

Welcome back to the start of Term 2 - always an exciting few weeks, culminating with our Christmas festivities. We have a lot planned and are hopeful that we will be able to continue with all these events, even if we have to make a few amendments nearer the time.

Following our email last week, could we please remind you that children in Reception now need to be dropped off at the door to the Infant building. This is not just because of current Covid restrictions but also to help develop their independence, something we do each year. There will always be one of the Class 1 members of staff at the door should you need to pass any messages on.

Mr Sloggett is looking forward to leading our football team in their first match of the season next week. Mr Dix and I will also be there to cheer the team on, so let's hope for a great result. We will let you know how they get on in next Friday's newsletter.

Mr Turull

Visitors

This week I have had the pleasure of showing a couple of visitors around our school during the day whilst the children have been in the middle of their lessons. These visits have left me feeling very proud of our school community. In each class we were met with children working hard with great attitudes and masses of smiles on their faces.

It was clear the Reception children have settled in well and were engaged in their tasks; in Class 2 there was a class full of children showing real interest in their learning during the maths tasks taking place; Class 3 were also all engaged and engrossed in their lesson with all children working away furiously, and Class 4 were all on task and enjoying their maths lesson as well. Well done to all the children (and staff) on a fantastic start to term!

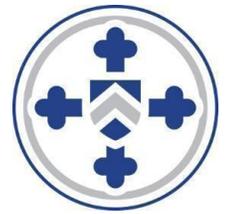
Farrington Forum

We will be electing a new Forum over the next few weeks, please feel free to support your child with ideas as to why they might be a good member of the Forum if they come home saying they are putting themselves forward for consideration.

Once elected, I will meet with the children and start to plan, from their ideas, ways to enrich life at the school.

Mr Dix

| This Week's Ace Learners | | |
|--|--|--|
|  Agile |  Compassionate |  Engaged |
| Ruben D - Year 1 Fleur C - Year 3 Will C - Year 6 | Tilly B - Year 2 Bow H - Year 4 Liv T - Year 5 Bobby B - Year 6 | Albie L - Reception Arthur J - Reception Holly G - Year 3 Bailey M - year 4 Max M - Year 5 Charlie O - Year 6 |



Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Thank you for supporting our bake sale before half term, we raised £90 which is brilliant!

The winner of the Sunflower growing competition has been confirmed as Jan Randall at a height of 8ft 2 inches.

School disco! Friday 11th November 6-8pm, in the village hall. £3 entry per child, the bar will be open, preschool siblings welcome.

Don't forget to order your Christmas cards by the 10th November, if you need a reminder of your child's code please get in touch with fofgs@hotmail.co.uk.

We will be having a 'blind' bottle draw at this years' nativity performance, so please keep hold of any bottles and fill them with anything you choose...

The Christmas trail is returning this year, more details to follow soon!

Date for your diary: Quiz night on the 11th February, with Quiz Master Mr Marvin.

A little plea for support! We always need volunteers to make events such as the school disco, refreshments at nativity, cake sales etc run. Whilst we appreciate not everyone can attend meetings or may want to join the PTA, you can support us in fundraising by helping out at any of these events as and when suits you. We're compiling a list of people who would be willing to help out when they can, so please email fofgs@hotmail.co.uk if you'd like to be involved.

Notices

- **Christmas Cards, Mugs & Tag Orders** - The children created their own Christmas design to personalise cards, mugs & tags. Order sheets have now been sent home for you to place your orders via the on-line shop (www.sforders.co.uk) by the 10th November using your child's unique code from the proof. If you have any queries please email friends; fofgs@hotmail.co.uk.
- **Clubs** - all clubs are running as usual next week.
- **Dinners** - there has been a hiccup on ParentPay in that the menu week is not in line with that of the cooks/kitchen. We have therefore adjusted this, however ask that you change your calendars to note that we are serving Week 3 Menu next week, followed in rotation by Weeks 1, 2, 3, etc. This may be particularly important if you have a mix of packed lunches and cooked meals.
- **Morrisons "It's Good to Garden Scheme"** - Tokens are no longer provided at the check out - however before the scheme closes please remember to submit your vouchers on-line. We only have 123 tokens at the moment which will purchase 3 child's hand trowels, a few more would increase the opportunity to exchange them for other allotment items also.
- **Open Day** - if you know anyone who has a child starting school next year, then please let them know that we are holding our school open morning on Wednesday 24th November 9.30-11.30am. Please call or email the office to register.
- **Poppy Appeal** - In support of Remembrance Day and the Poppy Appeal we will have a limited stock of the following items available for the children to purchase on the gate in the mornings when they arrive for school.
Poppy's (50p) / Poppy Pin (50p) / Zip Pulls (50p) / Reflector (50p) / Wristband (£1) / Snap Bands (£1.50) (suggested donations)
- **School Nurse health questionnaires** - Reception Class will have received via the book bags a health questionnaire to be completed and returned within 10 days.



COVID-19 - Please report all POSITIVE LFT and PCR to the office by phone or email.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If the child has a positive test result but does not have symptoms, they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset.

Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 (tested positive or symptomatic awaiting a test result)

From 16 August, you will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and any of the following apply: you are fully vaccinated, you are below the age of 18 years 6 months, you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial or you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons. Fully vaccinated means that at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine. NHS Test and Trace will contact you to let you know that you have been identified as a contact and check whether you are legally required to self-isolate. Even if you do not have symptoms, you will be advised to have a PCR test as soon as possible.

Any member of the household who is aged 18 years and 6 months or over and has only received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine or has not received any dose of the COVID-19 vaccination will still be required to self-isolate as a household contact of someone with COVID-19 symptoms awaiting testing or someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Diary Dates

November

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|-----------------|--|
| Tue 9th | Football Match v St Mary's Writhlington |
| Wed 10th | Class 2 Trip to Radstock Museum |
| Thu 11th | Remembrance Day |
| Fri 12th | Phonics Workshop for Reception parents (Memorial Hall at 2:30pm) |
| Tue 16th | Girls Football Tournament (Somervale School) |
| Wed 17th | Local Governing Body Meeting |
| Fri 19th | Children In Need Day FOFGS Christmas Disco |

Provisional Christmas Dates

December

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Thu 2nd | Class 4 Benefice Carol Service (High Littleton Church 4:30-5:30pm) |
| Mon 6th | Class 4 Carol Service at Clifton Cathedral (pm) |
| Thu 9th | Whole School Snow White Pantomime Trip (pm) |
| Fri 10th | Senior Citizens' Party (pm) (TBC) |
| Mon 13th | Carols by Candlelight (6:00pm in the playground) |
| Tue 14th | Class 1 and 2 Nativity (2:00pm) |
| Wed 15th | Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day |
| Thu 16th | Class 1 and 2 Nativity (evening) |
| Fri 17th | Carol Concert (9:30am at St John's Church) |



Farrington's Thought for the Week by Mr Marvin

I wonder if you got a chance to visit 'The Festival of the Moon' at Wells Cathedral this Autumn. The exhibition closed this week, but it is moving around the country and it will be in Bath Abbey from 19th November to 26th December.

It is quite stunning to see such a wonderful visual representation of our lunar satellite, especially in a building that is already filled with awe and wonder.

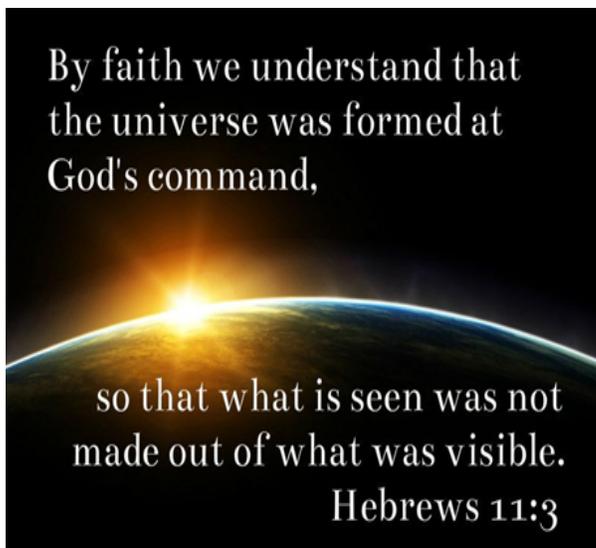
When you start looking into the artist, Luke Jerram, you find he has made lots of different pieces of artwork, most of them on a large scale. One example is Gaia, which is a 7m diameter sculpture of Earth that turns slowly to create what is known as the Overview Effect. This is the experience that astronauts experience when they see the planet from space – a feeling of awe for the planet, a profound understanding of the interconnection of all life and a renewed sense of responsibility for taking care of the environment. To find out more take a look at the website <https://my-earth.org/about/>.



When you have a chance to see something like this, it is always nice to find out a little bit about the artist. Who they are...what they used to make the artwork...what was their motivation. Wouldn't it be funny if you went to see something like The Festival of the Moon or Gaia and when asking about it, you were told "Oh that thing...oh it just sort of happened. One minute it wasn't there and the next it just appeared."

The Bible says...

"By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible." (Hebrews 11:3)



Christians, amongst many other people, believe that the world was deliberately made by a loving God. Not only this, but that we have been asked to take care of it and look after it. It is clear that as a species, we haven't been doing our best with this, but with COP26 happening at the moment, we do still have a chance to turn things around.

So, whether you get to see a sculpture like Gaia or The Festival of the Moon, or whether you ever get to see our planet from space like an astronaut, hopefully we can all still marvel at the majesty and wonder of creation and hopefully achieve that feeling of awe for our planet, a more profound understanding of how life is all interconnected and definitely a renewed sense of responsibility for taking care of this wonderful gift.