medication** - Please ensure inhalers/medication which is in school are in date and ensure your class teacher/office is given all medication directly. Medication can only be administered in school when prescribed by a Doctor (unless agreed with the office) and the medication form [here](#) is completed. All medication should be in its original labelled packaging.
- **Music for Schools Lessons:** Clarinet and Flute lessons have been rescheduled to Thursday afternoon next week and not Friday morning as the Music teacher has exams to attend. Please can the children remember to bring their instruments on Thursday. There will be no lessons on Friday 6th May again due to exams. Any missed lessons due to exams or the residential trip will be made up at the end of term.
- **Parking** - Please avoid parking on the road alongside the play park as this presents a hazard for the emergency services or deliveries requiring access to the village hall. It would be appreciated if you could use either the car park opposite the school or next to the village hall. Thank you.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Swimming** - please return the consent letters sent home for Class 3 who will be swimming next term.
- **Terracycle Crisp Recycling Scheme** - Closure Reminder - the scheme will end at the end of next week. Please can you drop off any final crisp packets you have by the end of Term 4, Friday 8th April. Many thanks to those who have supported the scheme.



Mr Marvin's Thought of the Week

For the last two weeks, we have been looking at Jesus counter-cultural statements. Two weeks ago, we had:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God." (Luke 6:20)

In the next verse, Jesus says:

"Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied." (Luke 6:21)

This verse reminds us that things aren't fair in our world – 2000 years later there are still people in our world who are hungry. A possible challenge is to try and equal the balance and look for ways that we can help those who hunger now and make a difference while we still can.

Jesus continues with his "upside-down" statements:

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." (Luke 6:21)

We have all experienced pain in our lives. This is often directly, but it could be that we have felt pain for a loved one. We all know what it feels like to cry and weep and even mourn, which is the word used in Matthew 5:4. People get ill, there is loss and tragedy in our lives and we will all have gone through (or will go through) a time when a family member or good friend has died. How can this be a blessed time? How can we feel that this is good?

The emphasis in these verses is that the 'blessings will come later'. We may be poor now, we may be hungry now, we may be upset now, but better times will come. All of us have known relief from pain and loss and tragedy. When you are in the midst of a difficult situation, it can often feel like there is no way out. But a few days, weeks, months or even years later, the pain is no longer as raw and we have at least begun to move on. Coming out of those harsh and difficult times can often feel like a blessing as you begin to enjoy life again.

For Christians, the focus here is also on seeing the future clearly. Only by understanding – by faith - what the future holds will we understand what truly matters now. The good news of Jesus' death and resurrection is that we are promised much better things to come and if we can set our hearts and minds on the hope of heaven, then we won't be so upset by what we experience here and now.

This is easier said than done and whatever our beliefs, pain and hurt and loss can still be very difficult. But here Jesus is trying to help us to refocus and to remember that the upset won't last forever.

At this time of year, we are reminded of how Jesus' disciples and friends would have wept after seeing him die on a cross and buried in a cave. The one who had given them so much hope and taught them all about God's love and forgiveness was now dead and they believed it was all over. Just imagine their joy, *and laughter*, when they experienced his resurrection just two days later.

