

## Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

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

**Newsletter 39 - July 21st 2023**



### End of Year Message:

Another busy year has come to an end as we head off into the summer holidays. We would like to thank the staff and children for all their efforts, and all of you as parents for your ongoing support. A quick scroll back through our social media never fails to amaze us on the number and variety of opportunities the children have had over the course of the year. We hope you all have a great summer break.

### Goodbyes

We said goodbye to our Year 6 children this week. They have proven to be a hardworking group of children and we wish them well as they start the next chapter of life's journey.

We also wish Ms Mason a fond farewell. She leaves after 19 years at Farrington, and the video played in church summed up well the feelings of the school community as we say goodbye to our colleague and friend.

We also say goodbye to a number of families as their eldest child leaves us. We thank you for your support over the years.

Also leaving us is our former Chair of Governors Mrs Ross. She has led our governing body in a thorough and professional way, and has always put the needs of the children at the forefront of her thinking. Should you like to play your part by joining our governing body, please contact either Mrs Tyrrell, our new Chair of Governors or Mrs Hazard for more details.

### Change Up Day

It was good for the teachers and TAs to be able to spend some time with their new classes this week during Wednesday's 'Shuffle Up' session. For all children (apart from the current Year 5s) this either meant new rooms or new teachers or TAs. The children seem to be heading in the summer holidays excited about the new starts in September.

They may also have told you that we have decided to name the classes in school, so from September:

Class 1 becomes Turtle Class

Class 2 becomes Shark Class

Class 3 becomes Seal Class

Class 4 becomes Dolphin Class

### New Vision 2023

In September we will be launching our new school vision and values, which have been created through collecting views and opinions of children, staff, parents and governors. You can take a look here. It has been an extensive piece of work which started well over 6 months ago, and we thank you for your part in sharing what you want school to be like for your children - we appreciate your help in creating it. You can take an advanced look at it [here](#).

This new school vision and values will be launched alongside an updated behaviour policy which we will share with you when we return in the autumn. We have placed the new school Christian vision in the header above.

Mr Marvin and the Vision and Values team have also created a school prayer, which can be found [here](#) which the children will learn 'off by heart' in September.

### Uniform

A few weeks ago we shared our uniform policy with you. Please take this into consideration, especially in terms of footwear, when buying any new items for September. The policy can be found [here](#).

**Many thanks to our Year 6 Leavers for the lovely playground World & UK Maps they have presented to the school**



Mr Dix and Mr Turull



## Notices

- **Breakfast Club** - Sessions for term 1 & 2 can now be booked on ParentPay. Please ensure you book so we can make sure there is enough supervision in place for those children who require wraparound care.
- **Clubs** - please see [here](#) the link for the Google form to reserve your spaces for Term 1 & 2's after school clubs.
- **Dinners** - can be booked for next term after 31st July and before the deadline of August 31st. *Any meals booked before 31st July will be lost.* Those whose children are moving up from year 2 to year 3 must remember that you will now need to pay for your child's meal £2.60.
- **Learning an instrument (Y3-6):** If your child would like to join others who learn an instrument at school please go to the West of England Music Alliance website here: <https://wema.org.uk/young-people-and-families/learn-to-play-a-musical-instrument/> for vocals, cello, keyboard & strings. Contact Music for Schools at [info@mfsf.org.uk](mailto:info@mfsf.org.uk)/0345 3752466 for all woodwind instruments. Lessons incur a cost which is paid directly to each provider.
- **Parent Pay** - Activation codes for new Reception pupils have been raised. Please see your emails or alternatively a letter will be sent home on the first day of term for you to book meals & breakfast club. In the meantime, if a new reception child needs a breakfast club place reserved, please email the office. Year 6s will receive a transfer code direct from their secondary schools.
- **Photos** - All Wizard of Oz Photos have arrived and were sent home on Tuesday.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Swimming** - Dolphin Class will be swimming in Terms 1 & 2 from the first day back. Please consent via ParentPay.
- **Trip** - Dolphin Class will be going to an Evacuee Trip on Wednesday 20th September; please pay via ParentPay by 6th September.
- **Year 6** - Residential Trip to Little Canada information & consent/payment information has now been uploaded to ParentPay for parents to action.

## **SIAMS - Parental Notice**

As you may already know, as a church school, we are inspected by the National Society on behalf of the Church of England every few years in line with Section 48 of the Education Act 2005. This SIAMS inspection makes judgements on religious education, collective worship, and pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. This coming September, the SIAMS Framework is changing and the inspections will look a little different.

These key changes are:

- grades will be replaced by one of two statements
- schools will need a theologically rooted Christian vision
- inspection questions will focus on impact instead of lists of criteria
- the school's context will play a greater role
- there will be a greater emphasis on the MATs accountability

If you wish to know anymore, please contact the school or you can visit the Church of England website and look at the accompanying information about SIAMS 2023.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies/siams-inspections>

## Diary Dates

New dates and amendments in blue

### **July 2023**

Fri 21st                      End of Term

Term finishes on Friday 21st July.

### **September 2023**

The new school year will begin for staff on Friday 1st September and for pupils on Tuesday 5th September.

Tue 5th                      Swimming for Dolphin Class  
Wed 20th                  Dolphin Class for Evacuee Trip (see ParentPay)

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## Friends of Farrington Gurney School

*We just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported our events this year and an even bigger thank you to all those who have helped run them.*

*Hope everyone has an amazing break over the summer. Happy Holidays!!!!*



## Wonderful Wellness for young carers



We want to support young carers within the community of Midsomer Norton, Radstock, Chew Valley & Timsbury.

On the 10th of August from 11am to 3pm, at the Somer Centre BA3 2UH, the Three Valleys PCN and the Carers centre are hosting a fantastic opportunity for young carers and their families to come enjoy themselves and experience something fun and engaging. An opportunity to relax and have some 'me time'.



The 'I can, I am' bus will be there, this is a converted bus that visits schools around the South West.

This is a volunteer run service, their aim is to improve self esteem and promote mental wellbeing of young people.

## SUMMER FAMILY ADVENTURES

ON THE RIVER AVON  
BENEATH DUNDAS AQUEDUCT

DROP-IN OR PRE-BOOK

- PADDLEBOARDS
- KAYAKS
- CANADIAN CANOES

OPEN EVERY DAY DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS! JOIN US ON THE RIVER FOR A FUN-FILLED FAMILY ADVENTURE. ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!

APPLY DISCOUNT CODE **BATHFAMILIES** 100 discounted tickets available

20% off for families during the school holidays



LiveFreeAdventures.co.uk

## WELLS CATHEDRAL

# Family Holiday Activities

EXPLORE • CREATE • DISCOVER

Book online at [wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays](https://wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays)



### Celebrate Summer!

August 2023

**Masons' Marks** Monday 7 & Wednesday 23 August

Follow our treasure hunt to learn about the stone carvers who left their marks here, then try your hand at soap carving.

**Watery Wells** Tuesday 8 & Tuesday 29 August

Follow our trail around the Cathedral, then have fun with water in the Camery Garden before making a themed badge.

**Feed the Birds** Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 30 August

Find out how we can help our feathered friends and make a bird feeder.

**The Incredible Clock** Wednesday 16 & Thursday 31 August

Listen to a story, watch the clock strike and enjoy clock crafts.

**Bugs and Bees** Tuesday 22 August

Learn about the importance of pollinators and help us build a giant bug hotel. Make your own mini bug hotel and a badge.







### **Thought of the Week**

**'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.' (Hebrews 13:8)**



Image taken from 'The Chosen' Series 1 (2017)

If you've not come across the series 'The Chosen' on Netflix, then I thoroughly recommend you take a look. And what better time than over the summer holidays!

It's a series about the life of Jesus, created, written, directed and produced by Dallas Jenkins by Angel Studios.

The series focuses around the people that were chosen to live and work with Jesus, the twelve disciples. But the series also includes some of the women that may well have travelled with him - some of which are mentioned in the Bible but are not included as being among his disciples. A Jewish rabbi in those days wouldn't have included women in their group of followers and this is commented on in the series, so it is very revolutionary that some of Jesus' followers were female.

What's interesting about this series is the way that Jesus' and the disciples' humanity is portrayed. Jesus, played by Jonathan Roumie, often makes little jokes and comments that are genuinely funny and the disciples are shown in all their true colours. Included in the group is Matthew, beautifully performed by Paras Patel. Matthew was a former tax collector and in the series he is portrayed as being neurodiverse, which provides a really valid explanation as to why a Jew might 'betray' his people and work for the Romans collecting taxes.

Whether you are a Bible scholar or someone who has very little Bible knowledge at all, it is a real treat to watch an historical drama which focuses on a diverse group of mixed up individuals and the way they become a unit. They are presently filming the fourth series and although Netflix is only showing the first one, the others can be watched easily over the internet or on a phone app, all for free.

After watching one particular episode where Jesus was teaching The Sermon on the Mount, it reminded me of today's verse from Hebrews 13, that tells us that Jesus is the same - yesterday, today and forever. It doesn't matter how he is portrayed in films or in television series, or which translation of the Bible you read, it is still the same man.

For Christians all over the world, this is a real encouragement, especially in a world where everything is constantly changing. To know there is one person who can be relied upon and who will never leave or forsake you whatever happens, makes a tangible difference.

My recommendation is to take a look at this series - <https://www.angel.com/watch/the-chosen> and don't give up after episode one as Jesus only appears in the last two minutes!

I wish you all a peaceful and blessed summer and look forward to seeing many of you again very soon.

