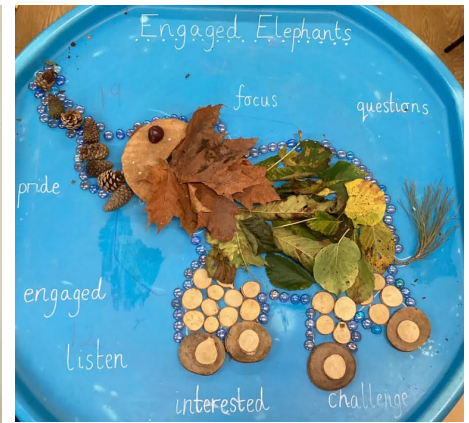




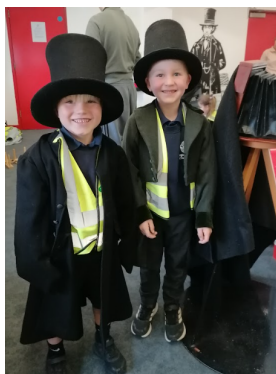
Our School Values

Yesterday, everyone enjoyed our first Wellness Day of the year with each class having an art and collage focus on the animals that represent our school values. Seal Class worked in pairs to produce our Compassionate Capybaras, Dolphin Class used close observation skills to do detailed drawings of our Agile Ants, Shark Class used a range of media to make the feathers for our Responsible Raven and Turtle Class used objects from the natural environment for the Engaged Elephant.



Key Stage 1 Visit to SS Great Britain

It was a fascinating visit to the SS Great Britain for Shark and Turtle Classes on Wednesday this week where they took part in a workshop as well as having a tour of the ship. The children enjoyed the chance to dress up, explore some Victorian toys and artefacts as well as seeing the animals that they would have had on board, the propeller, inside the cabins and learning how to scrub the decks!



Remembrance

As in previous years, on Tuesday 11th November we will be holding a short time of reflection. There will be a minute's silence along with a song and a reading of the names of the villagers who lost their lives to war. As always, parents and villagers are welcome to join us. We will open the gate at 10:45am. Poppies, etc. will be available to be purchased during breaktimes from Monday 3rd November up until Remembrance Day. Prices are listed below.

We wish you all a lovely half-term break as we also say goodbye to Ivy from Shark Class and their family as they move out of the area. We will miss Ivy, but are sure that she will continue to be a shining star in her new school.

Mrs Geeson and Mr Turull

Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

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

Newsletter 8 - October 23rd 2025



Notices

- **Clubs** - Christmas Singing Club starts next term, as does Microbit Club (Netball Club has now ended).
- **Dinners** - The new menu can be found on the website accessed via this [link](#). This starts at the beginning of term, please remember the cut off for dinner bookings is Thursday 30th October at midnight.
- **Dolphin Swimming Transport** - Thank you to all who have paid the contribution to swimming transport for the whole term. Please can those paying weekly continue to do so ahead of each session.
- **Music for Schools** - there are no lessons on 6th November.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Trust letter from the CEO** - was sent by email earlier today.
- **Year 6 Secondary Applications** - A reminder to all Year 6 parents and carers that the deadline for secondary school applications is Friday 31st October.
- **Remembrance Day** - Suggested donations are as follows: poppies, zip-pulls and reflectors 50p; wristbands £1 and slap bands (can be purchased by a parent from the office and taken home straightaway) £1.50.

Diary Dates

November

Mon 3rd	School starts
	Friends of Farrington AGM in school (7:00pm-8:00pm)
Tue 11th	Remembrance Day - Time for Reflection on playground (10:50am)
	Girls' Football Tournament at Norton Hill School (4pm-6pm)
Thu 13th	School Open Morning (9:30am-11:30am)
Fri 14th	Celebration Assembly (9:00am in the Memorial Hall)
Tue 18th	Small Schools' Football Tournament at Norton Hill School (4pm-6pm)
Fri 28th	Celebration Assembly (9:00am in the Memorial Hall)

December

Tues 2nd	Small Schools Swimming Gala
Thurs 4th	Nativity Dress Rehearsal
Mon 8th	Christmas Carols at School with the Silver Band (6:00pm-7:00pm)
Tues 9th	Nativity Matinee Performance
Thurs 11th	Christmas Jumper Day
	Nativity Evening Performance
Wed 17th	Christmas Dinner Day
Fri 19th	Christmas Service (9:00am-9:45am)

Message from the Village Hall

1. The village hall is getting solar panels, therefore scaffolding will be erected. Could we ask the children not to climb on it for obvious reasons, please.
2. We are in the process of repairing worn play equipment in the playground and will need to start closing/removing certain apparatus. Could we ask the children to keep off the taped off equipment when this starts to happen, please.
3. We are launching a [gofundme page](#) for playground repairs as the village hall are looking towards the community to help us fund this project.



Friends and Community News

Light Night

Friday 31st October

4.30pm - 7.30pm

St John the Baptist Church

Farrington Gurney.

**Lanterns + Fairy lights,
Neon facepaint + glitter
cookies,
Hot chocolate mountains,
Crafts
And treats for all!**

Half-Term Holiday Activities: Art Adventures



27-29 October 2025, 10:30-15:30

Take inspiration from Wells Art Contemporary (WAC) installations in the Cathedral this half term with our creative drop-in workshops for families!

Monday 27 October

Branching Out

Explore relationships between humans and trees with 2D and 3D art

Tuesday 28 October

Willow and Windows

Create a willow-framed suncatcher

Wednesday 29 October

Decorate a Deck

Design a deck and create your own mini skateboard model



Admission FREE with adult entry. No need to book – simply drop in on the day! Plan your visit online at wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays



Thought for the Week

***'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.'* (Joshua 1:9 NIV)**

Have you ever had to follow in someone else's footsteps? In most cases, it isn't very easy. In the Old Testament, there was a man called Joshua who had to take over from someone else, and they'd been in leadership for decades!

Moses had been leading the Jewish nation from Egypt, through the wilderness and to the edge of the promised land for 40 years and he was a tough act to follow. When Moses died, Joshua took over as leader. Now after such a long time leading the people relatively successfully, I'm sure it would have been a bit daunting for Joshua to take over from this "giant of faith".

Today's verse is taken from the book of Joshua and it comes at the very start of the book, just after Joshua had been commissioned. It says in the Bible that God spoke to him and told him to be strong and courageous. He also told him not to be afraid or discouraged.

I'm not sure about you, but when I am told not to be worried or anxious about something, it can often have the opposite effect - it can often make me feel more anxious and worried!

Sometimes a word of "encouragement" from someone, who tells you to stand up straight, to stop worrying and to face whatever's coming head on can have quite a negative effect. These people may not struggle with fear or anxiety, but just telling someone to "sort themselves out" isn't usually very helpful.

What's better is knowing that someone's got your back - that they are with you. While you're going through your difficult challenge or situation, are they thinking about you, or even maybe praying for you? They will be the person who will ask you how things are and also be the person on the other end of the phone when you need someone to sound off to.

These people make the real difference and often just knowing that they are there and that you can confide in them can give you the courage and strength you need.

Well fortunately for Joshua, God didn't just tell him to just stop worrying and get on with things. God told him that he would be with him wherever he went. Joshua knew that God had his back covered. He knew that he could come and talk to God about anything - the troubles and the joys, the struggles and the successes.

Knowing someone has got your back means a lot. For many people like Joshua, knowing God's got them means a whole lot more.

Mr Paul Marvin
MNSP Christian Distinctiveness Lead

