

Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

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

Newsletter 7 - October 16th 2026



Walking Wednesday

This week saw our first 'Walking Wednesday' arranged by Farrington Forum, where we went over to the field and completed two laps by walking, jogging or running. This measured about 800 metres - we are going to aim for a kilometre next time!

Phonics Picnic

Thank you to Mrs Frampton for arranging an interactive phonics meeting for the parents in Turtle Class. It was lovely to see so many parents there and the children enjoyed sharing the phonics activities that support their learning. By the end of next week they will have covered all of the Phase Two sounds and the children have been working so hard to blend these in their reading. Well done Turtle Class!



Cross Country Event

This afternoon, nine children from Years 3-5 participated in an inclusive cross country event in Bath. They ran a half mile race and then took part in a relay event. We were really proud of their resilience as it felt like a really long track!



Thank You from Food Cycle

Please also see below the Thank You from Bath Food Cycle. We are planning to arrange a visit in the near future for one of our teams to see how our contributions are being used in the community.

Mrs Geeson and Mr Snell

News from the Classes



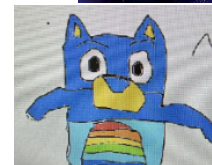
TURTLE CLASS

Turtle Class have been learning about Alma Thomas, creating different art using lots of different brush strokes. They have also enjoyed looking at the story Sulwe as part of Black History Month.



SHARK CLASS

We've had another busy week in Shark class! We have completed assessments and we've shown lots of resilience, patience and determination. In English, we chosen our vehicles that Mrs Armitage will ride in our own versions of the story. We can't wait to write and publish them! In Computing, we have been using tracker pads and learning how to type our names.



SEAL CLASS

In their computing lessons, Seal Class have been learning about different networks. On Wednesday, they did a scavenger hunt around the school and were able to identify several different pieces of equipment that make up our school network. We were very impressed by how focussed and observant they were during the task.



DOLPHIN CLASS

We have had a busy week in Dolphins from exploring irreversible change in science to our second independent write of the term in English. We also attended a BT work ready event exploring 3 different careers within BT and then were set the challenge of creating a new product to help aid us to focus on our home learning. We produced some lovely posters displaying our ideas.





Diary Dates

October

Tues 20th	Flu/Nasal Spray Vaccination - please see notices
Thur 22nd-Fri 23rd	INSET Days 3 & 4
Sat 31st October	Year 6 Parent deadline for Secondary School Applications 2027
Mon 26th-Sun 1st	Half Term Break

November

Mon 2nd	Start of Term
Tue 3rd	STEM Club begins
Tue 10th	Girls' Football Tournament 3:45-6, Norton Hill School
Tue 17th	Small Schools Football Tournament (Y5&6) 3:45-6 Norton Hill School
Mon 23rd	MSN Cross Country Event (Y4&5) 2:30-3:45 Downside School
Tue 24th	Sports Hall Athletics 4-5:45 (Y5&6) Wellsway School
Fri 13th	Dolphin Class Trip to Bath Taps into Science - please sign up on Arbor
Thur 26th	Benefice Christmas Sing 4:30-5:30 (details to follow)
Mon 30th	WEMA Christmas Celebration at Bath Forum (Seal, Dolphin Class and Singing Club - See email sent)

Notices

- **BANES School Aged Health Service** - are pleased to offer a FREE webinar on Emotional Health & Well Being to support parents and carers of primary aged children. The session will take place on Wednesday 21st October 10am to 11am. If you would like to attend, please use this [link](#) to sign up.
- **Clubs** - Fizz Pop Science has now finished and there are no staff-run after school clubs next week, all other clubs are running as usual.
- **Clubs for Term 2** - To avoid having to cancel the following clubs due to low uptake, please remember to sign up for **Belford Art Workshop** [here](#) and on Arbor. On a Thursday for all years Michelle Rochester will also be running her Dance & Disco Moves to the children's choice of music, also bookable via Arbor.
- **DINNER MENU CHANGE** - we have been asked by Catering to share with you that there is a new updated menu which has been added to School Grid for you to order for term 2. All previous orders for term 2 have been cancelled and will need rebooking by Thursday 29th October. The new menus start from week 2 when we return and can be found [here](#) and are now on the school website.
- **Dolphin Class - Bath Taps into Science Trip** has been added to Arbor for your information and action. Thank you.
- **Dolphin Class Swimming** - Can those who have not yet, please bring your transport costs up to date. Thank you.
- **Family First** - please click [here](#) for this free copy of the Family First publication.
- **Flu Vaccination (Nasal Spray)** - Please consent [here](#) if you have not done so already.
- **Open Mornings** - the next open morning is 19th November (9:30am). Registration via email/telephone to the school office.
- **Learn to play a musical instrument** - On Thursday the children were involved in a special assembly by Music for Schools where they were taught all about music and instruments (Recorder, Clarinet, Trumpet, Cornet & Saxophone). If you did not receive the paper letter sent home, you can view the options by going to: www.mfsf.org.uk.
- **Libraries** - please see the Library post below for more information & events in our libraries!
- **School Photos** - Photo proofs have been sent home. Please place your orders on line by Monday 19th October to qualify for free postage to the office. Any problems please contact the office.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Whole School Trip to Panto in Bath** - Please see the email sent home on Wednesday which needs you to please respond.
- **Year 6 Secondary Applications** - A reminder to all Year 6 parents and carers that the deadline for secondary school applications is Saturday 31st October.



APPLE FEST

SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER

AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Get half term off to a great start!
With the Green Team

Lots for kids and adults alike:

- Apple bobbing
- Apple dessert contest: Bake or make an apple dessert and enter it into a tasting contest—and/or buy a £1 ticket to try some! All funds go to the village hall solar appeal!
- Homemade sausage lunch, by Steffan Chivers
- Talk on plant-based beauty products (which will also be for sale!)
- Halloween mask making
- DIY: Bird and butterfly feeders & seed bomb
- Free seed giveaway

It should be a lovely community lunch with lots to see, do, make and eat!
Activities start at 11:00am & the social club will open at noon to provide drinks to go with the lunch.

AND THEN THERE'S THE APPLE PRESSING!
We have hired an electric press so please bring along your apples for pressing into juice or making into cider. This will start after lunch.
Please also bring bottles to take juice away in! We will have some on hand but we could run out, so please don't forget!



Thank you,

Farrington Gurney Primary School,
for your fabulous Harvest Festival donation



70 kg of food

FAMILY OUTDOOR FUN!

BUG HUNTING!



BULB PLANTING



CRAFT
FAIRY DOORS,
NATURE WEAVING
LEAF PRINTING
COFFEE AND CAKE!

TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER
10-11.30
ST JOHN'S CHURCH
FARRINGTON GURNEY.



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"These are the best art activities for kids in Bath!"
- previous participant

Find out what's on

October Half Term at Victoria Art Gallery

- Visit the colourful Bath Society of Artists Annual Open Exhibition
- Find and draw flowers and make a bouquet from tissue paper at Mini Makers (£5)
- Have fun making your own unique flowers at Create and Colour (free)

Exhibition tickets free with Discovery Card*

victoriagal.org.uk

*Valid with B&NES Residents' Discovery Card

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

After school art club

Term 2 - Mondays for 5 weeks

GINA BELFORD ART

Art club helps children build confidence with painting, collage and drawing in an expressive way. This term we will be making bookmarks from abstract paintings!



After school art club is available to children from year 2 to year 6. Each term we create one main project to bring home. We spend most of the session painting where I encourage expressive mark making to help the children find their own artistic voice. We also make time to draw and colour so there's something for everyone.

£35 per term, all materials provided.

To book: www.ginabelfordart.co.uk/after-school-art-club



GINA BELFORD ART

www.ginabelfordart.co.uk



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c 17 October 2026

For any ticketed events, visit our Virtual Library or Eventbrite for details.
baneslibraries.co.uk/groups-events/

Bath Central Library

Storytime

Tuesday 10.30 - 11.00 am

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Wednesday 10.00 - 10.30 am & 11.00 - 11.30 am

Keynsham Library

Storytime

Thursday 10.30 - 11.00 am

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Tuesday 9.30 - 10.00 am & 10.30 - 11.00 am

Midsomer Norton Library

Storytime

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00 am

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Monday 11.00 - 11.30 am

Green Libraries Week

As part of Green Libraries Week, we have Halloween themed crafts in our libraries.

Come along and make your own spooky character! Drop in anytime over the half-term holidays to get creative.



 Bath & North East Somerset Council Libraries

 Green Libraries Week



Thought of the Week

‘Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things..’ (Phillipians 4:8)

The verse this week is applicable to all of us, whatever walk of life we come from.

‘The striking word’ in this verse is the word ‘whatever’.

John Ortberg, an author and speaker writes, ‘Our minds are being shaped all the time, but we have great freedom to pursue minds that flourish. As a bee that can find nectar in all kinds of flowers, we are now free - even commanded - to feed our mind on noble thoughts wherever we find them. The Bible itself commands us to look beyond the Bible to feed our minds.’

‘Whatever is lovely.’ Think about something that is “lovely” to you. Maybe a sunset (or sunrise), a favourite novel, a holiday memory, the face of a loved one, or some music that really brings you joy.

‘Let your mind dwell there for a moment,’ John continues. ‘Give it directed mental focus. You just obeyed the Bible. That “counts”.’

When we experience something of beauty and focus on it, we experience what psychologist Jonathan Haidt called “elevation”. We can feel a slight expansion in our chest, we can feel lighter on our feet. ‘Our emotions are inspired and we want to become more excellent ourselves...That is spiritual.’

This week, try and take a moment, maybe each day to focus your attention on something that is “lovely” to you, something that brings you joy, someone who lifts your spirits. We all need an “elevated” experience, we all need a moment of spirituality.

Focus and enjoy!

