



### Staying Safe Online

How much do you know about what your child is accessing online?

In today's digital age, which as we know presents many great opportunities for children to learn and engage with the world around them, there also lurks the dangers of children growing up too quickly by playing inappropriate online games or being allowed unmonitored online access to freely watch anything online.

Within school this manifests itself when children are freely talking about games or films they play or watch that are wholly inappropriate for primary aged children. When these conversations are heard within school, it is our safeguarding duty to contact families to discuss these concerns directly with you.

Whilst it is clear the majority of our families are in control of their children's online presence, the conversations we have heard over time in school has made us think that there is further work to do on this.

A rule of thumb would probably be 'During the school day would I be happy if school allowed a whole class to watch this film or play this game?'

Please check what your child is accessing - and contact school if you feel you need any support in this area.

Some general guidance and advice to start conversations with your child can be found [here](#)

### PCSO Visit to Key Stage 2

Well done to Classes 3&4 who obviously impressed our local PCSOs when they visited last week:

*I wanted to send an email with regard to our visit to the school last week.*

*I wanted to say how amazed myself and Steph were with the children- they sat and listened to our talk with great interest and gave some fantastic answers to our questions. At the end of the session, they were allowed to 'ask us anything' and again the questions they asked were very relevant and mature for their age.*

*I felt compelled to let the teaching staff know instantly how pleased I was with their behaviour, concentration and maturity.*

### Sports Day

We did it! The weather was kind and the children were full of energy on Wednesday as we held Sports Day.

Well done to all the children, who competed in the right spirit and a big congratulations to the blue house of Azelin, who retained the trophy having won it last year. We really appreciate the great support from our school community - so a big 'thank you' to the parents and carers who cheered so enthusiastically for each child and for each race. There are plenty of pictures on our Instagram and Twitter accounts.





## Diary Dates

New dates and amendments in blue

### July 2023

Mon 10th	New Intake Taster Session (1:30pm - 3:00pm) <a href="#">Parent Meeting for current Reception Class (3:30-4pm) in Class 2</a>
Wed 12th	Whole School Trip to St Fagans
Thu 13th	Wizard of Oz Matinee (1:15pm)
Fri 14th	Wizard of Oz Evening (6pm) <a href="#">Final Celebration Assembly 2.30pm</a>
Wed 19th	Shuffle up day
Thu 20th	2pm Leavers' / End of year Assembly (Church)
Fri 21st	<a href="#">Year 6 parents/pupils meeting under the trees (2:30pm)</a>

## Friends of Farrington Gurney School

We all had a fantastic school camp last weekend, lots of fun and games, bike riding, late night walks and competitive water fight!!! Thanks to those who came along.

Please see details of our Summer party which will be held on the field (or in the village hall if the weather isn't kind to us!!) on the last day of term, Friday 21st July.

## Notices

- **Breakfast Club** - Sessions for next Wednesday have been cancelled as it is the whole school trip.
- **Clubs** - All clubs other than Athletics will be taking place as usual next week. Premier Sport will contact parents of those who attend Athletics on Wednesday offering either a refund or voucher for next term due to the Whole School Trip.
- **Dinners** - Meal options booked for next Wednesday have been cancelled as it is the whole school trip. If your child qualifies for Free School Meals and you require a school packed lunch please contact the office on Monday if you have not done so already.
- **ParentPay - Information for Parents/Guardians**  
*To help parents/guardians, both new and existing, get the most out of ParentPay there is guidance available at:*  
<https://support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/sections/6089568194577-Parents-and-guardians>  
*Topics include setting up automatic top ups, setting up alerts for low balances on cashless catering, updating contact details etc.*
- **Pollinator Party**- See the flyer sent home today.
- **St. Fagans whole school trip** - final details for the trip on Wednesday (the 12th, not 14th as incorrectly noted) were emailed home this week.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **The Wizard of Oz Performance Tickets** - please book/pay for your tickets via ParentPay. £2 each (pre-school children are FOC) which includes the cost of the hall hire, purchase of props and creation of scenery. 3 tickets per family have been allowed per performance for each Class 4 child and those Year 4 girls who are extras. If you require more please email the office.

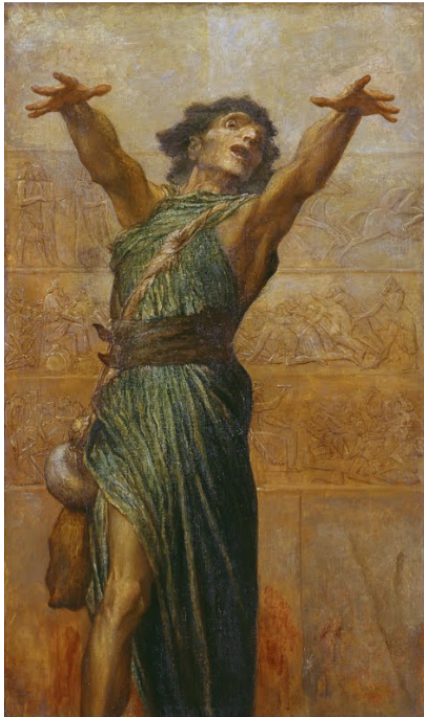






## Thought of the Week

**'When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.'**  
(Jonah 3:10)



'Jonah' by George Frederic Watts (1894)

Many of you will be familiar with the story of Jonah. If nothing else, you may remember the bit where he is swallowed up by a big fish - it's not clear whether this was a whale or not, but it would have been a pretty traumatic experience!

In the book of Jonah - he's got his own book - it says that after being 'spat out' (ew!) by the fish, he is told by God to go to the city of Nineveh and tell them that in forty more days, they would be "overthrown".

The main issue was that when Jonah was asked to do this the first time, he got on a boat going in the opposite direction. Jonah was concerned that if he went to Nineveh and gave them this message, they might repent and God would forgive them and not punish them.

Now, it might seem a bit mean of Jonah to behave like this. Surely he would want to warn the people so they would have a chance to change their ways and not get punished. But there was some history here.

We know that Nineveh was a scary place for Israelites because the people there did not like them, and they were often at war. Jonah may have been scared he would get hurt. However, when you read on in the story, it is clear that Jonah hated the Ninevites so much that he didn't want God to forgive them.

But Jonah does go the second time God asks him and when he tells them what would happen, the people of Nineveh do repent and even fast in the hope that God will relent and forgive...and he does and the people are saved.

Sometimes in life, we have to do things we don't want to. It may be an important decision you have to make, or you might have to have a difficult conversation with a colleague. Sometimes, like Jonah, our feelings might get in the way and this can make our "thing" even more difficult to do.

For Christians, this can mean telling others about how Jesus' death on the cross means that we can be forgiven and be in a good relationship with God. This message isn't always taken well and many can reject it, but that doesn't mean the conversation shouldn't be had. Although it may be difficult and your feelings might get in the way, maybe that conversation needs to happen today...

