



You may have noticed some joyous faces and happy voices on the playground at the end of some school days in the last week or two. The warmer weather has afforded us the opportunity to both assemble outside as a whole school to sing and praise with Reverend Pitt, and also acknowledge the children's achievements through our celebration assemblies.

Our summer term after-school clubs have had a noticeable buzz about them, with both an impressive range of activities on offer, and good levels of attendance. After a year when many activities have seen children's opportunities to take part in sporting activities limited, it brings a smile to my face to see the children taking exercise after school. We do need to remind parents or carers picking up from clubs at the Memorial Hall, that they need to collect from the club leader in person - we cannot, for obvious safety reasons, dismiss children to parents across what is, at that time of day, a busy car park.

Mr Dix

Notices

- **COVID-19 - Please can you keep us informed of any positive Covid tests in your families.**
- **Clubs** - All clubs will be running as usual next week.
- **Music Lessons** - All private music lessons have resumed with tutors following Government Guidelines with regards to COVID testing, distancing and cleaning.
- **St. John's Church** - Sunday Service link to join Rev Adam Pitt:
<https://mailchi.mp/dc880df7dbb1/paulton-benefice-zoom-service-13473703>
- **Year 6 Bikeability Training** - 11-14 May. All outstanding payments please via ParentPay.
- **Year 6 Residential** - There will be a meeting straight after school today to discuss this trip following a risk assessment visit by Mr Dix and Mr Turull. There will be a follow up call, face-to-face or google meet next week for those parents who cannot make the 'live' meeting.

Diary Dates

Friday 30th April
Monday 3rd May
Wednesday 5th May

Tuesday 11th - Friday 14th May
Monday 24th - Friday 28th May

Year 6 Residential Meeting (3:30pm)
Bank Holiday - no school
Mrs Glover returns
Swimming (Class 4)
EcoWild (Class 3)
Governors' Meeting (7:00pm)
Year 6 Bikeability
Year 6 Residential



Public Health England

We have been asked to pass on the following information from PHE.

Alongside vaccine rollout, regular twice-weekly testing 3-4 days apart, is at the heart of plans to reopen society and the economy, helping to suppress and control the spread of variants. Rapid lateral flow testing is now available free to anybody without symptoms. Testing twice a week will help make sure you don't have COVID-19, reducing the risk to those around you.

Local Rapid COVID 19 test sites and community pharmacies are offering community collection of home test kits. [Find your local pick up site here.](#) No booking is required to pick up home test kits from any of these sites and if you haven't taken a test before help is on hand at our 3 local test sites in Bath, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton.

You can also order test kits online for delivery to your home from the following site: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> If you have symptoms you should continue to get a PCR test. If you're not sure, you can [find out which coronavirus test you should get.](#)

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Uniform - there is a Facebook group for uniform - please search for FoFGS Preloved Uniform. It's a buy/sell/swap group for anyone looking for uniform or wanting to pass on outgrown uniform. New uniform can be purchased or ordered through Norton Sports & Camping in Midsomer Norton. Phone 01761 418972
<https://nortonsportsandcamping.co.uk/>

We have set up an account at The Bookbarn. Donated books and magazines can be donated directly or via Amber (Tabby's mum) and FoFGS will get a percentage of the profit. There is now a box in reception for parents (next to the crisps recycling) for those who want to donate small numbers of books.

Reminder - Family Camping in Cheddar: Calling all campers! We have made a provisional group booking for the camping weekend at Petruth Paddocks in Cheddar from **Friday 9th - Sunday 11th July**. This has been an annual event for the past 3 years (pre-Covid). In the past, children from all year groups have attended, and had great fun playing on their bikes, having water fights and roasting marshmallows. When you book, please mention Farrington on the online booking form to ensure we all camp together <https://www.petruthpaddocks.co.uk/> You can also join for the day if you would prefer not to camp! For any queries, please email fofgs@hotmail.co.uk.





Farrington's Thought for the Week by Mr Marvin

Have you had one of those days recently where the whole world seems to be crashing down around you?

You can be having a reasonably good week, getting on with stuff, minding your own business and then all of a sudden it's like you've been smacked in the face with a large branch – ok, a medium sized branch.

There are plenty of occasions when there's one child that's having a difficult time or there's an appliance on the blink or a car that needs fixing or there's a poorly pet or you've got too much to do. But exchange those 'ors' for 'ands' and you've got a difficult time on your hands.

Often there's no explanation for it either. If you had made lots of mistakes or taken some shortcuts maybe there would be some justification, almost like karma. But when there doesn't seem to be any reason for the rubbish being tipped over your head, it seems somehow worse.

It's similar to the "waiting for a bus" scenario – where there should be only one, but three (or four, or five) come along at once. And because you do have a lot on, trying to deal with all the issues is even more difficult - and you're now even more tired than when you started.

Well, it's fair to say that we probably all experience this at some point in our lives. Thank goodness they don't come around very often.

King Solomon, who was the son of King David, was a very wise man. It says in the Bible that God asked him what he most wanted and instead of asking for long life or great wealth or the death of his enemies, he asked for wisdom. So God gave him wisdom...and long life, great wealth and at least peace from his enemies. You can read about it in 1 Kings chapter 3.

There is another book in the Bible which is believed to be written by King Solomon which is called the Song of Songs. Now for an ancient piece of writing, this book can be a bit racy, but it does have some really lovely moments describing the love and affection shared between a newly married couple. At one point in the book, Solomon says this

*Catch for us the foxes,
the little foxes
that ruin the vineyards,
our vineyards that are in bloom. (Song of Songs 2:15)*

What Solomon is referring to here is catching or stopping the things that ruin or get in the way of this beautiful life, like a fox might run around in a garden and spoil the flowers and plants. So even in Ancient Israel, the king had issues to deal with. Though these might not be like many of the issues we face today (I'm sure Solomon never had to talk to a dealer in the market place about a damaged table or a faulty jug), it is encouraging to know that difficult situations happened even then.

So, if you're having a good week - great – long may it continue! If your week is not going so well, I hope you can take encouragement from the fact that these times don't last and that we all go through them from time to time, even ancient monarchs! And there's a Bank Holiday on the horizon.

