



Parent Forum

Our latest chance to meet and discuss plans and future developments with the school leadership face-to-face was held this week.

This termly opportunity was initially instigated in response to some feedback regarding communication from our parent questionnaires. However as only one parent arrived for the meeting, we will review whether these sessions are worth continuing or not.

Wellness Day

We will be holding a Wellness Day in school on the last day of term (Thursday 20th October).

These days are a firm fixture in our calendar and prove to be popular with both children and staff alike.

The children will be in house teams during the day moving between the 4 classrooms undertaking a range of wellness activities.

The children will need to be in PE kit for the day, and are advised to bring in an old oversized shirt for the art activities.

Parents' Evening

The chance to catch up with your children's teachers takes place on Wednesday 19th October from 1:30pm onwards.

There will be sign-up sheets in the office to select your slots from Monday of next week onwards, or alternatively you can email the class email accounts to request a timeslot.

Children on the SEN register will have the opportunity to book time with Mr Dix (Senco) in the first 2 weeks back after the half term break. Again, please see the sign-up sheet in the main office.

Mr Dix & Mr Turull

Diary Dates

New or amended dates in blue

October 2022

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|------------|-------------------------------|
| Wed 12th | Year 6 Trip to Food Bank |
| Fri 14th | Celebration Assembly 2:30pm |
| Wed 19th | Parents Evening 1:30 - 7:00pm |
| Thurs 20th | Wellness Day (wear PE Kit) |
| Fri 21st | INSET Day |
| Mon 31st | Term 2 begins |

November 2022

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| Fri 11th | Celebration Assembly 2:30pm |
| Thu 17th | Family Service at St John's Church 2:30pm (Cafe afterwards) |
| Wed 23rd | Open Morning 9:30-11:30am |

December 2022

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| Tue 13th | Nativity - Classes 1 and 2 (afternoon) |
| Wed 14th | Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day |
| Thu 15th | Nativity - Classes 1 and 2 (evening) |

Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 19th October at 8pm, in the school. All welcome, we will be nominating individuals for next years' chairperson, treasurer and secretary at this meeting. If you're keen to take on one of the roles, please come along and share your vision for the next year!

Equally, if you want to be involved but don't want to take on a named role, that's absolutely fine as we also need more people to come along to meetings to share their ideas, get involved with the organisation of events and offer 'hands on deck' support. Many hands make light work! So if this is you, please come along and join us.

We have lots of great ideas on paper but we need help to make them happen!

In the meantime, please remember these easy fundraising things we can all do:

Feed the blue clothes bin in the corner of the gravel car park - it's just been emptied again so needs re-filling please!

My Nametags (<https://www.mynametags.com>) -use school code 59675 when placing an order-naming your child's clothes should mean fewer items go missing!

Amazon Smile-purchase through Amazon Smile instead of mainstream Amazon. Once you have set up your account (go to Amazon Smile app or website, then settings, search for charity 'Friends of Farrington Gurney School' to set up the link), the school will receive a percentage of money from your spend.



Notices

- **Breakfast Club** - Please make Term 2 bookings.
- **Christmas Cards, Mugs & Tag Orders** - The children created their own Christmas design to personalise cards, mugs & tags. Order sheets have been sent home to place your orders via the on-line shop (www.sforders.co.uk) by the **24th October** using your child's unique code from the proof. If you have any queries please email friends; fofgs@hotmail.co.uk.
- **Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day** - Advance notice that we will take part in Christmas Jumper Day so the children can wear a Festive jumper to school with a suggested donation of £1 for Save the Children. This could be purchased or decorated at home. We combine this with our Christmas Dinner day, both on Wednesday 14th December. The Christmas Menu will be published in the newsletter when available.
- **Clubs** - all clubs running as normal next week.
- **Dinners** - Please book Term 2 options.
- **Dance Club** - still have spaces available for Reception, Year 1 & 2. Please contact the office if your child would like to join.
- **My School Fund** - Please see the leaflet sent home which earns *you* (2%) cash and *school* (1%) when you spend at Sainsbury's, Argos and other retail outlets.
- **Nasal Flu Immunisation 7th November** - Please see the email sent earlier this week which included this [link](#), requesting you to consent/decline the nasal flu immunisation for your child (closes on 1st November).
- **Open Morning** - for prospective parents has been set for Wednesday 23rd November from 9:30am to 11:30am. If you have a child who will be starting school next year, or know someone who does, please share the date and ask them to contact the office to register.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **School Photos** - The photo proofs have been sent home for you to view. The deadline for orders is Wednesday 12th October.
- **Year 4 & Year 6 Residential Trip Payments** - The second instalment towards the trips are due by 7th October (Year 4-£50 / Year 6-£100)
- **Year 6 Height & Weight Screening** - please see email sent home Wednesday relating to the programme.

FOFGS AGM
Wednesday 19th October, 8pm
at the school

Everyone welcome, come along, review the past year, share your ideas for the next, find out how you can help!

Drinks and nibbles
on offer

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c 10 October

Here's what is happening in your Libraries this week

For any ticketed events, the link will be online via Social Media or via the blog.

Bath Central Library

Storytime Sessions, Family Fun
Tuesday 10.30 - 11.00 am 11 October

Art in the Library - Sarah Targett,
Charlotte Farmer, Jude McGuire, Kate
Bernstein:

Monday - Saturday 3 - 29 October

Keynsham Library

Baby Bounce & Rhyme, Family Fun
Tuesday 9.30 - 10.00 am 11 October
10.30 - 11.00 am

Midsomer Norton Library

Baby Bounce & Rhyme, Family Fun
Monday 11.00 - 11.30 am 10 October

Storytime Sessions, Family Fun
Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00 am 12 October

Digital All Social Media

Black History Month,
October

World Mental Health
Day, 10 October

Family Learning
Festival, 15 - 30
October

Children's Book Review
15 October
Bathnes Libraries Blog





Thought of the Week

'But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.'
(Luke 15:20)

If you didn't know already, today's verse is taken from a parable Jesus told called The Lost Son; sometimes known as The Prodigal Son. If you don't remember the whole story, just find a child in Class 2 and they should be able to fill you in.

The story focuses on the value of forgiveness, one of our school's overarching values and part of our school vision. In the story, the son has asked for his share of his father's wealth that he would receive when his father died. It was as if he was wanting to skip ahead to when he can have his father's money without actually having his father, behaving as if he was dead.

After this scandalous behaviour, he then leaves home and squanders his new found wealth on "wild living", until it is all gone. At this point, the son decides it would be a good idea to go home, hoping that he will at least be able to take up employment as a servant in his father's house.

Now, there have been times in all of our lives where we have had to show forgiveness. Someone hasn't cleaned up after themselves at home, or maybe a family member breaks something that has sentimental value. Maybe a friend has said something really hurtful and it leaves us feeling upset and angry.

Forgiveness is never easy and often we want to hold onto the anger and bitterness. But who actually suffers here, the person who hasn't been forgiven or the person who doesn't forgive. Often we feel so much better when we choose to forgive the other person. We don't

want them to get away with whatever it is they have done, but do we really want to be bound up in bitterness and resentment? Are we punishing them or ourselves?

But just for a moment, let's take a look at the father's response. He was consciously looking out for his son to return, seeing him while he was still a long way off. When the father recognises his son, he is filled with compassion and runs to meet him. In this culture, it was considered indignant for older men to run, but the father had no regard for this. He then threw his arms around him and kissed him and then went even further, giving him sandals, a ring and the best robe. If all this wasn't enough, he even threw a party for him and killed the "fattened calf", which was reserved for special occasions. This father knew how to forgive.

For Christians around the world, this is a story with a special or hidden meaning. Jesus wanted to show just how much God the Father loves each and every one of us. Even when we go off and do our own thing, forgetting all about him and not caring about others, he still loves us. If we are willing to say sorry and turn back, he's there welcoming us with open arms. What an example of forgiveness.