

Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

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

Newsletter 4 - September 29th 2023



Emails

Many thanks for bearing with us as we switch over to a more secure method of contacting you when we send group emails.

Any group emails that go out will now be sent through a portal called 'Teachers2Parents'. Your email will look the same, but you will not be able to directly reply to it. You will need to contact the relevant class/member of staff in the usual way should you need to respond. Emails being sent to one recipient may still get to you via the class/office gmail account as we have been used to using.

Governor Vacancy

We currently have a parent vacancy on our Governing Body. Please contact Mrs Hazard (Clerk to the Governing Body) or Mrs Tyrrell (Chair of Governors) for more details. Should we have more than one person interested, we will hold an election for parents to select their preferred candidate. Deadline for expressing an interest is Monday 2nd October.

FoFGS

Over the years, the PTA has helped the school fund many additional opportunities for the children. When we think of the Wellness Week in 2022, the support with transport costs to places such as Longleat, Cadburys world and Santa trips amongst many other things - we think of experiences that the children will remember for life.

The team is in need of additional members to ensure they can continue to raise funds for the children. At this week's PTA meeting there were only 3 people in attendance. Are you (or a group of you and your friends) able to step up and give some time to volunteer in any way? If you are you can either speak to Mrs Greenwood or attend the AGM which is taking place on Wednesday 18th October at 8pm

Mr Dix and Mr Turull

Church Lane - 2 Week Closure from 9 October

Church Lane will be closed to traffic between the village hall turning and A37. Vehicle access to school will still be available from School Lane and pedestrian access will be unaffected.

Erin at the Farm Shop has kindly said we can use their back car park during this time so parents and children

can walk into school and lower the pressure on cars trying to arrive and depart along the same narrow lane during the drop off/pick up window.

Please walk into school if at all possible.

This Week's Learners of the Week

Compassionate	Martha R, Ted W & Finn D, Tristan W, Rosie W
Agile	Freya P, Ella W, Millie C, Xander J
Responsible	Reuben H, Magnus, Esme T, Olivia C
Engaged	Teddy G, Bertie D, Olivia B, Elias P
Well Done - Keep up the Good Work!	

House Points for Good Manners (Last 2 Weeks)

Ferentone	Mogg	Gournay	Azelin
9	25	23	13
Total for Term 1			
31	43	61	46

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

We started making plans for several events between now & Christmas at the PTA meeting this week, however we are extremely light on PTA members so will need support from parents to run these. We have an "occasional help" team who simply give us a hand at the events themselves, requiring no other time commitment. If you would be happy to help out please email fofgs@hotmail.co.uk or let Mrs Hazard know.

The school disco is on Friday 17th November in the village hall. Full details will follow soon but please save the date in your diaries.

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 18th October at School. There will be drinks and nibbles! Please do come along.

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Notices

- **Breakfast Club** - we have had more parents book sessions for their children and there are still sessions available. If this is something of interest to you, please book via ParentPay. Any questions please contact the office.
- **Clubs** - all clubs are running as usual next week.
- **Data Collection Forms (Pink)** - there are a few remaining to be returned; please hand in to the office or your class teacher on Monday.
- **ICT Agreement Forms** - (Reception & Year 3 only). There are a few remaining to be returned; please hand in to the office or your class teacher on Monday.
- **Music for Schools** - Woodwind lessons return as usual next week.
- **My School Fund** - Please see the leaflet sent home which earns you cash (2%) and school (1%) when you spend at Sainsbury's, Argos and other retail outlets.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Wellies** - Please ensure your child/ren has a pair of clearly named wellies to keep in school.
- **Year 6** - The 2nd instalment for the Little Canada Residential Trip is due by 1st October.

Diary Dates

New dates and amendments in blue

October 2023

Fri 13th	Harvest Festival 9:15-9:45am at St. John's Church (parents welcome)
Wed 18th	Parents Evening 1:30-3pm (Hall) 3.30pm-7:00pm (School) Sign up sheets available Mon
Thu 19th	BYO Year 6 parents Cheese, Wine and Arithmetic Evening 6:30pm in



BOOK NOW

Book tickets here:

<https://bathfestivals.org.uk/childrens-literature/>

From The Top!

**Mixed Voice Choir
& the Men of Chew**

Monday 9th October
7:30PM FARRINGTON GURNEY
VILLAGE HALL

**A SPARKLING SELECTION OF
AUTUMN SONGS
IN MANY DIFFERENT STYLES**

TICKETS £5
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE





Thought of the Week

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5: 43-45)



This year, our school has a new vision. Farrington Gurney is ‘a place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness.’

We want and believe this for all the children and adults in our school community and we believe that this is possible by embedding our four key learning values - **Compassion, Agility, Responsibility and Engagement - CARE.**

We have linked these key learning values to our overarching Christian values of love, trust, forgiveness, perseverance, hope, justice, courage and koinonia. Engagement we believe is linked very closely with courage and koinonia. It takes courage to keep on asking questions and to be curious and if we are engaged and interested, we will take an interest in those around us, those who are in our community or koinonia.

As part of our engaged learning value, it says that ‘we look after each other and challenge unfairness’. Who does this include? Does that mean we are meant to look after those people who we find difficult and challenging as well as our best friends?

In today’s verse, Jesus talks about loving our enemy as well as our neighbour. Although most people don’t use the word enemy to describe people who they don’t get along with, these are the sorts of people Jesus is referring to. Can we look out for and even look after those people who rub us up the wrong way? What about those people who intentionally get on our nerves?

Jesus had his fair share of “enemies”. Many of the religious leaders didn’t like him because he challenged the way they did things, many people who came from Jerusalem didn’t like the fact that he was a Northerner from Galilee (“Can anything good come from Nazareth” - John 1:46) and the Romans weren’t keen on him because he disturbed the peace. People disliked him so much that they demanded that he be crucified. So he understood what it would mean to love and take care of your enemies.

If we want to show that we are engaged and interested in someone else, we often need to take the time to find out more about them. Maybe that person you just can’t bear just needs someone to take a moment to listen to them and understand them. Maybe they annoy you so much because they are hurting and don’t know how to “engage” with others? Would it hurt to strike up a conversation and ask them how they are? This might be exactly what they need. It might be exactly what you need too.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

